



CHORAL EVENSONG

Please stand as the Choir and Clergy enter.

*The Officiant begins with a **Sentence of Scripture** and welcomes the Congregation.*

Hymn

The Officiant announces the hymn.

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

*Jan Struther
Tune: Slane*

The Opening Versicles and Responses

Minister O Lord, open thou our lips
Choir and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Minister O God, make speed to save us.
Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Minister Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
Choir as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Minister Praise ye the Lord.
Choir The Lord's Name be praised.

Please sit.

Psalm

The Choir sings the psalm 104, verses 1-20.

PRAISE the Lord, O my soul : O Lord my God, thou art become exceeding glorious; thou art clothed with majesty and honour.

2 Thou deckest thyself with light as it were with a garment : and spreadest out the heavens like a curtain.

3 Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters : and maketh the clouds his chariot, and walketh upon the wings of the wind.

4 He maketh his angels spirits : and his ministers a flaming fire.

5 He laid the foundations of the earth : that it never should move at any time.

6 Thou coveredst it with the deep like as with a garment : the waters stand in the hills.

7 At thy rebuke they flee : at the voice of thy thunder they are afraid.

8 They go up as high as the hills, and down to the valleys beneath : even unto the place which thou hast appointed for them.

9 Thou hast set them their bounds which they shall not pass : neither turn again to cover the earth.

10 He sendeth the springs into the rivers : which run among the hills.

11 All beasts of the field drink thereof : and the wild asses quench their thirst.

12 Beside them shall the fowls of the air have their habitation : and sing among the branches.

13 He watereth the hills from above : the earth is filled with the fruit of thy works.

14 He bringeth forth grass for the cattle : and green herb for the service of men;

15 That he may bring food out of the earth, and wine that maketh glad the heart of man : and oil to make him a cheerful countenance, and bread to strengthen man's heart.

16 The trees of the Lord also are full of sap : even the cedars of Libanus which he hath planted;

17 Wherein the birds make their nests : and the fir-trees are a dwelling for the stork.

18 The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats : and so are the stony rocks for the conies.

19 He appointed the moon for certain seasons : and the sun knoweth his going down.

20 Thou makest darkness that it may be night : wherein all the beasts of the forest do move.

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.

Please stand.

*The Choir sings, in Latin or in English, the **Magnificat***

My soul doth magnify the Lord :
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

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 shewed 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.

(Luke 1:46–55)

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.

Please sit.

New Testament Reading

Please stand.

*The Choir sings, in Latin or in English, the **Nunc Dimittis***

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have
seen : thy salvation;

Which thou hast prepared :
before the face of all
people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

(Luke 2:29–32)

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.

The Congregation turns East, with the Choir and Clergy, to say the Apostles' Creed.

The Apostles' Creed

All

I believe in God
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and
earth;
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our
Lord, who was conceived by the Holy
Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and
buried. He descended into
hell;
the third day he rose again from the
dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of
God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come
to judge the quick and the
dead. I believe in the Holy
Ghost;
the holy catholic
Church; the communion
of saints; the forgiveness
of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

The Lesser Litany and Responses

Please kneel.

Minister The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Minister Let us pray.

Choir Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Choir Our Father, which art in
heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Minister O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Minister O Lord, save the Queen.

Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Minister Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.

Minister O Lord, save thy people.

Choir And bless thine inheritance.

Minister Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for
us, but only thou, O God.

Minister O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect of the Day

The Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that, by thee, we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

The Collect for Aid against Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Please sit.

Anthem

The Officiant announces the Anthem, sung by the Choir.

Please kneel.

Prayers

The Prayers conclude with the Grace. Please join in with this prayer.

All

**The grace of our Lord Jesus
Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy
Spirit, be with us all evermore.
Amen.**

Hymn

The Officiant announces the hymn.

The day thou gave us, Lord, is ended,
the darkness falls at thy behest;
to thee our morning hymns ascended,
thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank you that your church, unsleeping
while earth rolls onward into light,
through all the world her watch is keeping,
and rests not now by day or night.

As o'er each continent and island
the dawn leads on another day,
the voice of prayer is never silent,
nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun, that bids us rest, is waking
our brethren 'neath the western sky,
and hour by hour fresh lips are making
thy wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it, Lord; thy throne shall never,
like earth's proud empires, pass away;
thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,
till all thy creatures own thy sway.

*John Ellerton
Tune: St Clement*

Blessing

The Choir and Clergy depart in procession.

The organ music which follows is part of our offering of worship: do stay and listen to the music if you wish. As you leave, you are welcome to speak to any of our Clergy, who would be delighted to meet you.

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