



St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net

Fourth Sunday in Lent

CHORAL EVENSONG

March 26, 2017

5:00 p.m.

WELCOME

You have wisely chosen to spend your Sunday evening with us, participating in one of the most beautiful ancient customs of Anglican Worship – Choral Evensong. What you are about to experience is a powerful connection between your earthly life and the divine. Although the formal version of this service was established in 1549, the prayers contained therein harken back even further into antiquity.

A statement from Coventry Cathedral, England, reads: “Evensong ... is a very tiny fragment of something else: It is a fragment of the worship which is offered to God by Christian people every hour of the 24 in every part of the world. When you come to Evensong ... it is as if you were dropping in on a conversation already in progress – a conversation between God and [people] which began long before you were born and will go on long after you are dead. Evensong is drawn almost entirely from the Bible. Its primary purpose is to proclaim the wonderful works of God in history and in the life and death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.”

Your role as a participant is simply to be in a quiet space, allow the prayers of the clergy and choir to enter your soul, and sing and recite the portions indicated, as you feel comfortable. Together, we offer this worship to the glory of God alone, that it might make the day we have just shared holy and perfect, and prepare us for the week ahead.

Scott Lamlein, *Director of Music and Organist*

We welcome

The Bishops' Choir School and Trebles of Christ Church Cathedral, Springfield

Joseph O'Berry, *Choirmaster*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Please turn off your portable devices upon arrival, and observe silence.

Your donations, collected at the door, make these services and events possible. Thank you for your generosity.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Passacaglia

James Biery (b. 1956)

The people stand (as they are able) as the procession enters the Nave.

OPENING SENTENCE

Isaiah 49:6b

I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.

THE PRECES

Plainsong

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

The people are seated.

PSALM 23

Dominus regit me

E. J. Hopkins (1818-1901)

The LORD is my shepherd; *
 I shall not be in want.
 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
 and leads me beside still waters.
 He revives my soul *
 and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
 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.
 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.
 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.

The people stand.

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.

The people are seated.

FIRST LESSON

Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
 Rise from the dead,
 and Christ will shine on you.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

MAGNIFICAT in C minor

George Dyson (1883-1964)

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.

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.

The people are seated.

SECOND LESSON

John 9:1-41

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were

saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NUNC DIMITTIS in C minor

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.

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.

The people chant on a monotone:

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

Plainsong

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

The people kneel or remain standing.

Choir 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 them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Cantor O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
Choir And grant us thy salvation.
Cantor O Lord, save the State.
Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Cantor Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.
Cantor O Lord, save thy people.
Choir And bless thine inheritance.
Cantor Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
Cantor O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECTS *“Amen” is sung by the Choir.*

Of the day

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

For Church Musicians and Artists

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

For Mission

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship thee, all nations obey thee, all tongues confess and bless thee, and men and women everywhere love thee and serve thee in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The people are seated.

A GREETING

The Reverend Susan Pinkerton, *Rector*

ANTHEM

Light of the World

John Dankworth (1927-2010)
 Words: Paul Wigmore (1925-2014)

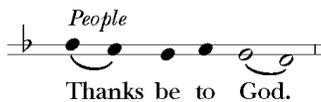
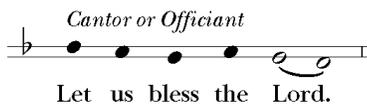
Light beyond shadow, joy beyond tears, love that is greater when darkest our fears;
 deeper the peace when the storm is around, dearer the Christ to the lost who is found.
 Light of the world, Jesus shining, shining! Sins of the world, see him dying, dying!
 In our darkness, he is light, in our crying, he is love, in the noise of life imparting
 peace that passes understanding; Light beyond shadow, joy beyond tears, love that is
 greater when darkest our fears; deeper the peace when the storm is around,
 dearer the Christ to the lost who is found.

The people stand and say together:

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

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. 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.

DISMISSAL



Officiant 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.**

The people sing, together with the choir:

HYMN 645

The king of love my shepherd is

ST. COLUMBA

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY

Fugue (from Sonata VI)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

*The people may be seated once the procession has exited the Nave.
Please remain quiet out of respect for those who wish to listen to the Voluntary.*

Participants

The Reverend Susan Pinkerton, *Officiant*
Scott Lamlein, *Organist*
John Nowacki, *Crucifer*

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www.sjparish.net

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. each Sunday morning

5:00 p.m. Evensong on selected last Sundays of the month

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer each Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Christian Education at 9:30 a.m. September – May

STAFF

The Rev. Susan Pinkerton (susan@sjparish.net).....	Rector
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net).....	Director of Music
The Rev. Walter McKenney* (walter@sjparish.net).....	Deacon
The Rev. Hope Eakins* (hope@sjparish.net).....	Priest Associate
The Rev. William Eakins* (bill@sjparish.net).....	Priest Associate
The Rev. Helen M. Moore* (helen@sjparish.net).....	Director of Pastoral and Spiritual Ministries
Janet Babbitt (janet@sjparish.net).....	Director of Religious Education
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net).....	Parish Manager and Assistant to the Rector
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net).....	Sexton
Mary Scripko (mary@sjparish.net).....	Religious Education Assistant
Ralph Valentine.....	Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus

*These positions are non-stipendiary. These clergy give generously of their time and expertise to support St. John's mission and ministries.

VESTRY

Buffy Ineson.....	Warden
Wes Winterbottom.....	Warden
Beth Grieco and Chris Byrd.....	Co-Treasurers
Ellen Painter Dollar.....	Clerk

2015-17: Courtney Bass, Jan Hickcox, Heather Simson

2016-18: Bess Amamoo, Tim Goetz, Ginny Kemp, Will Smith

2017-19: Geoff Emerick, Douglas Hyland, Virginia Van Dyk, Andrew Worrell

ST. PAUL'S DEAF CONGREGATION

Sundays, 10:30 a.m., in the church

Lay leaders: Victoria Crosta - text: 860-478-6524; Melissa Render - text: 860-983-4606