



St. John's Episcopal Church

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

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

CHORAL EVENSONG

September 25, 2022

5:00 p.m.

WELCOME

We are grateful that you have 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.

ORDER OF SERVICE

*Please turn off your portable devices upon arrival, and observe silence.
Your donations make these services and events possible. Thank you for your generosity.*

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Master Tallis's Testament

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

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

OPENING SENTENCE

Psalm 141:2

Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

THE PRECES

Cantor O Lord, open thou our lips.
Choir And our mouth shall show 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 until the Apostles' Creed.

PSALM 146 *Lauda, anima mea*

Robert A. Hawthorne, 2006

Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord, O my soul! *
 I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
 I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, *
 for there is no help in them.

When they breathe their last, they return to earth, *
 and in that day their thoughts perish.

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
 whose hope is in the Lord their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
 who keeps his promise for ever;

Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
 and food to those who hunger.

The Lord sets the prisoners free;
 the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; *
 the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

The Lord loves the righteous;
 the Lord cares for the stranger; *
 he sustains the orphan and widow,
 but frustrates the way of the wicked.

The Lord shall reign for ever, *
 your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
 Hallelujah!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, *
 and to the Holy Spirit;
 As it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever, *
 world without end. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

1 Timothy 6:6-19

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MAGNIFICAT IN C

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

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, 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.

SECOND LESSON

Luke 16:19-31

Jesus said, "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NUNC DIMITTIS IN C

Ralph Vaughan Williams

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.

The people stand and 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

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.

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.

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

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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 Mission

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake.

The people are seated.

A GREETING

The Reverend Todd FitzGerald

ANTHEM

O how amiable are thy dwellings

Ralph Vaughan Williams
Text from Psalms 84 and 90

O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts!

My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord.

My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house.

They will be always praising thee.

The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us;

prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.

O prosper thou our handiwork.

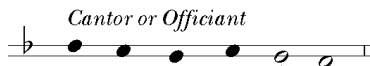
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

The people stand and say together:

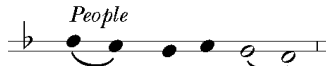
THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

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



Let us bless the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

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 24

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended

ST. CLEMENT

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY

March on a theme by Handel

Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

*The people may be seated once the procession has exited the Nave.
Please remain quiet during the Voluntary, which is the final part of our worship.*

Participants

The Reverend Todd FitzGerald, *Officiant*
Paul Shaker, *Crucifer & Layreader*
Members and Guests of the St. John's Choir
Scott Lamlein, *Choirmaster*
Christopher Houlihan, *Organist*

Presented by
Music at the Red Door

BOYD MEETS GIRL



Laura Metcalf, cello
Rupert Boyd, guitar

- Free admission
- In-person and livestreamed
- Donations welcome (suggested donation: \$20)

Friday, October 14, 2022
7:30pm

 Music at the Red Door
St. John's Episcopal Church
679 Farmington Ave (near Prospect)
West Hartford, CT 06119
RedDoorMusic.org

The Edward C. & Ann T.
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St. John's Choir School

- For children age 7 1/2 and older.
- Learn the finest choral music along with music theory.
- Sing with other kids and adults at a professional level.
- Sing every Wednesday 5-7pm, one Friday evening per month, and two Sunday mornings per month, plus occasional holiday services and concerts.
- Participate in a vibrant, family-friendly community.
- Contribute to beautiful and meaningful worship.
- Get recognition for progress, including a paid stipend of \$12 to \$40 per month, depending on level of experience and attendance.
- Attend an annual sleepaway choir camp for six days in the summer.
- Make friends and have fun!

There is no enrollment fee. Costs are paid by the church, except for choir camp and certain trips, for which financial aid is available. For more information, go to reddoormusic.org/choirschool or contact Scott Lamlein at 860.523.5201 x324 or music@sjparish.net

reddoormusic.org/choirschool

