

The Order for Choral Evensong

for

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 21, 2018 at 5:00 PM

*¶ The choral setting of the Responses was composed for Merton College, Oxford
by Matthew Martin (2012)*

¶ All stand as the Choir and Ministers enter

Organ Voluntary

Trivium

Arvo Pärt
(b. 1935)

Opening Sentences

Confession of Sin

Officiant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

¶ Officiant and People, all kneeling

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;
And there is no health in us.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a Godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

¶ The Officiant alone stands and says

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution **✝** and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit.

¶ People Amen.

¶ All stand

The Invitatory and Psalter

¶ All remain standing as the Officiant and Choir sing

∇. O Lord, open thou our lips.

℞. And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

∇. O God, make speed to save us.

℞. 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.

∇. Praise ye the Lord.

℞. The Lord's Name be praised.

¶ All remain standing as the Choir sings following Hymn

Phos hilaron

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 thy praises, O God:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Thou art 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.

Words: Greek, 3rd Century

Music: Henry Gerike (1977)

¶ *All are then seated as the Choir sings the Psalm appointed for the day*

The Psalmody

Psalm 106

Anglican Chants: William H. Harris, H. Walford Davies,
Percy Whitlock, Robert Lehman,
Herbert Howells

Part I: *Confitemini Domino*

O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is gracious,
and his mercy endureth for ever.

Who can express the noble acts of the Lord,
or show forth all his praise?

Blessed are they that alway keep judgment,
and do righteousness.

Remember me, O Lord, according to the favour
that thou bearest unto thy people;
O visit me with thy salvation;

That I may see the felicity of thy chosen,
and rejoice in the gladness of thy people,
and give thanks with thine inheritance.

We have sinned with our fathers;
we have done amiss, and dealt wickedly.

Our fathers regarded not thy wonders in Egypt,
neither kept they thy great goodness in remembrance;
but were disobedient at the sea, even at the Red Sea.

Nevertheless, he helped them for his Name's sake,
that he might make his power to be known.

He rebuked the Red Sea also, and it was dried up;
so he led them through the deep, as through a wilderness.

And he saved them from the adversary's hand,
and delivered them from the hand of the enemy.

As for those that troubled them, the waters overwhelmed them;
there was not one of them left.

Then believed they his words,
and sang praise unto him.

But within a while they forgot his works,
and would not abide his counsel.

But lust came upon them in the wilderness,
and they tempted God in the desert.

And he gave them their desire,
and sent leanness withal into their soul.

They angered Moses also in the tents,
and Aaron the saint of the Lord.

So the earth opened, and swallowed up Dathan,
and covered the congregation of Abiram.

And the fire was kindled in their company;
the flame burnt up the ungodly.

Part II: *Et fecerunt vitulum*

They made a calf in Horeb,
and worshipped the molten image.

Thus they turned their glory
into the similitude of a calf that eateth hay.

And they forgot God their Saviour,
who had done so great things in Egypt;

Wondrous works in the land of Ham;
and fearful things by the Red Sea.

So he said he would have destroyed them,
had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the gap,
to turn away his wrathful indignation, lest he should destroy them.

Yea, they thought scorn of that pleasant land,
and gave no credence unto his word;

But murmured in their tents,
and hearkened not unto the voice of the Lord.

Then lift he up his hand against them,
to overthrow them in the wilderness;

To cast out their seed among the nations,
and to scatter them in the lands.

They joined themselves unto Baal-peor,
and ate the offerings of the dead.

Thus they provoked him to anger with their own inventions;
and the plague was great among them.

Then stood up Phinehas, and interposed;
and so the plague ceased.

And that was counted unto him for righteousness,
among all posterities for evermore.

They angered him also at the waters of strife,
so that he punished Moses for their sakes;

Because they provoked his spirit,
so that he spake unadvisedly with his lips.

Neither destroyed they the heathen,
as the Lord commanded them;

But were mingled among the heathen,
and learned their works.

Insomuch that they worshipped their idols, which became a snare unto them;
yea, they offered their sons and their daughters unto devils;

And shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters,
whom they offered unto the idols of Canaan;
and the land was defiled with blood.

Thus were they stained with their own works,
and went a whoring with their own inventions.

Therefore was the wrath of the Lord kindled against his people,
insomuch that he abhorred his own inheritance.

And he gave them over into the hand of the heathen;
and they that hated them were Lords over them.

Their enemies oppressed them,
and had them in subjection.

Many a time did he deliver them;
but they rebelled against him with their own inventions,
and were brought down in their wickedness.

Nevertheless, when he saw their adversity,
he heard their complaint.

He thought upon his covenant, and pitied them,
according unto the multitude of his mercies;
yea, he made all those that led them away captive to pity them.

Deliver us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the heathen;
that we may give thanks unto thy holy Name, and make our boast of thy praise.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, from everlasting, and world without end;
And let all the people say, Amen.

¶ *Then the Gloria Patri is sung*

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 Lessons

The First Lesson

GALATIANS 2:1-10

THEN AFTER FOURTEEN YEARS I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. I went up by revelation; and I laid before them (but privately before those who were of repute) the gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, lest somehow I should be running or had run in vain. But even Titus, who was with me, was not compelled to be circumcised, though he was a Greek. But because of false brethren secretly brought in, who slipped in to spy out our freedom which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage – to them we did not yield submission even for a moment, that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you. And from those who were reputed to be something (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality) – those, I say, who were of repute added nothing to me; but on the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised (for he who worked through Peter for the mission to the circumcised worked through me also for the Gentiles), and when they perceived the grace that was given to me, James and Cephas and John,

who were reputed to be pillars, gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised; only they would have us remember the poor, which very thing I was eager to do.

¶ *Following the Lesson, all stand for the singing of the Office Hymn*

Office Hymn 131

VOM HIMMEL KAM DER ENGEL SCHAR

¶ *All remain standing for the singing of the Magnificat*

Magnificat *Princeton Service*

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 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.

Words: Luke 1:46–55 with Gloria Patri

Music: Gerald Near (b. 1942)

¶ *All are seated following the singing of the Magnificat*

The Second Lesson

MARK 7:31-37

THEN HE RETURNED FROM THE REGION OF TYRE, and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, through the region of the Decap'olis. And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech; and they besought him to lay his hand upon him. And taking him aside from the multitude privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue; and looking up to heaven, he sighed, and said to him, "Eph'phatha," that is, "Be opened." And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. And he charged them to tell no one; but the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well; he even makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak."

¶ *Following the Lesson, all stand for the singing of the Nunc dimittis*

Nunc dimittis *Princeton Service*

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.

Words: Luke 2:29-32 with Gloria Patri

Music: Gerald Near

The Apostles' Creed

¶ *Sung on a monotone by the Officiant and People together, all standing*

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

¶ *The Officiant and Choir sing the following*

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

¶ *The People kneel*

℞. Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

¶ *Then the short form of the Lord's Prayer is sung by all, kneeling*

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.
Amen.

¶ *Then follow these Suffrages, sung by the Officiant and Choir*

∇. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
℞. And grant us thy salvation.

∇. O Lord, save the State.
℞. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

∇. Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
℞. And make thy chosen people joyful.

∇. O Lord, save thy people.
℞. And bless thine inheritance.

∇. Give peace in our time, O Lord.
℞. Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

∇. O God, make clean our hearts within us.
℞. And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

‡ *The following Collects are sung; the Choir sings "Amen."*

The Collect 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 all the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Collect for Peace

O GOD, FROM WHOM ALL HOLY DESIRES, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

A Collect for Aid against Perils

LIGHTEN OUR DARKNESS, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Benedicamus Domino

‡ *Officiant*

‡ *People*



Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Grace

¶ 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. *¶ People Amen.*

¶ Then the Congregation is seated

Greeting

Anthem

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently.

Commit your way to the Lord and trust.

Delight in the Lord and you will be given the desires of your heart;
for the Lord is our salvation and our refuge.

One thing have I desired:

that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord;

for one day in the courts of the Lord is better than a thousand without.

Words: Drawn from Psalms 37, 24, and 84

Music: Christopher Betts (2012)

Closing Prayers

¶ All kneel

℣. The Lord be with you.

℟. And with thy spirit.

¶ The Officiant may then offer prayers for mission and for the world

The Blessing ✠

¶ Then all stand for the singing of the final Hymn

Hymn 39

WILDERNESS

¶ At the conclusion of the Hymn the Choir and Ministers depart; the Congregation remains standing as the procession retires

¶ All are cordially invited to a reception in the Great Hall following the Office

The next service of Choral Evensong will be sung on Sunday, February 4 at 5:00 PM.



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