

CHORAL EVENSONG

The choir sings the Introit

'Almighty and everlasting God'

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Text: Collect for the third Sunday after Epiphany

We stand and sing together Hymn no. 176 (omit * verses)

'The Church's one foundation' Tune: Aurelia by S.S. Wesley 1810-1876

All remain standing as the officiant introduces the opening sentence and Invitation to Confession

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, miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu 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 gives the Absolution. We say together the Lord's Prayer.

All stand as the choir sings the Responses.

(John Reading 1645-1692)

All sit as the choir sings Psalm 119 vv.145-160 Stand for the Gloria. (Chants: A Hemmings 1931-2018 & T.A. Walmisley 1814-1856) Please sit for the Old Testament Lesson.

We stand and sing together the Office Hymn:

O strength and stay upholding all creation, who ever dost thyself unmoved abide, yet day by day the light in due gradation from hour to hour through all its changes guide

Grant to life's day a calm unclouded ending, an eve untouched by shadows of decay, the brightness of a holy death-bed blending with dawning glories of the eternal day.

Hear us, O Father, gracious and forgiving, through Jesus Christ thy co-eternal Word, who with the Holy Ghost by all things living now and to endless ages art adored.

Tune: O strength & stay by John Bacchus Dykes 1823-1876

Please sit as the choir sings the Magnificat. Stand for the Gloria. (Evening Canticles in G minor by Henry Purcell 1659-1695)

Please sit for the New Testament Lesson.

Please remain seated as the choir sings the Nunc dimittis. Stand for the Gloria.

(Evening Canticles in G minor by Henry Purcell 1659-1695)

Please stand to say the Apostles Creed

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.

Please sit or kneel. The choir sings the Lesser Litany, the Lord's Prayer, and the Responses. (John Reading 1645-1692)

The choir sings the Anthem

'Strengthen ye the weak Hands' Sir William Henry Harris 1883-1973

The Lord hath created medicines out of the earth; and he that is wise will not abhor them. And he hath given men skill, that he might be honoured in his marvellous works. My son, in thy sickness leave off from sin, and order thy hands aright, and cleanse thy heart from all wickedness. Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come; he will come and save you. Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them: and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the Lord, and the excellency of our God. O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us, save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

Text: Ecclesiasticus 38: 4, 6, 9, 10, 12; Isaiah 35: 1-6; Book of Common Prayer

The Prayers

We stand and sing together our Closing Hymn no. 394

'There's a wideness in God's mercy' Tune: Corvedale by M.Bevan 1921-2006

The Blessing

The choir sing the Final Responses (Edward Naylor 1867-1934)

Organ Voluntary (Organist: Simon Clarkson)

Flourish for an occasion Sir William Henry Harris 1883-1973

Please remain seated for the organ voluntary, which is offered as part of the service. Please join us for a glass of wine at the back of the church.

Dates for your diary....

Saturday 2 November, 5pm: **Durufle's Requiem for All Souls Day**. Admission free.

Sunday 3 November, 10.30am: **Choral Eucharist**. Music by Palestrina, Morales and Eleanor Daley.

Saturday 9 November, 12.30-1pm: Lunchtime Recital. A recital of English and Italian songs and arias. Iris Lam (soprano), Rob Taylor (piano). Admission free.

Saturday 23 November, 4.30pm: **Choral Evensong.** Music by Tallis, Ives and Ireland.

Saturday 30 November, 4.30pm: **Advent Carol Service.** Sung by University Music Chamber Choir.

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