

# CANTATA VESPERS

## Sat. 15<sup>th</sup> November 5pm

Ach wie flüchtig, ach wie nichtig - BWV 26  
by J.S. Bach

featuring flutes, oboes, strings.

Anna Leese, Sarah Court, Koli Jayatunge and Ian Campbell



*Ah. how fleeting. how insubstantial is a human life*

Service with retiring collection  
51 Victoria St. Hamilton



**The Waikato Cathedral Church of St Peter**  
Te whare karakia o Pita Tapu ki Waikato  
[stpeter.org.nz](http://stpeter.org.nz)

**Leading the service today:** Anna Leese, Sarah Court, Koli Jayatunge, Ian Campbell, soloists; Amy Thomas, Isabella Reid, Sally Rosenberg, Tracey Hockey, Alex Smith, Ray Harlow, Francis Cowan, chorus; Kathryn Orbell and Ashleigh Smith, flutes; George Guo and Jordan Wise, oboes; Catherine Polglase, Ted Yu, Tony Wu and William Zhang, violins; Alison Salmons, viola; Martin Griffiths, cello, Rachael Griffiths-Hughes, organ; Rev'd Wendy Tyrell

**Next cantata vespers: 5pm Saturday 21st February 2026**

Afternoon tea can be purchased in the Cathedral centre from 3.45pm on Saturdays before Vespers, as part of seismic strengthening fundraising.

# OPENING

**PRELUDE :** Allegretto from Quintet in C op. 11 Johann Christian Bach. (1735-1782)

Let my prayer be set forth in thy sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Psalm 141:2

*We stand to sing*

## THE OPENING HYMN

Latin hymn, ca. 9th century  
Trans. by John Cosin, 1627

Plainsong melody, Mechlin form  
As in *Pilgrim Hymnal*, 1958

*Unison*



1. Come, Ho - ly Ghost, our souls in - spire And light-en with ce -  
2. Thy bless - ed unc - tion from a - bove Is com-fort, life, and  
3. A - noint and cheer our soil - ed face With the a - bun - dance  
4. Teach us to know the Fa - ther, Son, And thee, of both, to

les - tial fire; Thou the a - noint - ing Spir - it art  
fire of love; En - a - ble with per - pet - ual light  
of thy grace; Keep far our foes, give peace at home;  
be but One; That through the ag - es all a - long

*After last stanza*

Who dost thy seven - fold gifts im - part.  
The dull-ness of our blind - ed sight.  
Where thou art guide no ill can come.  
This may be our end - less song: Praise to thy e -

ter - nal mer - it, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men.

Words: Latin, ninth century; trans. John Cosin, 162

## THE BLESSING OF LIGHT

*Please sit or kneel*



The Lord is my light and my sal-va-tion: **my God shall make my dark-ness to be bright.**



The light and peace of Je - sus Christ be al-ways with you: **and al - so with you.**



Ble - ssed be you Lord God, cre a - tor of day and night; **to you be praise and glo ry for e ver.**

As darkness falls, you renew your promise to reveal among us the light of your presence. By the light of Christ your living word, dispel the darkness of our hearts that we may walk as children of light, and sing your praise throughout the world. **Amen**

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the 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.**

Please stand for the **HYMN OF LIGHT**

The image displays a musical score for a hymn, titled 'HYMN OF LIGHT'. The score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass) and piano accompaniment. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are in English, with some words in Greek (e.g., 'Hail, gladdening Light'). The score is divided into systems, with measure numbers 3, 6, 8, 13, 17, and 21 indicated at the beginning of each system. The lyrics are: 'Hail, gladdening Light of his pure glo - ry poured. Who is the Immortal Fa - ther, Heaven - ly Blest, Ho - li - est of Ho - lies, Je - sus Christ, our Lord. Now we are come to the sun's hour of rest. The lights of eve - ning round us shine. We hymn the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it Di - vine. Worthiest art Thou at all timesto be sung With un - de - fil - ed tongue. Son of our God, giv - er of life, A - lone; There - fore in all the world Thy glo - ries, Lord, they own. A - men'.

Hail, gladdening Light of his pure glo - ry poured. Who is the Immortal Fa - ther, Heaven - ly Blest,  
Ho - li - est of Ho - lies, Je - sus Christ, our  
Lord. Now we are come to the sun's hour of rest. The lights of eve - ning round us shine.  
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Worthiest art Thou at all timesto be sung With un - de - fil - ed tongue.  
Son of our God, giv - er of life, A - lone;  
There - fore in all the world Thy glo - ries, Lord, they own. A - men

Words: Greek; trans. John Keble, 1834

# INVITATORY AND PSALTER

O God, make speed to save us.

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. **Amen.**

Blessed are you, God of compassion and mercy, to you be praise and glory for ever.

In the darkness of our sin, your light breaks forth like the dawn and your healing springs up for deliverance. As we rejoice in the gift of your saving help, sustain us with your bountiful Spirit and open our lips to sing your praise: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*Please join in singing*

## PSALM 84

CHANT: William Crotch



1. O how amiable /are thy/ dwellings: thou /Lord /of /hosts!
2. My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the /courts of. the /Lord: my heart and my flesh rejoice /in the/ living /God.
3. \* Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may /lay her /young: even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my /King/ and my /God.
4. Blessed are they that /dwell in. thy /house: they will be /always/ praising /thee.
5. Blessed is the man whose /strength is. in /thee: in whose /heart /are thy /ways.
6. Who going through the vale of misery use it /for a/ well: and the /pools are /filled with/ water.
7. They will go from /strength to /strength: and unto the God of gods appeareth every /one of /them in/ Sion.
8. O Lord God of hosts, /hear my/ prayer: hearken, /O /God of /Jacob.
9. Behold, O God /our de/fender: and look upon the /face of /thine Anointed.
10. For one day /in thy /courts: is /better /than a/ thousand.
11. I had rather be a door-keeper in the /house of. my /God: than to /dwell in. the /tents of. un/godliness.
12. For the Lord God is a /light and. de/fence: the Lord will give grace and worship, and no good thing shall he withhold from them that /live a/ godly /life.
13. O Lord /God of /hosts: blessed is the man that /putteth. his /trust in /thee.

**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. A/-me**

# WORD

*We sit to hear*

## **THE FIRST READING: COLOSSIANS 1: 9-14**

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Here ends the first Lesson

**Thanks be to God**

*We stand to sing*

## Magnificat

tone VIII 2

My soul doth magni-fy the Lord, And my spirit hath rejoic-ed in God my  
Saviour. 2. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden:  
3. for, behold, from henceforth all ge-nérations shall call me blessed.  
4. For he that is mighty hath magni-fi-ed me; and ho-ly is his name.  
5. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all ge-ne-rations.  
6. He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scatter-ed the proud  
in the i-magi-nation of their hearts. 7. He hath put down the might-y  
from their seat, and hath ex - alt-ed the humble and meek.  
8. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty  
away. 9. He, remembering his mercy, hath holpen his servant Isra - el  
As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham, and his seed for ever. Glo-  
ry 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.

*We sit to hear*

## THE SECOND READING: MATTHEW 9: 18-26

While he was saying this, a synagogue leader came and knelt before him and said, “My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live.” Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples.

Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. She said to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed.”

Jesus turned and saw her. “Take heart, daughter,” he said, “your faith has healed you.” And the woman was healed at that moment.

When Jesus entered the synagogue leader’s house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes, he said, “Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep.” But they laughed at him. After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up. News of this spread through all that region.

Here ends the second Lesson

**Thanks be to God**

## THE CANTATA

1. **Chorus:** Ah, how fleeting, ah how insubstantial is the life of mankind! As a mist soon arises and soon also vanishes again, so is our life, see!
2. **Tenor Aria:** As quickly as roaring water cascades, so the days of our life hurry by. Time flies, the hours rush, just as raindrops suddenly divide into spray, when all the torrent rushes into the abyss.
3. **Alto Recitative:** Joy turns to sorrow, beauty falls like a flower, the greatest strength is weakened, good fortune changes in time, soon honour and glory are over, knowledge and human creations are in the end brought to nothing by the grave.
4. **Bass Aria:** To hang one’s heart on earthly treasures is a seduction of the foolish world. How easily arise devouring embers, how the surging floods roar and tear away until everything is shattered and falls apart in ruins.
5. **Soprano Recitative:** The highest majesty and splendour are enveloped at last by the night of death. The person who sat in a throne like a god, in no way escapes the dust and ashes, and when the last hour strikes, when he is carried to the earth, and the foundation of his loftiness crumbles, he is completely forgotten.
6. **Chorale:** Ah, how fleeting, ah how insubstantial are the doings of humankind. All that we see must fall and pass away. Whoever who fears God stands for ever.



## Response

Eternal spirit flow through our being and open our lips;  
**That our mouths may proclaim your praise.**

In response to tonight's cantata let us now stand and affirm our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

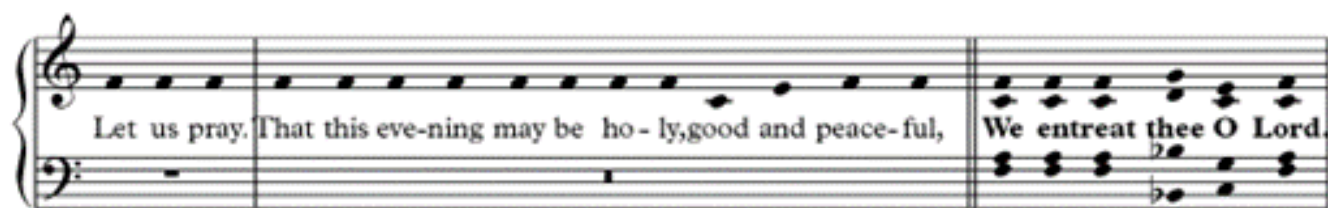
**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born  
of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the  
holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection  
of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS

*We sit or kneel*

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you**

## THE LITANY FOR PEACE



That thy holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill **We entreat...**

That we may be pardoned and forgiven our sins and offences, **We entreat...**

That there may be peace to thy Church and to the whole world, **We entreat...**

That we may depart this life in thy faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgement seat of Christ, **We entreat...**

That we may be bound together by the Holy Spirit in the communion of all thy saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ, **We entreat...**

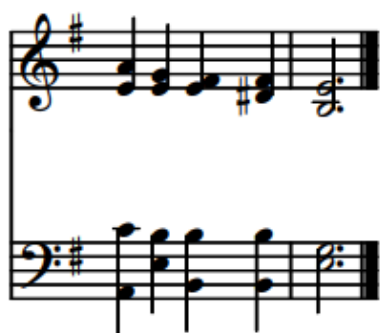
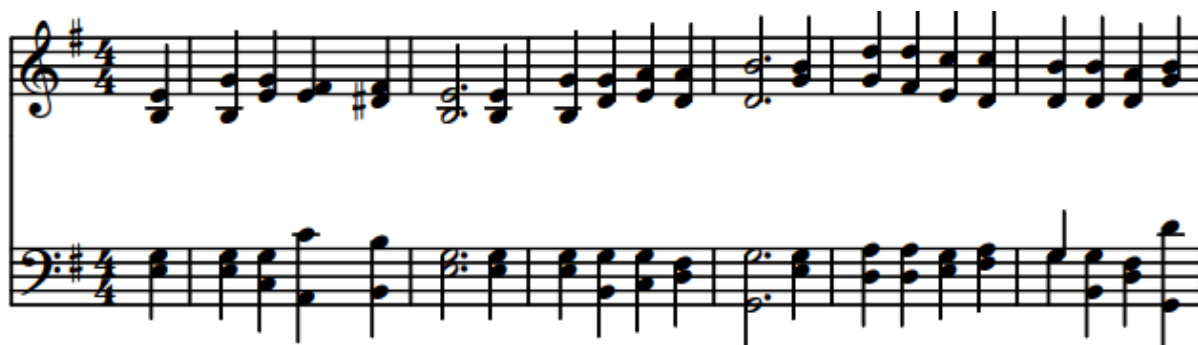
Our Father, **which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.**

O God, the source of eternal light: Shed forth thine unending day upon us who watch for thee, that our lips may praise thee, our lives may bless thee, and our worship on the morrow may give thee glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers, creator of the changes of day and night, giving rest to the weary, renewing the strength of those who are spent, bestowing upon us occasions of song in the evening. As you have protected us in the day that is past, so be with us in the coming night; keep us from every sin, every evil, and every fear; for you are our light and salvation, and the strength of our life. To you be glory for endless ages. **Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

*We stand to sing*     **THE CLOSING HYMN**



- |                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Lord Jesus, think on me,<br>And purge away my sin,<br>From worldly passions set me free,<br>And make me pure within.        | 3. Lord Jesus, think on me,<br>Amid the battle's strife;<br>In all my pain and misery,<br>Please be my health and life.       |
| 2. Lord Jesus, think on me,<br>With care and woe oppressed;<br>Let me your loving servant be,<br>And taste your promised rest. | 4. Lord Jesus, think on me,<br>That when the flood is past,<br>I may th'eternal brightness see<br>And share your joy at last. |

**POSTLUDE:**     Partita *Ach, wie flüchtig, ach, wie nichtig* by Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

The prayers and liturgy for tonight's service come from the Book of Common Prayer, as available at [www.beponline](http://www.beponline)

## Cathedral Ministry Team and Contacts

Dean: The Very Rev'd Julian Perkins (Day off- Friday)  
deanjulian@stpeter.org.nz | 020 4124 6555

Assistant priest: Father Ben Ong (Thurs-Fri)  
ben@stpeter.org.nz | 022 627 3217

### Volunteer Ministry Team

Assistant priest: The Rev'd Robin Olds  
pastoralcare@stpeter.org.nz | 027 441 9292  
Assistant priest: The Rev'd Wendy Tyrrell | bells@stpeter.org.nz  
People's warden: Kay Neilson  
peopleswarden@stpeter.org.nz | 021 1522 999  
Dean's warden: Dianne Cameron  
deanswarden@stpeter.org.nz | 021 588 399  
Verger: Plex John | 022 312 9523

### Pastoral Care Team

Julian Perkins, Robin Olds, Vivianne Flintoff, Heather Powell, Plex John  
If you would like pastoral support, or know someone who would and have their permission,  
please let the pastoral care team know: pastoralcare@stpeter.org.nz  
or Robin (027 441 9292) or ring Julian (020 4124 6555)

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### Giving - Bank Details: 02-0316-0268898-000

#### The Cathedral Church of St Peter

The ministry of the cathedral is paid for by our church members.  
If you can be a part of this it greatly helps the life of the church.

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### Cathedral Office

Monday-Friday: 9am-3pm | (07) 839 4683 | admin@stpeter.org.nz

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### Cathedral Shop

Monday-Friday: 10am-2pm; Sunday: 11am-12pm | (07) 839 4683



### The Waikato Cathedral Church of St Peter

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