



THE CHURCH
OF ST. MICHAEL & ST. GEORGE

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
and
Commemoration of the Feast of the Presentation
February 4, 2024 5:00 PM

The Order for Evensong

Prelude

Nun lob, mein Seele, den Herren
BuxWV212

Dieterich Buxtehude (1637 - 1707)

All stand as the Officiant and other Ministers enter

Introit

Eternal Light

Leo Sowerby (1895-1968)
words St. Alcuin (735-804)

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts.
Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil.
Eternal Power, be our support.
Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance,
Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening Sentences

Officiant

If I say, “Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night,” darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. *Psalms 139:10, 11*

Confession of Sin

Officiant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Officiant and People together, 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

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.
Choir And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.
Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
Choir As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

Officiant Praise ye the Lord.
Choir The Lord's name be praised.

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

The Psalmody

Psalm

Anglican Chant

34

Martin How (1931-2022)
Robert Lehman (b. 1960)

I will always give thanks unto the Lord;
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

My soul shall make her boast in the Lord;
the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.

O praise the Lord with me,
and let us magnify his name together.

I sought the Lord, and he heard me;
yea, he delivered me out of all my fear.

They had an eye unto him, and were lightened;
and their faces were not ashamed.

Lo, the poor crieth, and the Lord heareth him;
yea, and saveth him out of all his troubles.

The angel of the Lord tarrieth round about them that fear him,
and delivereth them.

O fear the Lord, ye that are his saints;
for they that fear him lack nothing.

The lions do lack, and suffer hunger;
but they who seek the Lord shall want no manner of thing that is good.

Come, ye children, and hearken unto me;
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

What man is he that lusteth to live,
and would fain see good days?

Keep thy tongue from evil,
and thy lips, that they speak no guile.

Eschew evil, and do good;
seek peace, and ensue it.

The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous,
and his ears are open unto their prayers.

The countenance of the Lord is against them that do evil,
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth them,
and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart,
and will save such as be of an humble spirit.

Great are the troubles of the righteous;
but the Lord delivereth him out of all.

He keepeth all his bones,
so that non one of them is broken.

But misfortune shall slay the ungodly;
and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.

The Lord delivereth the souls of his servants;
and all they that put their trust in him shall not be destitute.

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

2 Timothy 2:14-21

Remind them of this, and charge them before the Lord to avoid disputing about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. Avoid such Godless chatter, for it will lead people into more and more unGodliness, and their talk will eat its way like gangrene. Among them are Hymenae'us and Phile'tus, who have swerved from the truth by holding that the resurrection is past already. They are upsetting the faith of some. But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Let every one who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity." In a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and earthenware, and some for noble use, some for ignoble. If any one purifies himself from what is ignoble, then he will be a vessel for noble use, consecrated and useful to the master of the house, ready for any good work.

All stand for the singing of the Office Hymn and Magnificat

Hymn

Old 120th

adpt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

1 Hail to the Lord who comes, comes to his tem - ple gate;
2 but, borne up - on the throne of Ma - ry's gen - tle breast,
3 There Jo - seph at her side in rev - erent won - der stands;
4 O Light of all the earth, thy chil - dren wait for thee!

not with his an - gel host, not in his king - ly state;
watched by her du - teous love, in her fond arms at rest,
and, filled with ho - ly joy, old Si - meon in his hands
Come to thy tem - ples here, that we, from sin set free,

no shouts pro - claim him nigh, no crowds his com - ing wait;
thus to his Fa - ther's house he comes, the heav - en - ly guest.
takes up the prom - ised child, the glo - ry of all lands.
be - fore thy Fa - ther's face may all pre - sent - ed be!

Magnificat

in A for Double Choir

Luke 1: 46-55

E.W. Naylor (1867-1934)

✠ 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.

All are seated following the singing of the Magnificat

The Second Lesson

Mark 10:13-22

And they were bringing children to him, that he might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it he was indignant, and said to them, "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them. And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus

said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘Do not kill, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.’” And he said to him, “Teacher, all these I have observed from my youth.” And Jesus looking upon him loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” At that saying his countenance fell, and he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions.

Following the Lesson, all stand

Nunc Dimittis

in A for Double Choir

Luke 2: 29-32

E.W. Naylor

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 Apostles’ Creed

Sung on a monotone by the 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. Amen.

The Prayers

The Officiant and Choir sing the following

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

The People kneel

Officiant Lord have mercy upon us.
Choir Christ have mercy upon us.
Officiant Lord have mercy upon us.

Then the short form of the Lord's Prayer is sung by the Choir

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

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Officiant O Lord, save the State.

Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.

Officiant O Lord, save thy people.

Choir And bless thine inheritance.

Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Officiant O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

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

The Collect of the Day

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins and give us, we beseech thee, the liberty of that abundant life which thou hast manifested to us in thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Collect to Commemorate the Presentation

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly beseech thee that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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

When to the Temple Mary Went

Johannes Eccard (1553-1611)

words German text, trans. Rev. J. Troutbeck

When to the temple Mary went and brought the Holy Child,
Him did the ancient Simeon see, as it had been revealed.
He took up Jesus in his arms and blessing God, he said;
In peace I now depart My Savior having seen,
The Hope of Israel, the Light of men.

Help now thy servants gracious Lord, that we may ever be,
As once the faithful Simeon was, rejoicing but in Thee;
And when we must from earth departure take,
May gently fall asleep and with Thee wake.

All kneel while the Officiant offers prayers from the High Altar

Closing Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.

The Officiant then offers prayers for mission and for the world

The Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; and the blessing ✠ of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *People* Amen.

All stand and join in the singing of the Hymn

Hymn

Edmonton

from Harmonia Sacra (ca.1760)

1 O Zi - on, o - pen wide thy gates, let
2 A - ware of hid - den de - i - ty, the
3 The a - ged Si - meon sees at last his
4 But si - lent knelt the mo - ther blest of
5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther be, all

1 sym - bols dis - ap - pear; a priest and vic - tim,
2 low - ly Vir - gin brings her new - born babe, with
3 Lord, so long de - sired, and An - na wel - comes
4 the yet si - lent Word, and pon - dering all things
5 glo - ry to the Son, all glo - ry, Ho - ly

1 both in one, the Truth him - self, is here.
2 two young doves, her hum - ble of - fer - ings.
3 Is - rael's hope, with ho - ly rap - ture fired.
4 in her heart, with speech - less praise a - dored.
5 Ghost, to thee, while end - less a - ges run.

Postlude

Chaconne in G Minor

Louis Couperin (1626-1661)

Participants in the Liturgy

The Choir of Saint Peter's Episcopal Church
David Sinden, *Organist and Choirmaster*

The Choir of the Church of Saint Michael and Saint George
S. William Aitken, *Interim Organist and Choirmaster*

This Evening's Liturgy

The Office of Evensong is sung at the close of each day in cathedrals, collegiate chapels, monastic communities, and parish churches throughout the Anglican Communion. Derived from the ancient offices of Vespers and Compline, it is a service of rare beauty offered through the singing of psalms and canticles, the reading of scripture, and prayer. This liturgy of sung prayer has been offered daily throughout the Christian era and it enables us to join with all those who have gone before, those today who offer their evening prayers, and those who will continue their sung praise, petitions, and thanksgivings in times to come.

The worshipper offers praise through association with the choir and sits awash in sung prayer as it resonates throughout this sacred space. Natural time is suspended as word and music combine to capture the holy rhythms of the spheres and the worshipper is transported beyond chronological time to a place where creation and eternity coalesce into one.

Holy Eucharist will be offered in St. Mary's Chapel immediately following this service.

All are invited into the Great Hall following the service for light fare.



THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL & ST. GEORGE

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The Rev. Peter James Speropulos	<i>Assistant Rector</i>
The Rev. Thomas Roy Albinson	<i>Assistant Rector</i>
The Rev. Dr. Stewart Douglas Clem	<i>Priest Associate; Theologian in Residence</i>
The Rev. Anne Hunter Kelsey	<i>Priest Associate</i>
Mr. S. William Aitken	<i>Interim Organist and Choral Director</i>

