

Choral Evensong

The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 27
Sung in Celebration of the Life of Richard Nelson
Sunday, November 10, 2024 | 4 p.m.

Welcome to St. Paul's, we're glad you're here. When Thomas Cranmer penned the first Book of Common Prayer in 1549, he combined all of the hourly monastic prayer services into two daily services, Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer. Sung Evening Prayer, or Choral Evensong, is a service of light, music, prayer, and meditation.

The liturgy has adapted through the ages with its earliest roots in our common Jewish heritage. Its premise is one of praying to God at the close of the day—giving thanks for the day that has passed and seeking protection for the night that is to come. The service falls into three main parts: Opening prayers and singing of the Psalms (Preces and Psalter); readings from Holy Scripture – usually one from the Hebrew texts, and one from the Gospels – interspersed with ancient songs of the church (the Magnificat, or Song of Mary, and the Nunc dimittis, or Song of Simeon); and prayers of thanksgiving and protection (Lesser Litany and Lord's Prayer, Responses, collects, and spoken intercessions).

In general, the choir leads the prayers of the faithful, directing the worshipper through the liturgy not as a bystander, but as a participant through meditation, listening, and hearty participation in the hymn singing and congregational responses.

*The People's responses are in **bold**.*

OPENING VOLUNTARY

If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)

Air for Organ

Gerre Hancock
(1934–2012)

INTROIT

My eyes for beauty pine

Herbert Howells
(1892–1983)

My eyes for beauty pine,
My soul for Goddes grace:
No other care nor hope is mine,
To heaven I turn my face.

One splendour thence is shed
From all the stars above:
'Tis named when God's name is said,
'Tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.

And every gentle heart,
That burns with true desire,
Is lit from eyes that mirror part
Of that celestial fire.

—Robert Seymour Bridges (1844–1900)

Stand as the Choir and Clergy enter

PRECES *Stand*

Peter Aston
(1938–2013)

Precentor O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Precentor O God, make speed to save us.

Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Precentor 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.

Precentor Praise ye the Lord.

Choir The Lord's name be praised.

WELCOME

The Rev. Gabriel Lawrence

Please be seated as the Choir chants the psalm

PSALM 23

*Dominus regit me*chant: Charles Hylton Stewart
(1884–1932)

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; * I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures * and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul * and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; * for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; * you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, * and I will dwell in the house of the
LORD for ever.

Glory to the Father, * and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, and is now, and will be forever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Revelation 21:2–7

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

Here ends the Reading.

THE MAGNIFICAT *Stand*

Evening Service

Sarah MacDonald
(b. 1968)

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.

Glory be to the Father, *Et c.*
As it was in the beginning, *Et c.*

THE SECOND READING *Sit*

John 14:1-6

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Here ends the Reading.

THE NUNC DIMITTIS *Stand*

MacDonald

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, *Ec.*

As it was in the beginning, *Ec.*

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 catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

Aston

Precentor The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Precentor Let us pray.

Please kneel or be seated during the slight pause. Then the Choir will sing the Lord's Prayer.

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

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.

Precentor O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Precentor O Lord, save the State.

Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Precentor Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.

Precentor O Lord, save thy people.

Choir And bless thine inheritance.

Precentor Give peace in our time, O Lord.

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

Precentor O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, whose blessed Son was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant us, we beseech thee, that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that, when he shall appear again with power and great glory, we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost, he liveth and reigneth ever, one God, world without end: **Amen.**

THE CHORISTER'S PRAYER

Bless, O Lord, us thy servants who minister in thy temple; Grant that what we sing with our lips, we may believe in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts we may show forth in our lives; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR CHURCH MUSICIANS

O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with thy servants who seek through music to perfect the praises offered by thy people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ANTHEM *Sit*

And did those feet in ancient time

Jerusalem, C. Hubert H. Parry
(1848–1918)

And did those feet in ancient time,
Walk upon England's mountains green:
And was the holy Lamb of God,
On England's pleasant pastures seen!

And did the Countenance Divine,
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here,
Among these dark Satanic Mills?

Bring me my Bow of burning gold:
Bring me my Arrows of desire:
Bring me my Spear: O clouds unfold:
Bring me my Chariot of fire!

I will not cease from Mental Fight,
Nor shall my Sword sleep in my hand:
Till we have built Jerusalem,
In England's green and pleasant Land.
—William Blake (1757–1827)

REMEMBRANCES

Sophie LeMay, Steven Plank

HYMN *Stand*

Sing, my soul, his wondrous love

Nelson

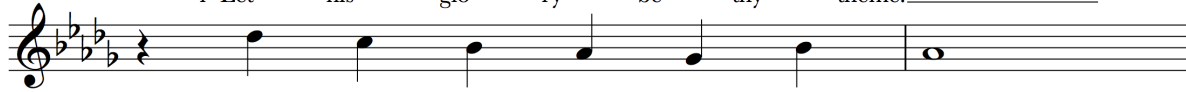
Composed by Sarah MacDonald in honor of Rick Nelson



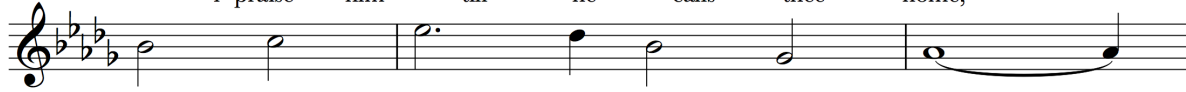
1 Sing, my soul, his wond - rous love, _____
2 Heav'n and earth by him were made, _____
Choir alone 3 God the mer - ci - ful and good, _____
4 Sing, my soul, a - dore his Name! _____



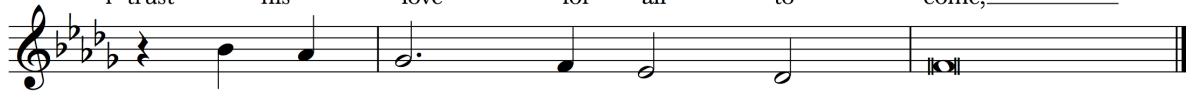
1 who from yon bright throne a - bove, _____
2 all is by his scep - ter swayed, _____
Choir alone 3 bought us with the Sav - ior's blood, _____
4 Let his glo - ry be thy theme: _____



1 ev - er watch - ful o'er his race
2 what are we that he should show
Choir alone 3 and to make sal - va - tion sure
4 praise him till he calls thee home;



1 still ex - tends to us his grace, _____
2 so much love to us be - low, _____
Choir alone 3 guides us by his Spir - it pure, _____
4 trust his love for all to come, _____



1 still ex - tends to us his grace.
2 so much love to us be - low?
Choir alone 3 guides us by his Spir - it pure. *Brief organ interlude*
4 trust his love for all to come.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise, that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE GRACE *Stand*

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.

CLOSING HYMN 541

Come, labor on

Ora labora

*During the singing of the hymn, an offering will be collected.
All donations support the Beth Nelson Fund at St. Paul's. Thank you for your generosity.*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Improvisation on *St. Clement*

Hancock

*During the closing voluntary, the Choir and Clergy depart.
Please remain standing until the procession has exited the door.*

At the conclusion of the Voluntary, please join us for a high tea in Tucker Hall hosted by the Eliza Backus Guild.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

<i>Officiant and Precentor</i>	The Rev. Gabriel Lawrence	<i>Lectors</i>	Dagmar Fellowes, Sonja Rajki
<i>Combined Choristers and Alumni</i>	Kelsey Ferguson, <i>Director</i>	<i>Crucifer</i>	Sarah-Theresa Murakami
<i>Organist</i>	Todd Wilson	<i>Ushers</i>	Susan Armstrong, Jim Ptacek
		<i>Livestream Operator</i>	Andrea C. Turner

CHORISTERS AND ALUMNI

Quinley Armstrong	Celia Lyford
Brett Balika	Julia Lyford
Jason Chance	Lucia Mitchell
Barbara Craig	Sam Mitchell
Gwen Donely	Allison Paetz
Celia Doherty	Cecilia Payne
Tyler Ferguson	Emma Quill
Grace Gamble	Keely Souther
Sophie Gilson	Rowan Taymuree
Jack Hughes	Evelyn Ting
Anna Hundert	Anna Turner
Hannah Irvine	Lauren Vanden Broeck
Grace Kaelber	Iris von der Heydt
Sophie LeMay	Nora Wagner

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Coming Up

Coventry Camerata Choral Evensong
Saturday, November 23, 5:30 p.m.

Choral Eucharist
Sunday, November 24, 11:15 a.m.

The Senior Choir offers Herbert Howells's Office for Holy Communion as the music of the ordinary this morning. The choral mass setting was written in the 1950s for the choir of King's College, Cambridge.

From Darkness to Light: An Advent Procession with Carols
Sunday, December 8, 5 p.m. (Prelude begins at 4:45 p.m.)

All the choirs of St. Paul's participate in the traditional Advent procession this year featuring the Great "O" Antiphons by Peter R. Hallock. Colorful banners with artwork by Robyn Sand Anderson will be processed during the singing of each Antiphon.

Complete information on all concerts may be found at
www.stpauls-church.org/concerts