

Leading the worship today: Amy Thomas, Sarah Court, soloists; Sally Rosenberg, Tracey Hockey, Koli Jayatunge, Ian Campbell, Francis Cowan, Ray Harlow, chorus; Catherine Polglase, Kerry Langdon, violins; Martin Griffiths, violoncello piccolo; Craig Bradfield, bassoon; Jane Young, cello and Rachael Griffiths-Hughes, organ. The Rev'd Wendy Tyrell.

Next Cantata Vespers: 5pm Saturday 17th February 2024

OPENING

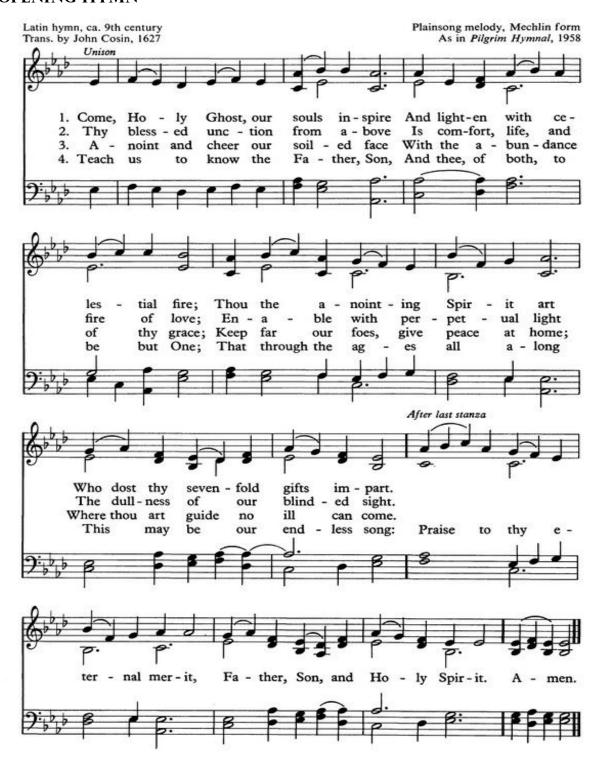
PRELUDE: Sonata in g minor HWV 393– G.F. Handel

WELCOME TO ST. PETER'S

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

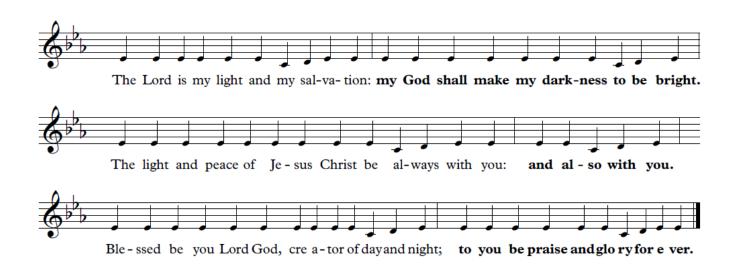
THE OPENING HYMN



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

THE BLESSING OF LIGHT

Please sit or kneel



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**.



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 86: 1-10 CHANT: WILLIAM CROTCH



BOW down thine ear, O /Lord, and /hear me : for I am /poor,/ and in /misery.

- 2 Preserve thou my soul, for /I am/ holy: my God, save thy servant that /putteth. his/ trust in /thee.
- 3 Be merciful unto /me, O /Lord : for I /will call /daily. up/on thee.
- 4 Comfort the /soul of. thy/ servant : for unto thee, O Lord, do /I lift /up my/ soul.
- 5 For thou, Lord, art /good and/ gracious : and of great mercy unto all /them that /call up/on thee.
- 6 Give ear, Lord, /unto. my/ prayer : and ponder the /voice. of my /humble. de/sires.
- 7 In the time of my trouble I will /call up/on thee : for /thou /hearest /me.
- 8 Among the gods there is none like unto /thee, O/ Lord: there is not one that /can do/ as thou /doest.
- 9 All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship /thee, O /Lord : and shall /glori/fy thy /Name.
- 10 For thou art great, and doest /wondrous /things: thou /art /God a/lone.

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/-men.

WORD

We sit to hear

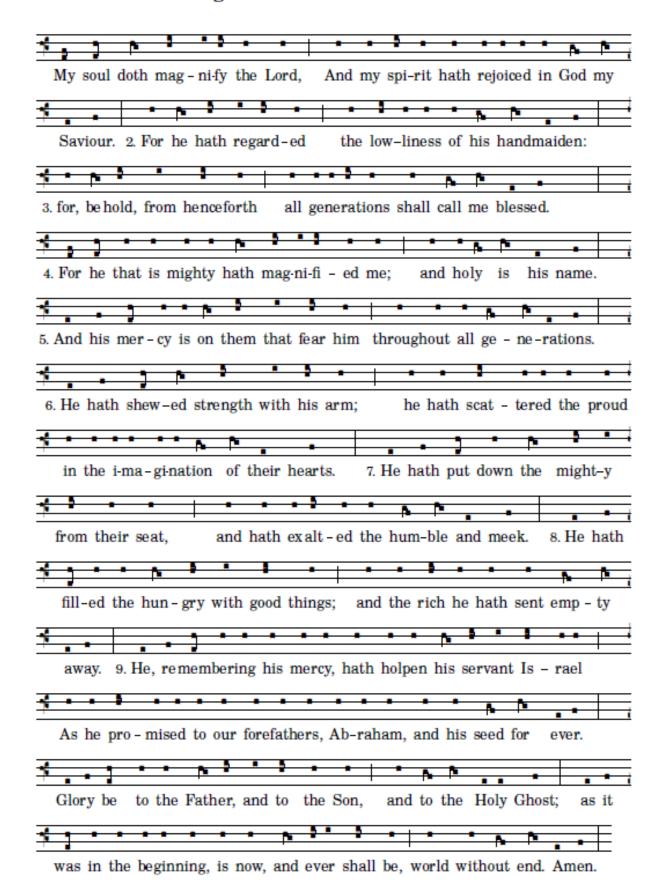
THE FIRST READING: ROMANS 13: 11-14

And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfil its lusts.

Here ends the first Lesson Thanks be to God

Magnificat

tone II 2 solemn



THE SECOND READING: MATTHEW 21: 1-9

Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me. And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them."

All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying:

"Tell the daughter of Zion,
'Behold, your King is coming to you,
Lowly, and sitting on a donkey,
A colt, the foal of a donkey."

So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying:

"Hosanna to the Son of David!

'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!'
Hosanna in the highest!"

Here ends the second Lesson Thanks be to God

THE CANTATA

- 1. Chorus: Come, let us worship and kneel and fall down before the Lord who made us. For the Lord is a great God and a great King over all gods.
- 2. Recitative: The Lord of Lords has his Son on Zion's sacred heights appointed king. His lofty throne, His divine kingdom remains unharmed and exists for the joy of His people. Come souls, come, bow down to meet Him. The great king comes to you, make way for him in your hearts, to accept him as king, There is nothing but blessing in His kingdom.
- 3. Aria: Lord and King, rich in grace, see, my faith guides you. Build, O great Son of David, your throne of grace in me, I want to swear loyalty to you, let me just hear a word of comfort. Say: "Come, dear subject."
- 4. Chorale: Why do you want to stand outside, You blessed one of the Lord? Allow yourself to enter my heart, O thou my star. You my Jesus, my joy, my helper in the needful time. Help, O Saviour, my heart from the wounds that hurt me.

- 5. Recitative: Lord, great Saviour, behold, Your Zion opens door and gate, it bows heart and knee, it comes to kiss you, son of the king. His faith imagines the comfort of your gentleness, it knows, that through you all his misery will have to give way. Oh, let us not hope this in vain. Come, helper, come, our hearts are open to you.
- 6. Aria; Jesus is coming, oh consolation, oh blessing, He brings all bliss. On, on my heart, scatter palms of honour, offer psalms of thanksgiving and joy to the one who delights you so much.
- 7. Chorale: What evil you have committed has been abolished. God's love shall conquer the power and strength of your sins. Christ's victory in the field keeps what is evil in the world at bay and becomes pure happiness and blessing.

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.

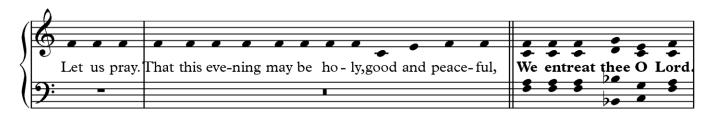
PRAYERS

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.

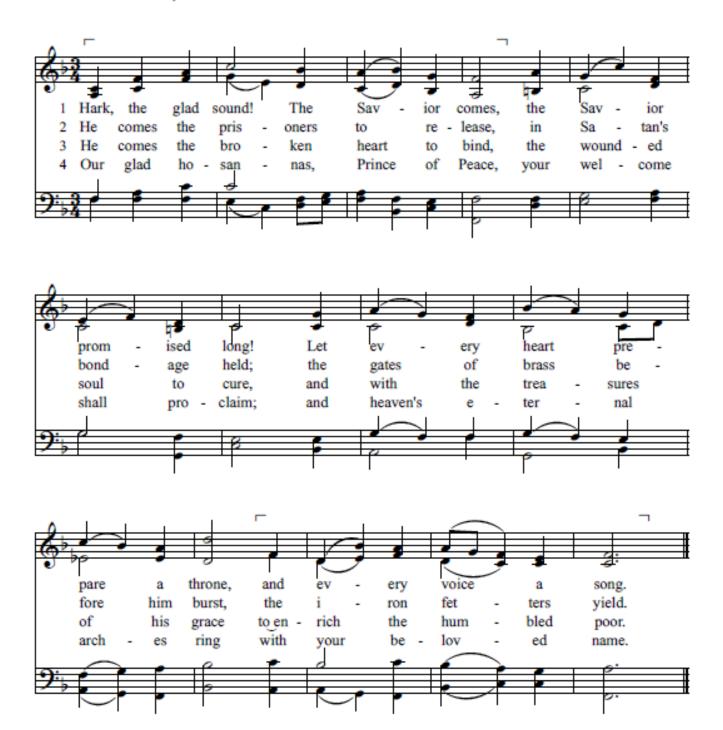
Amen.

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

Hark, the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes



POSTLUDE: In dulci jubilo - Zachow arr. Rondeau

The prayers and liturgy for tonight's service come from the Book of Common Prayer, as available at www.bcponline.

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Giving

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