



ALL SAINTS PARISH CHURCH,
CARSHALTON

CHORAL EVENSONG

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
7 JULY 2024

A warm welcome to Choral Evensong, whether you're here in person or worshipping online. There has been a church on this site since Saxon times and worship has been offered to God here since then; from the mid 12th century until the Reformation in the 16th century, this parish was held by the Augustinian Canons of Merton Priory and the clergy here kept the monastic Offices. The service today is part of that long tradition; our prayers tonight are joined with those which have been offered on this patch of holy ground across the millenia.

This service, taken from the Book of Common Prayer (1662), is sung jointly by the clergy and choir and offered to God on behalf of the whole congregation. Choral Evensong is not a concert, but an opportunity to quietly offer our own worship through the music offered to God on our behalf. Evensong developed at the English Reformation from the monastic offices of Vespers (Evening Prayer) and Compline (Night Prayer); in a sense, the clergy and choir in singing Choral Evensong are the inheritors of the tradition of monastic communities singing their daily offices seven times each day. Choral Evensong is sung daily in most Cathedrals and many Major Churches such as ours; it is a wonderful repository of mainly English choral music.

Music tonight:

Responses: *C V Stanford (arr Matthews)*

Canticles: *Dyson, Evening Service in D*

Psalm: *63 (Barnby)* and *64 (Bennett)*

Anthem: *Benjamin Britten, Jubilate Deo*

Please STAND for the entry of the choir and clergy. After a few words of welcome, the minister introduces the General Confession:

Dearly beloved brethren, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying after me:

The general Confession is said by the whole Congregation, all kneeling.

**ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father,
we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our
own hearts, We have offended against thy holy laws, We
have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
And we have done those things which we ought not to have
done, And there is no health in us: But thou, O Lord, have
mercy upon us miserable offenders; Spare thou them, O
God, which confess their faults, Restore thou them that are
penitent, According to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesu our Lord: And grant, O most merciful
Father, for his sake, That we may hereafter live a godly,
righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name.
Amen.**

The Absolution is prayed for by the minister, standing: the people still kneeling:

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness, and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins: ✠ He pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him, which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure, and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Then the minister and People shall say the Lord's Prayer:

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.

Please STAND. The minister and choir sing the Preces and Responses:

O Lord, open thou our lips;
And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

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 Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord;
The Lord's name be praised.

Please SIT as the choir sings Psalms 63 & 64, but STAND for the final Gloria Patri:

O God, thou art my God : early will I seek thee.

My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also longeth after thee : in
a barren and dry land where no water is.

Thus have I looked for thee in holiness : that I might behold
thy power and glory.

For thy loving-kindness is better than the life itself : my lips
shall praise thee.

As long as I live will I magnify thee on this manner : and lift
up my hands in thy Name.

My soul shall be satisfied, even as it were with marrow and
fatness : when my mouth praiseth thee with joyful lips.

Have I not remembered thee in my bed : and thought upon
thee when I was waking?

Because thou hast been my helper : therefore under the
shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

My soul hangeth upon thee : thy right hand hath upholden me.

These also that seek the hurt of my soul : they shall go under
the earth.

Let them fall upon the edge of the sword : that they may be a
portion for foxes.

But the King shall rejoice in God; all they also that swear by him shall be commended : for the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped.

Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer : preserve my life from fear of the enemy.

Hide me from the gathering together of the froward : and from the insurrection of wicked doers;

Who have whet their tongue like a sword : and shoot out their arrows, even bitter words;

That they may privily shoot at him that is perfect : suddenly do they hit him, and fear not.

They encourage themselves in mischief : and commune among themselves how they may lay snares, and say that no man shall see them.

They imagine wickedness, and practise it : that they keep secret among themselves, every man in the deep of his heart.

But God shall suddenly shoot at them with a swift arrow : that they shall be wounded.

Yea, their own tongues shall make them fall : insomuch that whoso seeth them shall laugh them to scorn.

And all men that see it shall say, This hath God done : for they shall perceive that it is his work.

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord, and put his trust in him: and all they that are true of heart shall be glad.

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.

SIT for the First Lesson, from the Old Testament: Jeremiah 20:1-11a

STAND to sing the Office Hymn:

**Saviour, again to thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise.
Guard thou our lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon thy name.**

**Grant us thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;
Turn thou for us its darkness into light;
From harm and danger keep thy children free,
For dark and light are both alike to thee.**

**Grant us thy peace throughout our earthly life;
Peace to thy Church from error and from strife;
Peace to our land, the fruit of truth and love;
Peace in each heart, thy Spirit from above:**

**Thy peace in life, the balm of every pain;
Thy peace in death, the hope to rise again;
Then, when thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
Call us, O Lord, to thine eternal peace.**

Words, John Ellerton 1826-93

Tune, *Ellers*, E J Hopkins 1818-1901

Remain STANDING, as the choir sings Magnificat, the Song of Mary (Luke 1.46), during which the officiant censes the High Altar:

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

For he hath regarded : the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

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.

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.

SIT for the Second Lesson, from the New Testament: Romans 14:1-17

STAND as the Choir sings Nunc Dimittis, the Song of Simeon (Luke 2.29):

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.

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 TURN to face the High Altar to recite the Apostles' Creed:

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 Catholick Church;
The Communion of Saints;
The Forgiveness of sins;
✠ The Resurrection of the body,
And the Life everlasting. Amen.**

The minister and choir sing the Lesser Litany, Lord's Prayer, Suffrages and Responses:

The Lord be with you;
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

Please KNEEL or SIT

Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

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. Amen.

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King;
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness;
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people;
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord;
Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The minister and Choir intone the Collects:

THE COLLECT FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

O God, who hast prepared for them that love thee such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward thee that we, loving thee in all things and above all things, may obtain thy promises which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PEACE:

Almighty 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 we, being defended by thee from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL 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.

THE GRACE

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

Please sit for the choir anthem:

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands: serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name. For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting: and his truth endureth from generation to generation. 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.

Words, Psalm 100 (Jubilate Deo), Book of Common Prayer

Music, Benjamin Britten, 1913-76

The Prayers of Intercession follow. Any notices follow at this point, then please STAND to sing the final hymn:

**Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
Bright Seraphs, Cherubim and Thrones,
raise the glad strain, Alleluya!
Cry out Dominions, Princedoms, Powers,
Virtues, Archangels, Angels' choirs,
Alleluya, Alleluya,
Alleluya, Alleluya,
Alleluya!**

**O higher than the Cherubim,
More glorious than the Seraphim,
lead their praises, Alleluya!
Thou Bearer of th'eternal Word,**

**Most gracious, magnify the Lord,
Alleluya, Alleluya,
Alleluya, Alleluya,
Alleluya!**

**Respond, ye souls in endless rest,
Ye Patriarchs and Prophets blest,
Alleluya, Alleluya!
Ye holy Twelve, ye Martyrs strong,
All Saints triumphant, raise the song
Alleluya, Alleluya,
Alleluya, Alleluya,
Alleluya!**

**O friends, in gladness let us sing,
Supernal anthems echoing,
Alleluya, Alleluya!
To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Alleluya, Alleluya,
Alleluya, Alleluya,
Alleluya!**

Words, Athelstan Riley 1858-1945

Tune, *Lasst uns erfreuen*, RVW 1872-1958

The minister and Choir sing the Dismissal:

The Lord be with you
and with thy spirit.
Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Organ Voluntary follows, during which the Choir and Clergy depart.

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