



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.

Cover Art

Book of Hours, Christ praying in the Garden of Gethsemane

Walters Manuscript W.246, fol.

Mid-fifteenth Century

Wikimedia Commons

Choral Evensong and Sermon

for

Wednesday in Holy Week

March 27, 2024 at 5:30 pm

¶ *The choral setting of the Responses was composed by Iain Quinn (b. 1973)*

¶ *All stand as the Choir and Ministers enter*

Introit

When Mary went out wand'ring, She wandered far abroad,
She wandered far abroad, Till she found the Lord her God
She found Him in the city, Before King Herod's house,
Before King Herod's house; He looked sad and piteous.
The cross He took and carried To Jerusalem before the gate;
To Jerusalem before the gate, Where He was sore beset.
What was it that He was wearing? A cruel thorny crown,
A cruel thorny crown; The cross still bowed Him down.
So let us all remember, All men both old and young,
That the kingdom of God suffers great wrong.

Words: trans. from German – Jean Lunn

Music: Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Opening Sentences

Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? Behold and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow which is done unto me, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted me.

Lamentations 1:12

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.

¶ *All are then seated*

The Psalmody

Psalm 74

Ut quid, Deus?

Tone II. 1

¶ *The Antiphon is sung first by the Precentor, then repeated by all; it is then sung by all again at the conclusion of the Psalm*



A - rise, O God, main - tain— thy cause.

♩ The first half of each Psalm verse is sung by the Precentor; the second half is sung by all



O God, wherefore art thou absent from us so long? *
why is thy wrath so hot against the sheep of **thy pasture?**

O think upon thy congre-gation, *
whom thou hast purchased, and **redeemed of old.**

Think upon the tribe of thine in-heritance, *
and Mount Sion, where-**in thou hast dwelt.**

Lift up thy feet, that thou mayest utterly destroy every enemy, *
which hath done evil in thy sanc-tuary.

Thine adversaries roar in the midst of thy congre-gations, *
and set up their banners **for tokens.**

He that hewed timber afore out of the thick trees, *
was known to bring it to an **excellent work.**

But now they break down all the carved work there-of*
with axes **and hammers.**

They have set fire upon thy holy places, *
and have defiled the dwelling-place of thy Name, even **unto the ground.**

Yea, they said in their hearts, Let us make havoc of them alto-gether: *
thus have they burnt up all the houses of **God in the land.**

We see not our tokens; there is not one prophet more; *
no, not one is there among us, that understand-**eth any more.**

O God, how long shall the adversary do this dis-honour? *
shall the enemy blaspheme thy Name **for ever?**



Why withdrawest thou thy *hand*? *
why pluckest thou not thy right hand out of thy bosom
to consume ***the enemy***?

For God is my King of *old*; *
the help that is done upon earth, he do-***eth it himself***.

Thou didst divide the sea through thy *power*; *
thou brakest the heads of the dragons in ***the waters***.

Thou smotest the heads of leviathan in *pieces*, *
and gavest him to be meat for the people of ***the wilderness***.

Thou broughtest out fountains and waters out of the hard *rocks*; *
thou driedst up might-***y waters***.

The day is thine, and the *night is thine*; *
thou hast prepared the ***light and the sun***.

Thou hast set all the borders of the *earth*; *
thou hast made summer ***and winter***.

Remember this, O Lord, how the enemy hath re-*buked*; *
and how the foolish people hath ***blasphemed thy Name***.

O deliver not the soul of thy turtle-dove unto the multitude of the *enemies*; *
and forget not the congregation of the poor ***for ever***.

Look upon the *covenant*; *
for all the earth is full of darkness and cruel hab-***itations***.

O let not the simple go away a-*shamed*; *
but let the poor and needy give praise ***unto thy Name***.



Arise, O God, maintain thine own *cause*; *
remember how the foolish man blasphemeth *thee daily*.

Forget not the voice of thine *enemies*: *
the presumption of them that hate thee
increaseth ev-*er more and more*.

¶ *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 with-*out end. Amen*.

℞ *Antiphon*



A - rise, O God, main-tain— thy cause.

The Lessons

The First Lesson

2 Corinthians 1:23-2:11

But I call God to witness against me – it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you. But if any one has caused pain, he has caused it not to me, but in some measure – not to put it too severely – to you all. For such a one this punishment by the majority is enough; so you should rather turn to forgive and comfort him, or he may be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. So I beg you to reaffirm your love for him. For this is why I wrote, that I might test you and know whether you are obedient in

everything. Any one whom you forgive, I also forgive. What I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, has been for your sake in the presence of Christ, to keep Satan from gaining the advantage over us; for we are not ignorant of his designs.

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

Hymn 158 Ah, Holy Jesus

1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed, that man to
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
 3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thy in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
 5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -

1 judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
 2 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
 3 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,
 4 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
 5 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee, think on thy pi - ty

1 by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
 2 I it was de - nied thee: I cru - ci - fied thee.
 3 while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.
 4 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
 5 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

Magnificat

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: Short Service – Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

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

The Second Lesson

Mark 12:1–11

And he began to speak to them in parables. “A man planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a pit for the wine press, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, to get from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. And they took him and beat him, and sent him away empty-handed. Again he sent to them another servant, and they wounded him in the head, and treated him shamefully. And he sent another, and him they killed; and so with many others, some they beat and some they killed. He had still one other, a beloved son; finally he sent him to them, saying, ‘They

will respect my son.’ But those tenants said to one another, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’ And they took him and killed him, and cast him out of the vineyard. What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants, and give the vineyard to others. Have you not read this scripture: ‘The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’”

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

Nunc dimittis

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: Short Service – Thomas Tallis

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

O Lord God, whose blessed Son our Savior gave his back to the smiters and hid not his face from shame: Grant us grace to take joyfully the sufferings of the present time, in full assurance of the glory that shall be revealed; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Collect for Protection

O God, who art the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank thee for the timely blessings of the day, and humbly beseech thy merciful protection all the night. Bring us, we pray thee, in safety to the morning hours; through him who died for us and rose again, thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for Mission

Keepest watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine 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 thy love's sake. 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.*

Sermon

The Rev. Canon Martin Draper

¶ Then all stand to sing the following Hymn

Hymn

1. Morn - ing Glo - ry star - lit sky,
2. Op - en are - the gifts of God,
3. Love that gives, gives ev - er more,
4. Drained is love in mak - ing full,
5. There - fore he who shows us God
6. Here is God; no mon - arch he,

2

Soar - ing mus - ic, scho - lar's truth,
Gifts of love to mind and sense;
Gives with zeal, with ea - ger hands,
Bound in set - ting o - thers free,
Help - less hangs up - on the tree;
Throned in ea - sy state to reign;

3

Flight of swal - lows, au - tumn leaves,
Hid - den is loves a - go - ny
Spares not, keeps not, all out - pours,
Poor in ma - king man - y rich
And the nails and crown of thorns
Here is God. whose arms of love

Mem - or - y's trea - sure grace of youth.
 Love's en - dea - vour love's ex - pense.
 Ven - tures - all, its - all ex - pends.
 Weak in gi - ving power to be.
 Tell of what God's love must be.
 Ach - ing spent the world sus - tain.

Closing Prayers

g All kneel

∞ The Lord be with you.

⊗ And with thy spirit.

g The Officiant offers prayers for mission and for the world

g Then all stand

The Blessing

Almighty God, we pray thee graciously to behold this thy family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. And the blessing *✠* of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *g People Amen.*

g The Choir and Ministers depart; the Congregation remains standing as the procession retires

Holy Week 2024

“Love so amazing, so divine”

Maundy Thursday, March 28

- 5:30 PM A Family Service with Footwashing and Holy Eucharist
(St. George’s Chapel) Simple Supper will follow.
- 7:00 PM The Mandatum, Holy Eucharist, and Stripping of the Altar
- 9:00 PM Vigil at the Altar of Repose starts

Good Friday, March 29

- 7:00 AM Stations of the Cross
- Noon Vigil at the Altar of Repose ends
- Noon The Good Friday Liturgy

Holy Saturday: The Eve of Easter, March 30

- 7:00 PM The Great Vigil of Easter Incense will be used.
A reception with dessert will follow.

The Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day, March 31

- 7:30 AM Holy Eucharist
- 8:45 AM Festival Music for Organ and Brass
- 9:00 AM Choral Eucharist
The nursery (0 - 3 yrs.) will be available, register online
- 10:45 AM Festival Music for Organ and Brass
- 11:00 AM Choral Eucharist
- 5:00 PM Holy Eucharist with Baptism (St. George’s Chapel)

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The Rev. Dr. Stewart Douglas Clem *Priest Associate; Theologian in Residence*

The Rev. Anne Hunter Kelsey *Priest Associate*

Mr. S. William Aitken *Interim Organist and Choral Director*

