



CHORAL EVENSONG

The Church of St. John the Divine
5:00 pm — May 31, 2026

WELCOME

We warmly welcome you to evensong this afternoon. Choral Evensong, a hallmark of the Anglican/Episcopal tradition, marks the day's end and prepares us for the coming night. The service's roots come out of ancient monastic traditions of prayer and were adapted five hundred years ago for English cathedral settings. Rest, reflect, and listen: Evensong at St. John the Divine offers time and space for quiet meditation as we are each invited to pray for our own needs and the needs of the world. Through music and spoken word, sound and silence, we invite you to find a "thin space" in which to encounter the mystery and beauty of God.

The cover photo is from the Revelation of St. John stained glass found in the balcony of the Church.

The cover photo is from the Day of Pentecost stained glass found in the Nau Family Room. Photo by Chuck Dotson. Used with permission.

CHORAL EVENSONG

5:00 pm — May 31, 2026

Trinity Sunday

PRELUDE *Fantasy on St. Denio*

Gerre Hancock 1934-2012

Congregation stands.

SOLEMN PROCESSION

INTROIT

Felix Mendelssohn 1809-1847

Translation

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth!
All the earth is full of Thy glory. Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

OPENING SENTENCE

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 39

Officiant: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.
 —Revelation 4:8

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

The Preces and Responses (*Precentor and choir*)

setting by Paul Halley b. 1952

Versicle: O Lord, open thou our lips.

Response: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Versicle: O God, make speed to save us.

Response: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Versicle: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Response: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
 world without end. Amen.

Versicle: Praise ye the Lord.

Response: The Lord's name be praised.

Hymn 34



1 Christ, might - y Sa - vior, Light of all cre - a - tion,
2 Now comes the day's end as the sun is set - ting:
3 There - fore we come now eve - ning rites to of - fer,
4 Give heed, we pray you, to our sup - pli - ca - tion:
5 Though bo - dies slum - ber, hearts shall keep their vi - gil,



you make the day - time ra - diant with the sun - light and to the night give
mir - ror of day - break, pledge of re - sur - rec - tion; while in the hea - vens
joy - ful - ly chant - ing ho - ly hymns to praise you, with all cre - a - tion
that you may grant us par - don for of - fens - es, strength for our weak hearts,
for ev - er rest - ing in the peace of Je - sus, in light or dark - ness



glit - ter - ing a - dorn - ment, stars in the hea - vens.
choirs of stars ap - pear - ing hal - low the night - fall.
join - ing hearts and voic - es sing - ing your glo - ry.
rest for aching bo - dies, sooth - ing the wear - y.
wor - ship - ing our Sa - vior now and for ev - er.

Words: Mozarabic, 10th century; Music: *Innisfree Farm*, Richard Wayne Dirksen (b. 1921).

Congregation sits.

Psalm 113 (*sung by the choir*)

setting by Robert Cooke 1768-1814

- 1 Praise the Lord, ye servants :
O praise the Name of the Lord.
- 2 Blessed be the Name of the Lord :
from this time forth for evermore.
- 3 The Lord's Name is praised :
from the rising up of the sun unto the going down of the same.
- 4 The Lord is high above all heathen :
and his glory above the heavens.
- 5 Who is like unto the Lord our God, that hath his dwelling so high :
and yet humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven and earth?
- 6 He taketh up the simple out of the dust :
and lifteth the poor out of the mire;

- 7 That he may set him with the princes :
even with the princes of his people.
- 8 He maketh the barren woman to keep house :
and to be a joyful mother of children.

*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

Ecclesiasticus 43:1-12. 27-32

- 1 The pride of the higher realms is the clear vault of the sky,
as glorious to behold as the sight of the heavens.
- 2 The sun, when it appears, proclaims as it rises
what a marvellous instrument it is, the work of the Most High.
- 3 At noon it parches the land,
and who can withstand its burning heat?
- 4 A man tending a furnace works in burning heat,
but three times as hot is the sun scorching the mountains;
it breathes out fiery vapours, and its bright rays blind the eyes.
- 5 Great is the Lord who made it;
at his orders it hurries on its course.
- 6 It is the moon that marks the changing seasons,
governing the times, their everlasting sign.
- 7 From the moon comes the sign for festal days,
a light that wanes when it completes its course.
- 8 The new moon, as its name suggests, renews itself;
how marvellous it is in this change,
a beacon to the hosts on high,
shining in the vault of the heavens!
- 9 The glory of the stars is the beauty of heaven,
a glittering array in the heights of the Lord.
- 10 On the orders of the Holy One they stand in their appointed places;
they never relax in their watches.
- 11 Look at the rainbow, and praise him who made it;
it is exceedingly beautiful in its brightness.
- 12 It encircles the sky with its glorious arc;
the hands of the Most High have stretched it out.

27 We could say more but could never say enough;
let the final word be: 'He is the all.'

28 Where can we find the strength to praise him?
For he is greater than all his works.

29 Awesome is the Lord and very great,
and marvellous is his power.

30 Glorify the Lord and exalt him as much as you can,
for he surpasses even that.
When you exalt him, summon all your strength,
and do not grow weary, for you cannot praise him enough.

31 Who has seen him and can describe him?
Or who can extol him as he is?

32 Many things greater than these lie hidden,
for I have seen but few of his works.

Reader: Here ends the lesson.

Congregation stands.

Magnificat

Harold Friedell 1905-1958

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 shewed 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.*

⁴I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. ⁷ But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift. ⁸ Therefore it says,

“When he ascended on high he led a host of captives,
and he gave gifts to men.”

⁹ (In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Reader: Here ends the lesson.

Congregation stands.

Nunc dimittis

Harold Friedell

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 *(standing, sung by all on one note)*

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 *(Precentor and choir)*

setting by Paul Halley

Versicle: The Lord be with you.

Response: And with thy spirit.

Versicle: Let us pray. *(The people kneel.)*

Response: Lord, have mercy upon us,
Christ, have mercy upon us,
Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer (*sung by the choir*)

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.

The Suffrages (*Precentor and choir*)

Versicle: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
Response: And grant us thy salvation.
Versicle: O Lord, save the state.
Response: And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Versicle: Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
Response: And make thy chosen people joyful.
Versicle: O Lord, save thy people.
Response: And bless thine inheritance.
Versicle: Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Response: Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.
Versicle: O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Response: And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collects

BCP 176

Almighty and everlasting God, who hast given unto us thy servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of the Divine Majesty to worship the Unity: We beseech thee that thou wouldest keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see thee in thy one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

BCP 69

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.

BCP 71

O God, who dost manifest in thy servants the signs of thy presence: Send forth upon us the Spirit of love, that in companionship with one another thine abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE WELCOME

The Rev. Louise Samuelson

Anthem

Charles Wood 1866-1926

Father, all-holy, merciful and tender;
Son co-eternal, worthy to be praised;
Spirit of comfort, fount of loving-kindness;
God everlasting.
Trinity holy; Unity unchanging;
Goodness unbounded; Very God of heaven;
Light of the Angels; Refuge of the friendless;
Hope universal.
All thy works hymn thee; all thy Saints adore thee;
They for thy pleasure are, and were created;
Now while we also worship thee devoutly,
Hear thou our voices.
Thine be the glory, Deity Almighty,
One in Three Persons, Monarch in the highest;
Glory and honor, song and praise beseem thee,
Now and forever.
Amen.

Text: Medieval Latin Hymn, translated by George Woodward

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Congregation stands.*

Officiant: We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity, saying

Jesus, Lord of life

People: In your mercy, hear us.

Officiant: Jesus, light of the world, bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations.

Jesus, Lord of life

People: In your mercy, hear us.

Officiant: Jesus, bread of life, give food to the hungry and nourish us all with your word.

Jesus, Lord of life

People: In your mercy, hear us.

Officiant: Jesus, our way, our truth, our life, be with us and all who follow you in the way; deepen our appreciation of your truth and fill us with your life.

Jesus, Lord of life

People: In your mercy, hear us.

Officiant: Jesus, good shepherd who gave your life for the sheep, recover the straggler, bind up the injured, strengthen the sick and lead the healthy and strong to play.

Jesus, Lord of life

People: In your mercy, hear us.

Officiant: Jesus, the resurrection and the life, we give you thanks for all who have lived and believed in you; raise us with them to eternal life.

Jesus, Lord of life

People: In your mercy, hear us, accept our prayers, and be with us always. Amen

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom *(Officiant)*

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee, and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

THE GRACE

BCP 73

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen. — Romans 15:13*

HYMN



1 How shall I sing that maj - es - ty which an - gels do__ ad - mire?
 2 Thy bright-ness un - to them ap - pears, while I thy foot - steps trace;
 3 En - light - en with faith's light my heart, in - flame it with_ love's fire,
 4 How great a be - ing, Lord, is thine, which doth all be - ings keep!



Let dust in dust and si - lence lie; sing, sing, ye heav'n - ly choir.
 a sound of God comes to my ears, but they be - hold_ thy face:
 then shall I sing and take my part with that ce - les - tial choir.
 Thy know-ledge is the on - ly line to sound so vast__ a deep:



Thou - sands of thou - sands stand a - round thy throne, O God most high;__
 I shall, I fear, be dark and cold, with all my fire and light;__
 They sing, be - cause thou are their sun; Lord, send a beam on me;__
 thou art a sea with - out a shore, a sun with - out a sphere;__



ten thou - sand times ten thou - sand sound thy praise; but who am I?
 yet when thou dost ac - cept_ their gold, Lord, trea - sure up__ my mite.
 for where heav'n is but once_ be - gun, there al - le - lu - ias be.
 thy time is now and ev - er more, thy place is ev - 'ry - where.

Words: John Mason (1646-1694); Music: *Coe Fen*, Ken Naylor (1931-1991) © Oxford University Press.

VOLUNTARY Benediction from *In festo Corporis Christi*

Anton Heiller 1923-1979



DURHAM CATHEDRAL RESIDENCY
The Choir of St. John the Divine Residency
July 2027

CLERGY

The Rev. Dr. R. Leigh Spruill, *Rector*
The Rev. Reagan W. Cocke, *Senior Vice Rector*
The Rev. John D. Sundara, *Vice Rector*
The Rev. Louise Samuelson, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Trent Pettit, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Libby Garfield, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Richnow, *Priest Associate*
The Most Rev. Josiah Idowu-Fearon, *Bishop in Residence*
The Rev. Dr. Charles M. Stiernberg, *Deacon*

RUNNELLS FELLOWSHIP SUMMER SEMINARIANS

Jonathan Blackham
Allie LaRue
Jackson LaRue
Matthew Lewis
Melissa Robertson

MUSIC AND WORSHIP STAFF

Steven A. Newberry, *Director of Music and Worship*
John Meier, *Associate Director of Music*
Anna Teagarden, *Associate Director of Music*
Grace Jackson, *Hancock Intern for Church Music*
Sarah Gividen, *Director of Modern Music*
Nick Gividen, *Associate Director of Modern Music*



THE CHURCH OF
ST JOHN THE DIVINE
CHANGING LIVES FOR GOD IN CHRIST