

Duke UNIVERSITY CHAPEL

BRIDGING FAITH & LEARNING

CHORAL VESPERS

Thursday, March 17, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME TO VESPERS

Welcome to Choral Vespers. This meditative service of music, readings, and prayers has ancient roots, and employs imagery of light and darkness which offers us an opportunity to pause and reflect as “the shades lengthen, the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed.” The liturgy, music, and language found in this service draw from and honor many traditions which practice Vespers, while inviting those present to explore the ways in which people encounter a living God in today’s world.

NOTES ON THE MUSIC

Today’s introit, *Hear my Prayer*, is a fragment (and all that remains) of a larger work by Henry Purcell. Its 8-part texture features close imitation between the voices: a slow rising figure for ‘Hear my prayer, O Lord,’ and a writhing, chromatic line for ‘and let my crying come unto thee.’ This is an extraordinarily work with its constant patterns of dissonance and release.

This year is the four hundredth anniversary of Thomas Tomkins’ *Songs of 3, 4, 5 & 6 Parts*, a collection of twenty-four secular and four sacred works. *Turn unto the Lord*, the final work in the Songs, is dedicated to Tomkins’ son, Nathaniel, who oversaw the 1668 printing of the monumental collection of his father’s church music *Musica Deo Sacra*.

Although William Byrd remained a life-long Roman Catholic, he also composed music for the Anglican rite, including four settings of the evening canticles. Tonight, we hear the Magnificat from the ‘Great’ Service, a large-scale setting requiring two 5-part choirs and organ which would have been sung by the Chapel Royal Choir on major liturgical feasts. Byrd’s ‘Great’ is regarded by many as the pinnacle of Tudor service music.

Orlando Gibbons was both the end of an era and the start of a new one. He was the last composer of the ‘English Madrigal School,’ and his sacred music (full and verse anthems) was a significant influence on later English composers. *O Clap your Hands* is an extraordinary display of compositional skill, with its closely written eight-part, imitative texture, and a tour-de-force of exuberant word-painting.

Robert Parsons’ *Ave Maria* would originally have been sung at the end of the evening service of Compline, and conveys a sense of great serenity as it gradually unfolds through a rising pedal-point in the top voice, culminating in an Amen whose soaring phrases seem to make a perfect counterpart to the architecture of the time.

Organ Voluntary

Choral Introit

Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my crying come unto thee.

Psalm 102:1; Henry Purcell (1659–1695)

All rise as able.

Opening Hymn

Eternal Ruler of the Ceaseless Round

SONG I

Unison or harmony

1 E - ter - nal Ru - ler of the cease - less round
2 We would be one in ha - tred of all wrong,
3 Oh, clothe us with thy heaven - ly ar - mor, Lord,

of cir - cling plan - ets sing - ing on their way,
one in the love of all things sweet and fair,
thy trust - y shield, thy word of love di - vine;

guide of the na - tions from the night pro - found
one with the joy that break - eth in - to song,
our in - spi - ra - tion be thy con - stant word,

in - to the glo - ry of the per - fect day;
 one with the grief that trem - bleth in - to prayer;
 we ask no vic - to - ries that are not thine;

rule in our hearts, that we may ev - er be
 one in the power that makes thy chil - dren free
 give or with - hold, let pain or plea - sure be;

guid - ed and strength - ened and up - held by thee.
 to fol - low truth, and thus to fol - low thee.
 e - nough to know that we are serv - ing thee.

Opening Sentence

Leader: Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Collect for Light (*unison*)

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of your vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy, that as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

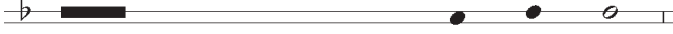
Opening Verses (*sung responsively by all*)

Cantor or Officiant



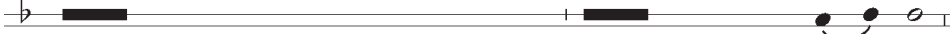
Lord, o - pen our lips.

People

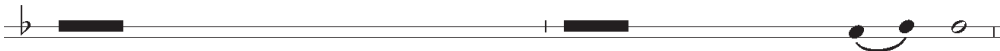


And our mouth shall pro - claim your praise.

Officiant and People



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spi - rit:



As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A - men.

All sit.

Psalm Motet

Turn unto the Lord our God for the Lord is gracious,
his mercy is everlasting, and his truth endureth
from generation to generation.

Joel 2:13 and Psalm 100:1; Turn Unto the Lord, Thomas Tomkins (1572–1656)

First Lesson: Exodus 19:1–9a

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Office Hymn (*sung by the choir*)

Te lucis ante terminum,
Rerum Creator, poscimus,
Ut pro tua clementia,
Sis praesul et custodia.

*To thee before the close of day,
Creator of the world, we pray
That, with wonted favor, thou
Wouldst be our guard and keeper now.*

Procul recedant somnia,
Et noctium phantasmata:
Hostemque nostrum comprime,
Ne polluantur corpora.

*From all ill dreams defend our sight,
From fears and terrors of the night;
Withhold from us our ghostly foe,
That spot of sin we may now know.*

Praesta pater omnipotens
Per Jesum Christum Dominum
Qui tecum in perpetuum
Regnat cum Sancto Spiritu.

*O Father, that we ask be done,
Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son,
Who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,
Doth live and reign eternally. Amen.*

attrib. St. Ambrose; Thomas Tallis (1505–1585)

All rise as able.

Canticle: Magnificat

My soul doth magnify the Lord : and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my savior.
For he hath regarded : the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth : all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me : and holy is his name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him : throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm : he hath scattered the proud
in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat : and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things : and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel :
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

Luke 2:29–32; The Great Service, William Byrd (c. 1540–1623)

All sit.

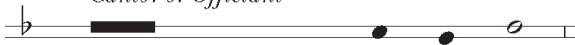
Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:4–10

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

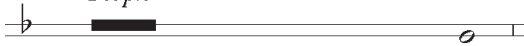
Responses (*sung responsively by all*)

Cantor or Officiant

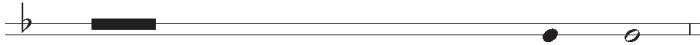


V. Show us your mer - cy, O Lord;

People



R. And grant us your salva - tion.



V. Clothe your ministers with right - eous - ness;



R. Let your people sing with joy.



V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;



R. For only in you can we live in safe - ty.



V. Lord, keep this nation un - der your care;



R. And guide us in the way of jus - tice and truth.



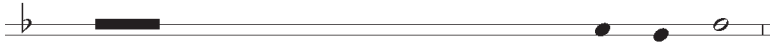
V. Let your way be known up - on earth;



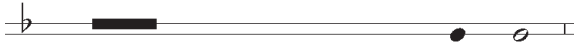
R. Your saving health among all na - tions.



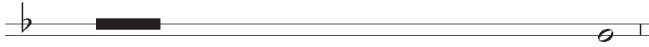
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgot - ten;



R. Nor the hope of the poor be ta - ken a - way.



V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;



R. And sustain us with your Holy Spi - rit.

Anthem

O clap your hands together, all ye people: O sing unto God with the voice of melody.
For the Lord is high, and to be feared: he is the great King upon all the earth.
He shall subdue the people under us: and the nations under our feet.
He shall choose out an heritage for us: even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.
God is gone up with a merry noise: and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.
O sing praises, sing praises unto our God: O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.
For God is the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon his holy seat.
For God, which is very high exalted, doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen

Psalm 47; Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625)

Prayers (*the people respond to the Minister's petitions*)

People: Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

All rise as able.

Closing Hymn

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Descant

4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of
3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter
 bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
 hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.
 help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
 Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
 in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

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Choral Benediction

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum;
 benedicta tu in mulieribus,
 et benedictus fructus ventris tui. Amen

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
 blessed art thou among women,
 and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. Amen*

traditional; Robert Parsons (d. 1750)

ENSEMBLE-IN-RESIDENCE: MAGNIFICAT

Guest Choir | Magnificat is one of the world's premier vocal ensembles, internationally acclaimed for its sophisticated, historically-informed performance of Renaissance and Baroque choral masterpieces. Equally at home in concert hall and recording studio, the ensemble has established a reputation for innovative programming, presenting previously undiscovered works alongside familiar repertoire in a fresh context. Recording exclusively for Linn Records, Magnificat has released a series of award-winning recordings focusing on works from late-Renaissance Spain and post-Reformation England. Their recording of music associated with Savonarola, *Scattered Ashes*, was a finalist in the 2016 Gramophone Awards. Magnificat is directed by Dr. Philip Cave, associate conductor for Chapel Music at Duke Chapel and the group's founder.

Friday Concert | On Friday, March 18, at 8:00 p.m. in Baldwin Auditorium, Magnificat's second concert will be an exploration of motets by J.S. Bach and his contemporaries, delving into the great flowering of the polyphonic style in the eighteenth century. The program will feature some of Bach's masterworks—*Jesu, meine Freude*; *Komm, Jesu, Komm*; and *Fürchte, dich nicht*—alongside lesser-known complementary works by Johann Schelle, Johann Schein, and J.C. and J.M. Bach. There is no cost to attend the concert, but free tickets are required for admittance. Sign up for tickets through the [Duke Box Office](#).

Saturday Masterclass | While at Duke as an ensemble-in-residence, the acclaimed British vocal ensemble Magnificat will offer a masterclass in "Singing Early Music" on Saturday, March 19, from 2:00–4:00 p.m in Goodson Chapel at Duke Divinity School. The event is open to all, and no registration is required.

Acknowledgements | Duke Chapel is presenting Magnificat's concerts and related programs with these campus co-sponsors: Duke Arts, Duke Initiatives in Theology and the Arts, and the Department of Music's Rare Music Series.

UPCOMING MUSIC @ DUKE CHAPEL

Organ Recital Series | Dr. Robert Parkins, university organist and a professor of the practice of music at Duke, will present the third segment of a trilogy related to organ music by Johann Sebastian Bach in a recital this Sunday, March 20, at 5:00 p.m. Performed on the Chapel's Flentrop Organ, "J. S. Bach and His Contemporaries" will feature works of Bach and contemporaneous composers from Germany, Austria, Italy, Spain, and France. Admission is free.

Jazz Vespers Service | A Jazz Vespers worship service next Thursday, March 24, at 7:00 p.m. will have themes of lament and hope. The service blends the form of the traditional evening vespers service with the musical improvisation of jazz, combining poetry, ritual, blessings, and music. It is led musically by the John Brown Big Band, a professional jazz ensemble under the direction of John V. Brown, vice provost for the arts at Duke.

Spring Oratorio | The Chapel Choir, Vespers Ensemble, and Evensong Singers combine with the Mallarmé Chamber Players for a performance titled "Remember and Rejoice" on Sunday, April 3, at 4:00 p.m. at the Chapel. The program will remember those we have lost in the past two years, and rejoice in the promise of new life and resurrection. Music by Mendelssohn and Langlais joins the familiar strains of the Fauré Requiem to offer comfort and consolation. We rejoice in the resilience of creation with Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb*, and newly composed settings of the poetry of William Blake and St. Francis of Assisi. Tickets are available from the Duke Box Office at tickets.duke.edu.

Vespers Holy Saturday Concert | Duke Chapel's annual Holy Saturday concert given by the Vespers Ensemble consists of just one work: Arvo Pärt's "Passio" for soloists, choir, and instrumental ensemble. Pärt's 1982 setting is hailed as a masterpiece of late twentieth century choral works. Sung in Latin, and lasting seventy-five minutes without a break, the austere, cloistered nature of this music is not recommended for younger listeners; families with younger members may like to attend the rehearsal in Goodson Chapel on the morning of the concert. Admission is free.

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Ministers

Leslie Ballew *Intern for Community Ministry and Religious Life; Divinity '23*

Lector

Takudzwa Chikepe..... *Divinity '24*

Musicians

Duke Vespers Ensemble..... *Choir*

Magnificat..... *Guest Choir*

Philip Cave..... *Associate Conductor for Chapel Music, Duke University Chapel*

Christopher Jacobson *Chapel Organist*

The readings for this service are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

Restrooms in Divinity School | Public restrooms are available in the Divinity School. To access them, exit the Chapel through the main front doors and enter the Divinity School. Restrooms are along the hallway in the Divinity School.

Face Masks | Masking in Duke Chapel is optional for those who are fully vaccinated. If you have not been vaccinated, Duke requires that you wear a mask in all Duke facilities. Thank you for doing your part to keep the Chapel open and safe for all.



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