

# EPIPHANY†

— *Seattle* —

## CHORAL EVENSONG

### **The First Sunday of Lent**

February 21, 2021 | 5:00 p.m.

*Welcome to this service of choral evensong. Choral Evensong has its roots in the ancient monastic offices of Vespers and Compline, from which it retains a framework in which prayers are chanted, Scripture is read, and canticles (biblical songs) are sung in response to the lessons. Since the sixteenth century, Evensong has provided a daily opportunity for stillness, contemplation, prayer, and praise in the cathedrals, chapels, and great parish churches of England. Today it is sung regularly throughout the Anglican communion (of which the Episcopal Church is a part). The congregation adds its prayer to the offering of the choir, and is encouraged to join in heartily in the speaking of responses and the singing of hymns.*

*All stand at the ringing of the bell.*

### OPENING SENTENCES

*Officiant* I will bless the Lord, who giveth me counsel; my heart teacheth me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall.

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

### THE CONFESSION

*Officiant* Dear friends in Christ, here in the presence of Almighty God, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, so that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*The people kneel and say together:*

*All* **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.  
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,  
spare thou those who confess their faults,  
restore thou those who are penitent,  
according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus 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.**

*Officiant* The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

All stand.

## THE PRECES

Setting by Philip Radcliffe

*Officiant* O Lord, open thou our lips.  
*Choir* And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.  
*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.  
*Choir* O Lord, make haste to help us.  
*Choir* 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.  
*Officiant* Praise ye the Lord.  
*Choir* The Lord's name be praised.

The people are seated.

## PSALM 63: *Deus, Deus meus*

Anglican Chant: E.C. Bairstow

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.  
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.

All are seated.

## THE FIRST LESSON: *Deuteronomy 8:1-10*

This entire commandment that I command you today you must diligently observe, so that you may live and increase, and go in and occupy the land that the Lord promised on oath to your ancestors. Remember the long way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commandments. He humbled you by letting you hunger, then by feeding you with manna, with which neither you nor your ancestors were acquainted, in order to make you understand that one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. The clothes on your back did not wear

out and your feet did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that as a parent disciplines a child so the Lord your God disciplines you. Therefore keep the commandments of the Lord your God, by walking in his ways and by fearing him. For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the Lord your God for the good land that he has given you.

*The people remain seated.*

### **THE MAGNIFICAT: Evening Service in F**

George Dyson

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.

*The people stand for the gloria patri.*

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.

*All are seated.*

### **THE SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 1:17-31**

For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

*The people remain seated.*

## **THE NUNC DIMITTIS: Evening Service in F**

George Dyson

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.

*The people stand for the gloria patri.*

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.

*All stand and chant the 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 RESPONSES**

*Setting by Philip Radcliffe*

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*Choir* And with thy Spirit.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*Choir* Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

**All** 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.

*Officiant* O Lord, save the state.

*Choir* And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

*Officiant* Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

*Choir* And make thy chosen people joyful.

*Officiant* O Lord, save thy people.  
*Choir* And bless thine inheritance.

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

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

## THE COLLECTS

*Officiant* Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted of Satan: Make speed to help thy servants who are assaulted by manifold temptations; and, as thou knowest their several infirmities, let each one find thee mighty to save; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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 our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

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 Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

*The people are seated.*

## THE ANTHEM: *Cantique de Jean Racine*

*Gabriel Fauré*

O Redeemer divine, our sole hope of salvation, eternal light of the earth and the sky, we kneel in adoration, O Savior, turn on us Thy loving eye!

Send down on us the fire of Thy grace all consuming, whose wondrous might dispersed the powers of hell, and rouse our slumbering with radiance all illumining, that they may waken Thy mercy to tell!

O Christ bestow Thy blessing on us, we implore Thee, who here are gathered on penitent knee, accept the hymns we chant to Thy eternal glory and these thy gifts we return unto Thee!  
*(Sung in French)*

*All stand.*

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

*All* Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all thou hast made.  
We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;  
and that we show forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to thy service,  
and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

## A PRAYER OF SAINT CHRYSOSTOM

*Officiant* Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*All* **And with thy Spirit.**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*Officiant* Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Sung by all.*

**THE HYMN: *Be thou my guardian and my guide***

*Abridge*



1. Be thou my guar - dian and my guide, and hear me  
2. The world, the flesh, and Sa - tan dwell a - round the  
3. And if I tempt - ed am to sin, and out - ward  
4. Still let me ev - er watch and pray, and feel that



when I call; Let not my slip - pery foot - steps  
path I tread; O save me from the snares of  
things are strong, Do thou, O Lord, keep watch with -  
I am frail; That if the tempt - er cross my



slide, and hold me lest I fall.  
hell, Thou quick - ener of the dead.  
in, and save my soul from wrong.  
way, yet he may not pre - vail.