



THE CHURCH
OF ST. MICHAEL & ST. GEORGE

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 1, 2026 5:00 pm

The Order for Choral Evensong

Organ Voluntary

Pavane

Robert Elmore (1913-1985)

☞ *All stand as the Choir and Ministers enter*

Opening Sentence

Officiant

The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. *Isaiah 60:3*

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

Richard Ayleward (1626-1669)

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.

Cantor 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.

Cantor Praise ye the Lord.

Choir The Lord's name be praised.

¶ *All are then seated as the Choir sings the appointed Psalms*

The Psalmody

Psalm 8

Chant in G

William Crotch (1775-1847)

O Lord our Governor, how excellent is thy Name in all the world; *
thou that hast set thy glory above the heavens!

Out of the mouth of very babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength,
because of thine enemies, *
that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

When I consider thy heavens, even the work of thy fingers; *
the moon and the stars which thou hast ordained;

What is man, that thou art mindful of him? *
and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Thou madest him lower than the angels, *
to crown him with glory and worship.

Thou makest him to have dominion of the works of thy hands; *
and thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet:

All sheep and oxen; *
yea, and the beasts of the field;

The fowls of the air, and the fishes of the sea; *
and whatsoever walketh through the paths of the seas.

O Lord our Governor, *
how excellent is thy Name in all the world!

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.

Psalm 84

Chant in E

C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918)

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 an 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.

Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee; *
in whose heart are thy ways.

Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well; *
and the pools are filled with water.

They will go from strength to strength, *
and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Sion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.

Behold, O God, our defender, *
and look upon the face of thine anointed.

For one day in thy courts *
is better than a thousand.

I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, *
than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness.

For the Lord God is a light and defence; *
the Lord will give grace and worship;
and no good thing shall he withhold from them that live a godly life.

O Lord God of hosts, *
blessed is the man that putteth his trust in thee.

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

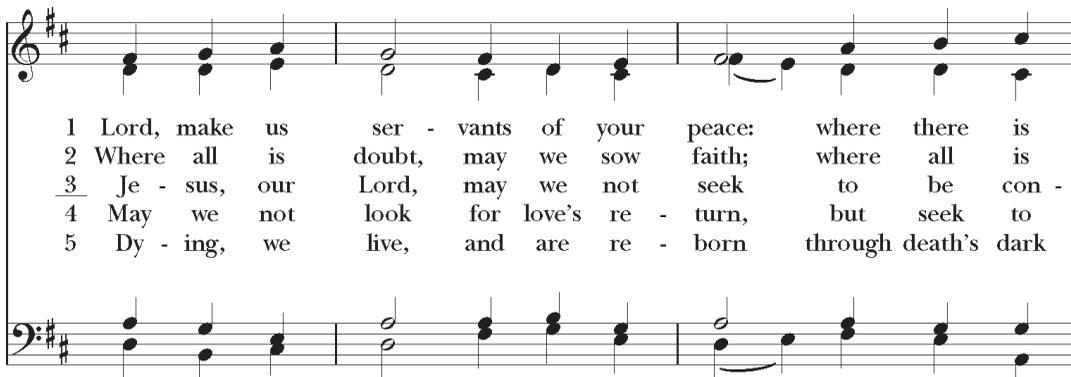
The First Lesson

Galatians 5:13-25

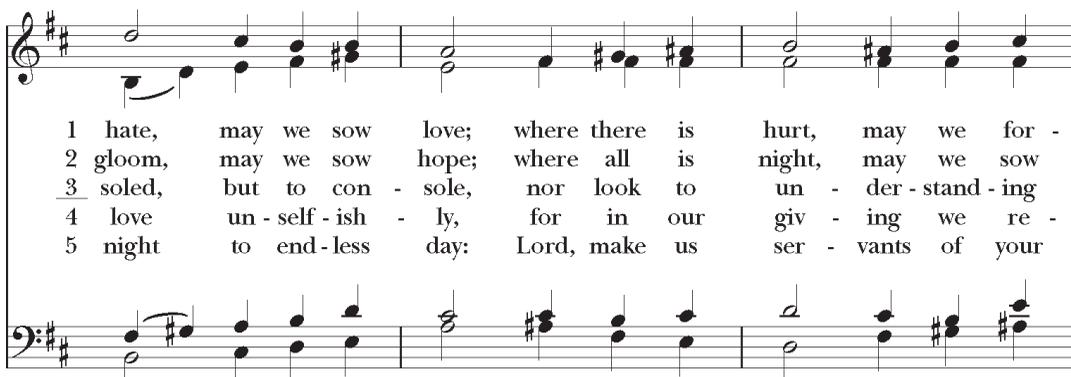
For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love be servants of one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” But if you bite and devour one another take heed that you are not consumed by one another. But I say, walk by the Spirit, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you would. But if you are led by the Spirit you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are plain: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, anger, selfishness, dissension, party spirit, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and the like. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

¶ *All stand for the singing of the Office Hymn and Magnificat*

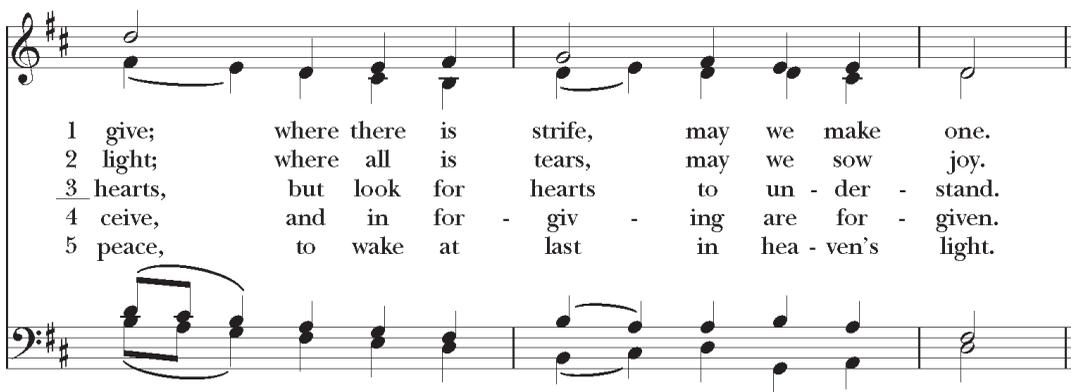
Hymn 593



1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is
 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is
 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -
 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to
 5 Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark



1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -
 2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow
 3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing
 4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -
 5 night to end - less day: Lord, make us ser - vants of your



1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.
 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.
 5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

*Words: James Quinn (1919-2010); based on prayer att. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)
 Music: Dickinson College, Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr. (1923-1979)*

✠ 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 8:22-30

And they came to Beth-sa'ida. And some people brought to him a blind man, and begged him to touch him. And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the village; and when he had spit on his eyes and laid his hands upon him, he asked him, "Do you see anything?" And he looked up and said, "I see men; but they look like trees, walking." Then again he laid his hands upon his eyes; and he looked intently and was restored, and saw everything clearly. And he sent him away to his home, saying, "Do not even enter the village." And Jesus went on with his disciples, to the villages of Caesare'a Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that I am?" And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others one of the prophets." And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ." And he charged them to tell no one about him.

¶ Following the Lesson, all stand

Nunc dimittis

Westminster Canticles

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

✠ 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

¶ Said by all

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 Cantor and Choir sing the following

Cantor The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Cantor Let us pray.

¶ *The People kneel*

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

¶ *Then the Choir sings the short form of the Lord's Prayer*

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*

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

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and in our time grant us thy peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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*

The Greeting

Anthem

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded,
for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our Lord to earth descendeth
our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of Lords, in human vesture
in the Body and the Blood
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way
As the light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day
That the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph;
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
Alleluya, Alleluya,
Alleluya Lord most High. Amen.

Words: Greek, translation by Gerard Moultrie (1828-1885)

Music: Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

¶ During the anthem, a collection will be received

Closing Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

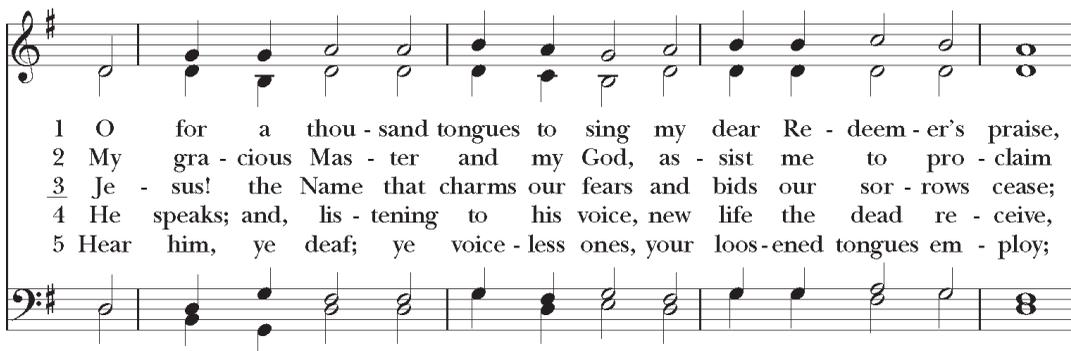
¶ The Officiant then offers prayers for mission and for the world

The Blessing

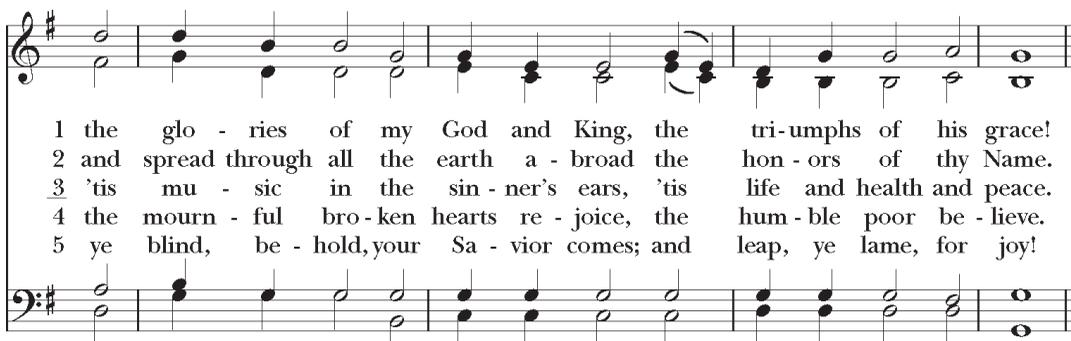
The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; and the blessing ✠ of God Almighty, the 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 493



1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim
3 Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;
4 He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,
5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice - less ones, your loos - ened tongues em - ploy;



1 the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!
2 and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.
3 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
4 the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - jice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
5 ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 Glory to God and praise and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heaven.

*Words: Samuel Wesley (1707-1788);
Music: Azmon, Carl Gotthilf Gläser (1784-1829);
adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)*

Organ Voluntary

Paeon

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

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

All are invited into the Great Hall following the service for a reception.

Participants in the Service

The Rev. Dr. Stewart Douglas Clem, Officiant

Joseph Arndt, Choirmaster

The Choir of St. Michael & St. George

David Sinden, Organist

This Evening's Liturgy

† In his biography of **Herbert Howells** (1892-1983), author Paul Spicer draws attention to Howells' Celtic heritage and his deep attachment to places and land. Thus it is no coincidence that among the 20 Evensong canticle settings Howells composed, the majority were dedicated to a specific church and choir. The ones sung today were composed in 1957 and dedicated to Westminster Abbey.

† 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.



THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL & ST. GEORGE

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The Rev. Andrew John Archie	<i>Rector</i>
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. Joseph Andrew Arndt	<i>Organist and Director of Music</i>
Mrs. Heather Martin Cooper	<i>Associate Organist</i>

