



St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another
www.sjparish.net

Third Sunday after Epiphany

CHORAL EVENSONG

January 27, 2019

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*

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

Psalm Prelude, Set One, Op. 32: No. 2

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

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

OPENING SENTENCE

Psalm 96:9

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

THE PRECES

Sarah MacDonald (b. 1968)

<i>Cantor</i>	O Lord, open thou our lips.
<i>Choir</i>	And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
<i>Cantor</i>	O God, make speed to save us.
<i>Choir</i>	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 19 *Caeli enarrant*

Plainsong, Tone VIII.1

The heavens declare the glory of God, *
 and the firmament shows his handiwork.
 One day tells its tale to another, *
 and one night imparts knowledge to another.
 Although they have no words or language, *
 and their voices are not heard,
 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
 and their message to the ends of the world.
 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
 it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
 it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
 and runs about to the end of it again; *
 nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
 The law of the LORD is perfect
 and revives the soul; *
 the testimony of the LORD is sure
 and gives wisdom to the innocent.
 The statutes of the LORD are just
 and rejoice the heart; *
 the commandment of the LORD is clear
 and gives light to the eyes.
 The fear of the LORD is clean
 and endures for ever; *
 the judgments of the LORD are true
 and righteous altogether.
 More to be desired are they than gold,
 more than much fine gold, *
 sweeter far than honey,
 than honey in the comb.
 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
 and in keeping them there is great reward.
 Who can tell how often he offends? *
 cleanse me from my secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

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

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

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

Luke 4:14-21

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

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

Sarah MacDonald

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

The people kneel or remain standing.

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

Choir 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.

Cantor O Lord, show 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

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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 Social Justice

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The people are seated.

A GREETING

The Reverend Susan Pinkerton, *Rector*

ANTHEM

Precious Moment *from* Songs of Peace

Will Todd (b. 1970)

A gift so pure, life so precious, gifted to me.
 Touched by your love, I am awakened in this precious moment of peace.
 Wild is the storm surrounding me, but here love drives out the cold.
 Precious gift of forgiveness, precious moment of peace.

I am alone, but you hold me closely to you.
 Your endless love is my protection in this precious moment of peace.
 Fear within and fear without, but you are the light in my dark.
 Precious gift of forgiveness, precious moment of peace.

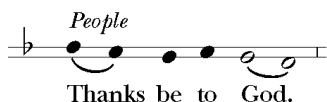
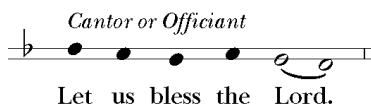
And this love is endless, endless moment of peace.

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 438

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord

WOODLANDS

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY

Carillon-Sortie

Henri Mulet (1878-1967)

*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*

Britt Emerick, *Cantor*

John Nowacki, *Crucifer and Layreader*

Youth Choirs

Church of Christ, Congregational, Newington

Ryan Austin, Sage Campbell, Mikobin Foster-Salters, Livia Harris, Victoria Kiriyan

Peter Niedmann, *Choirmaster and Organist*

St. James's, West Hartford

Margaret Adams, Quinn Ciccone, Benjain Dollar, John Kramer, Samantha Kramer, James DeLibero,
Anya Fisher, Lyla Fisher, Allison McDill, Calvin Meyer, Julia Neal, Emilie O'Sullivan, Graeme Taylor, Theo Vietzke,
Eliza Wagner, Abby Waterman, Christine Waterman, Jane Waterman, Charlotte Willson, Nora Willson

Vaughn Mauren, *Choirmaster and Organist*

St. John's, West Hartford

Britt Emerick, *Head Chorister*; Emma Evica, *Prefect*

Sahara Barrow, Naomi Cipriano, Elsa Ciscel, Dana Crocker, Gianna Duberek, Frances Eikel, Cate Emerick,

Lilah Lorenzo, Livvy Lorenzo, Olivia Tummescheit, Philip Tummescheit

Scott Lamlein, *Choirmaster and Organist*