INTROIT: Christus est stella
music: Will Todd (b.1970)
words: The Venerable Bede (673-735)

Christ is the morning star
who when the night of this world is past
brings to his saints the promise of the light of life
and opens everlasting day.

Minister The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.
All Amen.

Minister Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil,
as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:
whom resist, steadfast in the faith.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us;
All Thanks be to God.

Minister Our help is in the name of the Lord
All who hath made heaven and earth.

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

Minister 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.

Minister Praise ye the Lord;
Choir The Lord’s Name be praised.

PSALM 31:1-6

Have mercy upon me O God, and hearken unto my prayer.
1. In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust:
let me never be put to confusion, deliver me in thy righteousness.
2. Bow down thine ear to me: make haste to deliver me.
3. And be thou my strong rock, and house of defence: that thou mayest save me.
4. For thou art my strong rock, and my castle:
be thou also my guide, and lead me for thy Name’s sake.
5. Draw me out of the net that they have laid privily for me: for thou art my strength.
6. Into thy hands I commend my spirit:
for thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.

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

Have mercy upon me O God and hearken unto my prayer

THE LESSON:

A short scripture lesson is read after which all say:

All Thanks be to God.
Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;
Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;
For thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.
I commend my spirit
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.
Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

The Choir sings the hymn

1. Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray
That with thy wonted favour thou,
Wouldst be our guard and keeper now.

2. From all ill dreams defend our eyes,
From nightly fears and fantasies;
Tread under foot our ghostly foe,
That no pollution we may know.

3. O Father, that we ask be done,
Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son,
Who with the Holy Ghost and thee,
doth live and reign eternally. Amen.

Keep me as the apple of an eye; Hide me under the shadow of thy wing

NUNC DIMITTIS  Fauxbordon on Tone III (choir)
words: Luke 2: 29-32
music: Sarah MacDonald (b.1968)

Preserve us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace

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.

Preserve us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace

The choir turns and faces East. All are invited to join in saying:

THE CREED

I believe in God
All 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 Catholick Church;
The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins;
The Resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.
The choir turns to face centre.

Minister Lord, have mercy upon us.
All Christ, have mercy upon us.
Minister Lord, have mercy upon us.

Minister Our Father,
All 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.

Minister Blessed art thou, Lord God of our fathers;
Choir To be praised and glorified above all for ever;
Minister Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost;
Choir Let us praise and magnify him for ever.
Minister Blessed art thou, O Lord, in the firmament of heaven;
Choir To be praised and glorified above all for ever.
Minister The Almighty and most merciful Lord guard us and give us his blessing.
Choir Amen.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Minister We confess to God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,
That we have sinned in thought, word, and deed,
Through our own grievous fault.
Wherefore we pray God to have mercy upon us.

All Almighty God, have mercy upon us, Forgive us all our sins and deliver us from all evil, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Minister May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you
pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

Please remain seated when the choir stands

Minister Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us;
Choir That thy people may rejoice in thee?
Minister O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;
Choir And grant us thy salvation.
Minister Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin;
Choir O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
Minister O Lord, hear our prayer;
Choir And let our cry come unto thee.
Minister Let us pray.

Then follow the Collects, to which the Choir respond Amen.
ANTHEM:  
Upon thy heart
words: Song of Solomon 8: 6-7 and John 15: 9-12
music: Eleanor Daley b.1955

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm;
for love is strong as death,
Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can floods drown it.
If you keep my commandments,
you will abide in my love.
Love one another as I have loved you,
then shall your joy be complete.

Choir  
We will lay us down in peace and take our rest;
For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.

Minister  
Abide with us O Lord;
All  
for it is toward evening and the day is far spent

Minister  
As the watchmen look for the morning;
All  
so do we look for thee, O Christ.

Minister  
Come with the dawning of the day
All  
and make thyself known in the breaking of bread.

Minister  
The Lord be with you;
All  
and with thy spirit.

Minister  
Let us bless the Lord;
All  
Thanks be to God.

Minister  
The Almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Ghost, bless and preserve us this night and for evermore.
All  
Amen.

Minister  
May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace,
and rise in glory.
All  
Amen.

The clergy and choir leave the Chapel in silence.