



Choral Evensong & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

OCTOBER 6, 2024 • 3:30 p.m.

About the Service

Evensong is one of the jewels of Anglicanism. Evensong, also known as Evening Prayer (particularly when said rather than sung) is part of the Daily Office. The Daily Office is derived from the regular services of monastic communities in the early Church. At the heart of these services was the recitation of the Psalter, the songbook of the Bible. It remains the very core of the Daily Office in our day as well. By the late middle ages, the Daily Office was seen as the responsibility of the monks and clergy rather than an occasion for participation by all in the prayers of the community throughout the day. After the English Reformation, Archbishop Thomas Cranmer (1489-1556) reduced the eight monastic offices to the two services of Morning and Evening Prayer. These services were printed in vernacular English and intended for use by all members of the Church. At Church of the Ascension, Evensong is offered monthly during the choir term in conjunction with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is a devotional rite in which prayers and hymns are offered in praise to Our Lord, as we venerate the sacred mysteries of his Body and Blood. Benediction was introduced in the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago in 1884, here at Church of the Ascension. Professor John Macquarrie (1919-2007) offers us the following thoughts about the service of Benediction: “Benediction’ is a beautiful word. It means a blessing, a greeting, and an expression of kindness and love. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is a service that makes real to us in an impressive way the fact that God is always reaching out to us, to bless, to strengthen, to assure us of his loving kindness toward us. The greatest blessing that God ever bestowed or could bestow was the sending of his Son. [At Benediction] a remarkable thing happens as we find ourselves saying the words of the Divine Praises: 'Blessed be God! Blessed be his holy Name!' We came seeking God's blessing, and now find that we are blessing God! This indeed is the goal of all our worshipping that we may come to love God better. And we cannot love God without loving our neighbor, so that in seeking God's blessing, we are praying that, in blessing us, he will make us a blessing to others.”

ORGAN RECITAL
David R. White, Organist
Sunday, October 6, 2024 3:30 pm.

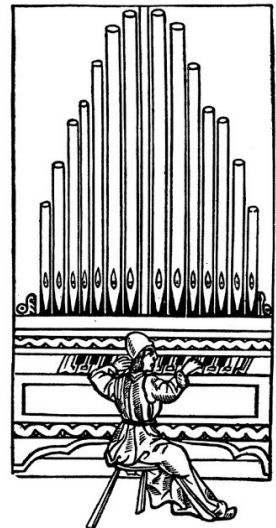
GEORG MUFFAT (1653-1704)
from *Apparatus musico-organisticus* [1690]

Toccata quinta e giga

CHARLES-ARNOULD TOURNEMIRE (1870-1939)
Office Liturgique: *Vingtième Dimanche après la Pentecôte*

Prélude à l'Introït
Offertoire
Élévation
Communion
Pièce Terminale: Chorale Alleluiatique

*Continuing the 2022-2025 series of the Organist's offering the
complete L'Orgue Mystique of Tournemire*



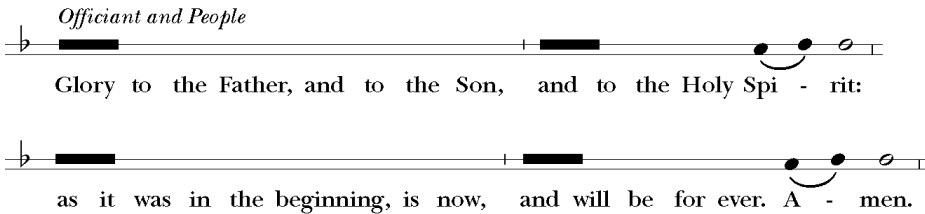
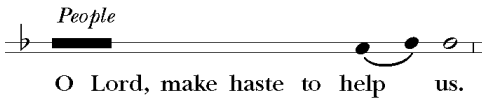
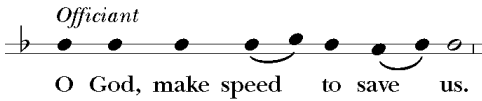
Evensong

The Opening Sentence (*The People stand as able.*)

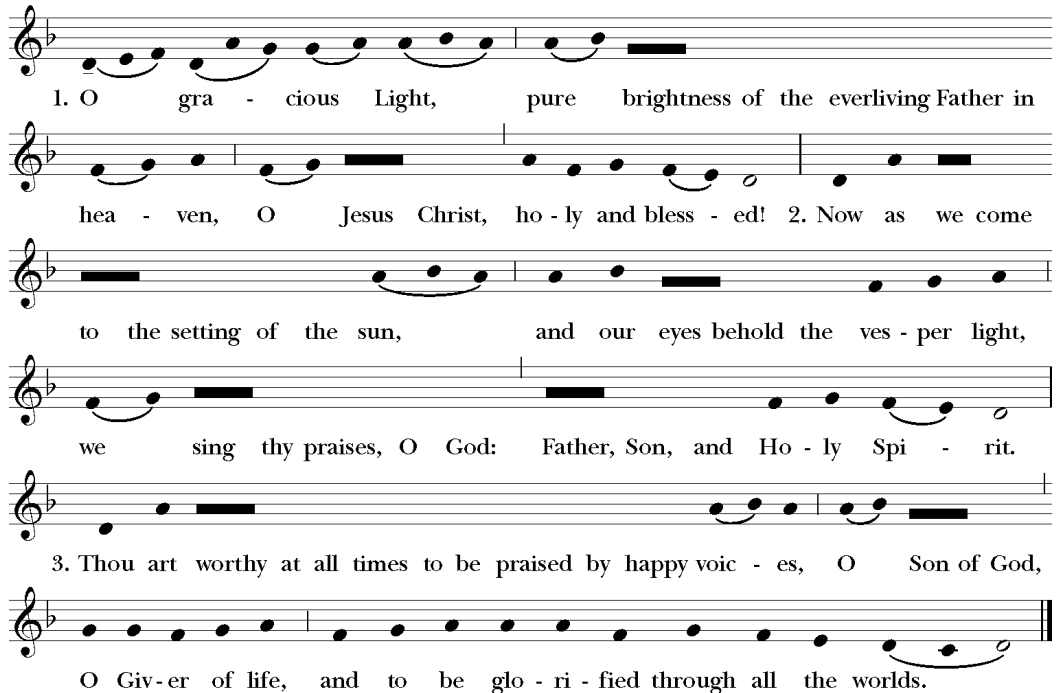
The Officiant begins with the following sentence of Scripture

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." *John 8:12*

Preces



O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron*



The People are seated for the singing of the Psalms and the Lessons.

Psalm 145 *Exaltabo te, Deus*



- 1 *I will exalt you, O Gód my King, **
and bless your Name for ev/er and éver.
- 2 Every day will I bléss you *
and praise your Name for ev/er and éver.
- 3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praísed; *
there is no end / to his gréatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to anóther *
and shall de/clare your pówer.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your májesty *
and / all your márvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wóndrous acts, *
and I will tell / of your gréatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great góodness;
they shall sing / of your ríghteous deeds.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and full of compássion, *
slow to anger and / of great kíndness.
- 9 The LORD is loving to éveryone *
and his compassion is / over áll his works.
- 10 All your works praise yóu, O LORD, *
and your faithful / servants bléss you.
- 11 They make known the glory of your kíngdom *
and speak / of your pówer;
- 12 That the peoples may know of your pówer *
and the glorious splendor / of your kíngdom.
- 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kíngdom; *
your dominion endures through/out all áges.
- 14 The LORD is faithful in áll his words *
and merci/ful in áll his deeds.



- 15 The LORD upholds all thóse who fall; *
he lifts up those / who are bówed down.
- 16 The eyes of all wait upon yóu, O LORD, *
and you give them their food / in due séason.
- 17 You open wíde your hand *
and satisfy the needs of every / living créature.
- 18 The LORD is righteous in áll his ways *
and lov/ing in áll his works.
- 19 The LORD is near to those who call upón him, *
to all who call up/on him fáithfully.
- 20 He fulfills the desire of those who féar him; *
he hears their / cry and hélpes them.
- 21 The LORD preserves all those who lóve him, *
but he destroys / all the wícked.
- 22 My mouth shall speak the praise of the LÓRD; *
let all flesh bless his holy Name for ev/er and éver. [Ant.]

Glory to the Father, and tó the Son, * and to the Hó-ly Spi-rit
As it was in the beginning, is nów, * and will be for év-er. Á-men.

The Lessons

The People are seated for the readings and stand as able for the Canticles.

The First Lesson

2 Kings 20:1-21

In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz came to him, and said to him, "Thus says the Lord: Set your house in order, for you shall die; you shall not recover." Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord: "Remember now, O Lord, I implore you, how I have walked before you in faithfulness with a whole heart, and have done what is good in your sight." Hezekiah wept bitterly. Before Isaiah had gone out of the middle court, the word of the Lord came to him: "Turn back, and say

to Hezekiah prince of my people, Thus says the Lord, the God of your ancestor David: I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; indeed, I will heal you; on the third day you shall go up to the house of the Lord. I will add fifteen years to your life. I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; I will defend this city for my own sake and for my servant David's sake." Then Isaiah said, "Bring a lump of figs. Let them take it and apply it to the boil, so that he may recover." Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "What shall be the sign that the Lord will heal me, and that I shall go up to the house of the Lord on the third day?" Isaiah said, "This is the sign to you from the Lord, that the Lord will do the thing that he has promised: the shadow has now advanced ten intervals; shall it retreat ten intervals?" Hezekiah answered, "It is normal for the shadow to lengthen ten intervals; rather let the shadow retreat ten intervals." The prophet Isaiah cried to the Lord; and he brought the shadow back the ten intervals, by which the sun had declined on the dial of Ahaz.

At that time King Merodach-baladan son of Baladan of Babylon sent envoys with letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick. Hezekiah welcomed them; he showed them all his treasure house, the silver, the gold, the spices, the precious oil, his armory, all that was found in his storehouses; there was nothing in his house or in all his realm that Hezekiah did not show them. Then the prophet Isaiah came to King Hezekiah, and said to him, "What did these men say? From where did they come to you?" Hezekiah answered, "They have come from a far country, from Babylon." He said, "What have they seen in your house?" Hezekiah answered, "They have seen all that is in my house; there is nothing in my storehouses that I did not show them." Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Hear the word of the Lord: Days are coming when all that is in your house, and that which your ancestors have stored up until this day, shall be carried to Babylon; nothing shall be left, says the Lord. Some of your own sons who are born to you shall be taken away; they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon." Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "The word of the Lord that you have spoken is good." For he thought, "Why not, if there will be peace and security in my days?" The rest of the deeds of Hezekiah, all his power, how he made the pool and the conduit and brought water into the city, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? Hezekiah slept with his ancestors; and his son Manasseh succeeded him.

The Lector concludes Here ends the reading.

Magnificat (*The Song of Mary*)

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

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 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.

Setting: George Dyson (1883-1964) *Evening Service in F* (1945)

The Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 2.6-16

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

The Lector concludes Here ends the reading.

Nunc dimittis (*The Song of Simeon*)

*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.*

Setting: George Dyson (1883-1964) *Evening Service in F* (1945)

Please remain standing, as able, for the Apostles' Creed and the Prayers

The Apostles' Creed (Monotone)

Officiant and People together

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.


A - men.

The Prayers

Officiant

People

Officiant

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

Officiant and People

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.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

For ever and ever. 

A - men.

The Suffrages

Cantor or Officiant

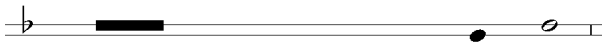
V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

People

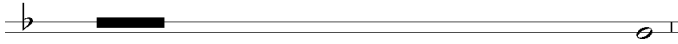
R. And grant us thy salva - tion.

V. Endue thy ministers with right-eous-ness;

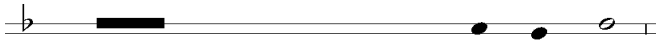
R. And make thy chosen people joy-ful.



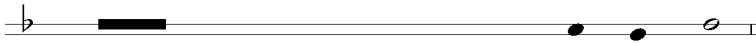
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;



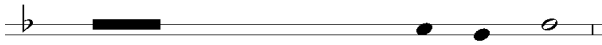
R. For only in thee can we live in safe - ty.



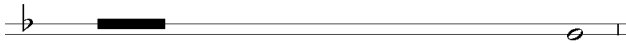
V. Lord, keep this nation un - der thy care;



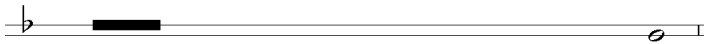
R. And guide us in the way of jus - tice and truth.



V. Let thy way be known up - on earth;



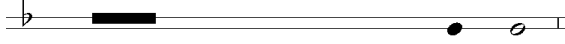
R. Thy saving health among all na - tions.



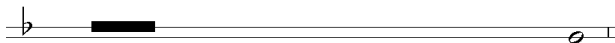
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgot - ten;



R. Nor the hope of the poor be ta - ken a - way.



V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;



R. And sustain us with thy Holy Spi - rit.

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve: Pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Collect for Sunday

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise thee in that City of which he is the light; and where he liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

O God, who dost manifest in thy servants the signs of thy presence: Send forth upon us the Spirit of love, that in companionship with one another thine abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The People are seated.

The Anthem

O gracious light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Setting: Robert Hobby (b. 1962) O *gracious light* (2024) first offering at Ascension

Commissioned by Zion Lutheran Church, Dallas, Texas

First performance on June 23, 2024 at Washington National Cathedral

Phos hilaron, Rite 2

The General Thanksgiving *The People stand, as able.*

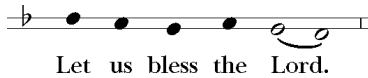
Officiant and People

**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 men.**

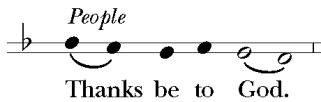
**We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;**

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 Spirit,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Concluding Versicle and Response



Let us bless the Lord.



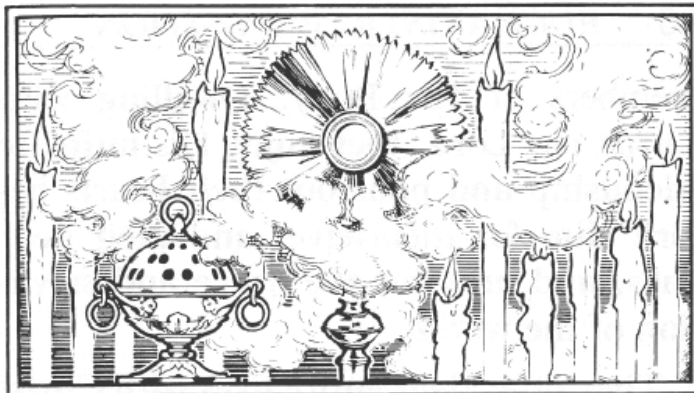
Thanks be to God.

The Grace

The Officiant concludes with the following

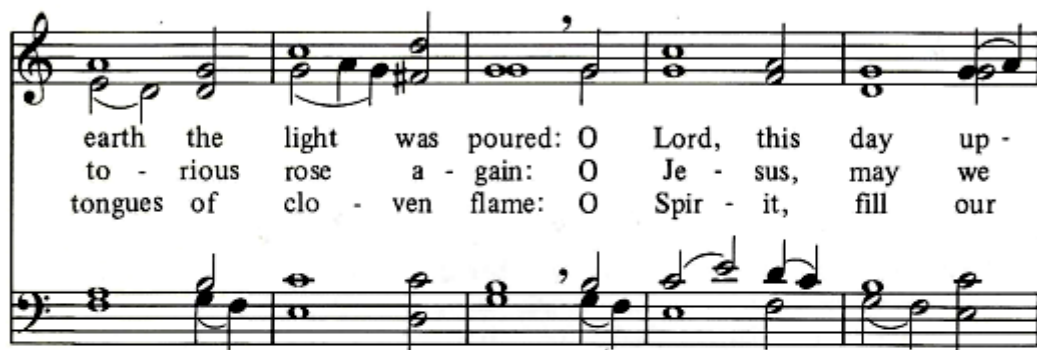
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

2 Corinthians 13:14

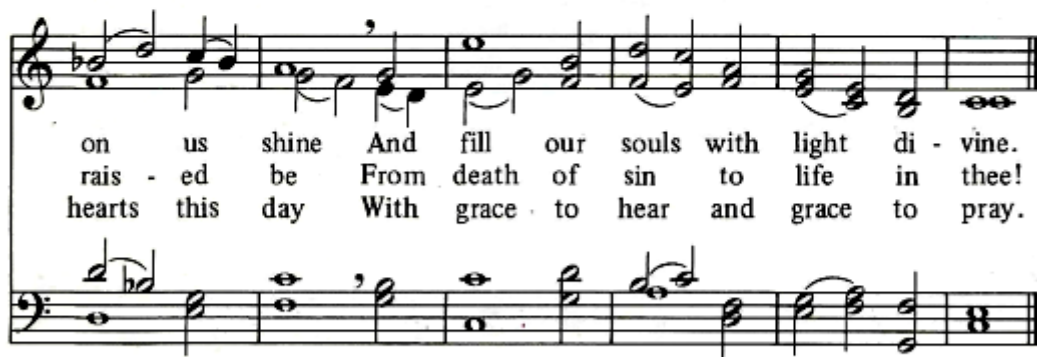




1. This day at thy cre - at - ing word First o'er the
2. This day the Lord for sin - ners slain In might vic -
3. This day the Ho - ly Spir - it came With fi - ery



earth the light was poured: O Lord, this day up -
to - rious rose a - gain: O Je - sus, may we
tongues of clo - ven flame: O Spir - it, fill our



on us shine And fill our souls with light di - vine.
rais - ed be From death of sin to life in thee!
hearts this day With grace to hear and grace to pray.

4. O day of light and life and grace,
From earthly toil sweet resting-place,
Thy hallowed hours, blest gift of love,
Give we again to God above.

5. All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whom, with the Spirit, we adore
Forever and forevermore. Amen.

BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

At the Adoration

As the bells are rung, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed; the People kneel in adoration.

O salutaris Hostia

O salutaris hostia
quae caeli pandis ostium,
bella premunt hostilia:
da robor, fer auxilium.

Uni trinoque Domino
Sit sempiterna gloria,
Qui vitam sine termino
Nobis donet in patria. Amen.

*O saving Victim, opening wide
The gate of Heaven to us below;
Our foes press hard on every side;
Thine aid supply; thy strength bestow.*

*To thy great name be endless praise,
Immortal Godhead, One in Three.
O grant us endless length of days,
In our true native land with thee. Amen.*

Meditation

Tantum ergo

Tantum ergo sacramentum
veneremur cernui,
et antiquum documentum
novo cedat ritui;
praestet fides supplementum
sensuum defectui.

Genitori Genitoque
laus et iubilatio,
salus, honor, virtus quoque
sit et benedictio;
procedenti ab utroque
compar sit laudatio. Amen.

*Therefore so great a Sacrament
Let us fall down and worship,
And let the old law
Give way to a new rite,
And let faith stand forward
To make good the defects of sense.*

*To the Father and the Son
Be praise and joy,
Health, honour and virtue
And blessing,
And to him proceeding from both
Be equal praise. Amen.*

Setting: David White (b. 1959) *O salutaris hostia* & *Tantum ergo* (2017)

Officiant Thou gavest them Bread from Heaven.

People **Containing within itself all sweetness.**

Officiant Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who in a wonderful Sacrament hast left unto us a memorial of thy Passion: Grant us, we beseech thee, so to venerate the sacred mysteries of thy Body and Blood, that we may ever perceive within ourselves the fruit of thy redemption; who with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest, world without end. **Amen.**

The Benediction of The Blessed Sacrament

As the Officiant makes the sign of the Cross over the people, all pray silently.

The Divine Praises

The People repeat each phrase after the Officiant.

Blessed be God.

Blessed be his holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

Blessed be his most sacred heart.

Blessed be his most precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the comforter.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be her glorious Assumption.

Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.

Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.

Blessed be God in the hearts of his faithful people.

The Officiant reposes the Blessed Sacrament.

As the Tabernacle door is closed; the bell rings, and all stand as able to sing the following antiphon and psalm →

Psalm 117 *Laudate Dominum*

Cantor *All*



Let us for ev - er a - dore_____ the Most Ho - ly Sac - ra - ment.

O praise the Lord, all ye na - tions; praise him, all ye peo - ples.

2. For his merciful kindness is ever more and more toward us;

and the truth of the Lord endureth for ev - ver. Praise the Lord.

V. Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost.

As it was in the **begin - ning** is now and ever shall be: world with - out end. A - men.

Let us...

The People remain standing as the Ministers depart.

ORGAN

A Running Fantasie of Foure Parts

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

A Dessert reception in the Narthex follows Benediction.

Many thanks to those who serve:

The Rev. Carlos de la Torre, *Officiant*; David A. Robertson, Andrew Smith *Acolytes*;
James Baran, *Lector*; MB Hwang, Gary Alexander, *Technology*

Choir of the Ascension

Soprano Ashlee Hardgrave, Susan Nelson, Laura Perkett, Laura Pinto

Alto Carla Janzen, Amy Johnson, Emily Price, Cassidy Smith

Tenor Damon Cole, James Judd, Aaron Short, Steven Wilson

Bass Matthew Brennan, John Orduña, Ian Prichard, Peter Wesoloski



Please do remember your financial offerings to the church. You may write a check and mail it to the church or make a gift by scanning this QR Code.

MUSIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BOW BRICKHILL Words: Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947)

Music: William H. How (1823-1897)

Preces (S26); **Salutation and The Lord's Prayer** (S28); **Suffrages A** (S22); **Concluding Versicle and Response** (S31) © 1985 Church Publishing Inc. **Phos hilaron** (S27); Melody © the Estate of Victor Judson Schramm; **Laudate Dominum** with antiphon (Ps. 117) Traditional plainsong melody, Mode V



WELCOME TO THE
CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
1133 N. LA SALLE BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60610
312. 664. 1271
office@ascensionchicago.org
www.ascensionchicago.org

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION is a parish in the Episcopal Church, a province of the Anglican Communion within the Catholic Church. Our Christian life and worship is rooted in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. As an Anglo-Catholic parish we praise, worship, and adore our Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, rejoice in the Communion of Saints, and relish in the beauty of liturgy and music. Thank you and bless you for being with us this day.



The mosaic on the door of the Altar tabernacle, Church of the Ascension

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, *Bishop of Chicago*

The Rev. Carlos de la Torre, *Rector*
cdelatorre@ascensionchicago.org

The Rev. Charles F. Farrell, *Deacon*

Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Gary Lawler
The Rev. Dr. Robert Petite
The Rt. Rev. Daniel H. Martins

Benjamin Rivera, *Choirmaster*
brivera@ascensionchicago.org

David White, *Organist*
benbritten@yahoo.com

David Schrader, *Organist Emeritus*

Gary Alexander, *Communications*

MB Hwang, *Verger*

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