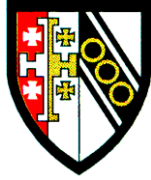


Selwyn College, Cambridge



CHORAL EVENSONG

A SERVICE OF WELCOME
FOR FRESHERS

Sunday 2 October 2022 at 5.30pm

A brief introduction to Choral Evensong

Choral Evensong is a service (or 'Office') with its roots in the Christian monastic movement and in the sixteenth-century Reformation of the English Church. Today, this service, taken from the seventeenth-century *Book of Common Prayer* is commonly celebrated in parish churches and cathedrals in the English tradition, and in the college chapels of the universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

College chapels with a choral tradition draw upon a rich inheritance of music, much of it sung by the choir alone. In the Anglican tradition this music finds its natural setting in the Evening Office. For this reason, the service of Choral Evensong offers us a time of reflection—a time when we can allow the beauty of the language and the music to quieten us, that we might hear God speaking to us in the psalms and readings and canticles taken from Scripture.

Within this hallowed space may we forget the ceaseless activity of daily life, and be still.

Evensong is a combination of the medieval Offices of Vespers (Evening Prayer) and Compline (Night Prayer). At Evensong:

- We may prepare for worship by confessing our sins to Almighty God and receiving forgiveness in the Absolution
- We pray that God will help us to worship him.
- We sing the Psalms.
- We listen to readings from the Old and New Testaments.
- We hear the *Magnificat* and the *Nunc Dimittis*—two songs, taken from St Luke's Gospel, which are traditionally associated with Christian prayer in the later part of the day.
- We affirm our Christian faith, in the words of the ancient Baptismal Creed.
- At the end of the service, we may listen to a reflection of the scriptural readings we have heard, we pray for the needs of the Church and the world, and we ask God's blessing on the week to come.

*'Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England',
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CCLI no. 62573*

Please stand at the entry of the procession.

INTROIT *(sung by the Choir)*

On Sundays, the Choir begins the service with a short piece of music which reflects the themes of the season. Today's introit was composed for the coronation of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 1953.

O taste and see

words: Psalm 34: 8

music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:

blest is the man that trusteth in him.

SENTENCE FROM SCRIPTURE AND WELCOME

The service begins with an introduction and welcome from the Dean of Chapel.

THE PRECES *("The Petitions" or Prayers)*

The Choir and Officiant begin the service with the opening responses, the ancient form of prayer which is rooted in the pre-Christian worship of the Jewish Temple.

O Lord, open thou our lips :

and our mouth shall shew 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.

Praise ye the Lord :

The Lord's name be praised.

Music: Joanna Forbes L'Estrange (b. 1971)

PSALM 119: 33-40

The Psalms, an anthology of Hebrew religious hymns and poems, are central to the Jewish and Christian traditions, and they are sung at Evensong every day. In the Christian tradition, the final two lines 'Glory be to the Father' are added at the end.

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes : and I shall keep it unto the end.

Give me understanding and I shall keep thy law :

yea I shall keep it with my whole heart.

Make me to go in the path of thy commandments : for therein is my desire.

Incline my heart unto thy testimonies : and not to covetousness.

O turn away mine eyes, lest they behold vanity :

and quicken thou me in thy way.

O stablish thy word in thy servant : that I may fear thee.

Take away the rebuke that I am afraid of : for thy judgements are good.

Behold, my delight is in thy commandments :

O quicken me in thy righteousness.

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.

Please sit.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

There are two readings, (called "lessons") from the Bible at Evensong, the first is from the Old Testament (the Jewish Scripture).

Proverbs 2: 1-11

My child, if you accept my words

and treasure up my commandments within you,
making your ear attentive to wisdom

and inclining your heart to understanding;

if you indeed cry out for insight,

and raise your voice for understanding;

if you seek it like silver, and search for it as for hidden treasures—

then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.

For the LORD gives wisdom;

from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;

he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;

he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly,

guarding the paths of justice
and preserving the way of his faithful ones.
Then you will understand righteousness and justice
and equity, every good path;
for wisdom will come into your heart,
and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;
prudence will watch over you;
and understanding will guard you.

Please stand.

THE MAGNIFICAT (*sung by the Choir*)

The Magnificat is one of two Canticles ("little songs") at Evensong. It is the song that the Virgin Mary sang when she was pregnant with Jesus, in response to her cousin Elizabeth's praising of Mary's faith. The words are from the Gospel of St Luke, and in it, Mary reflects on the way in which God subverts the normal order of society by choosing her, a young, unmarried woman, to bear his son. In the Anglican tradition, of which Selwyn is a part, it is customary to stand for the singing of the canticles.

The musical setting for today is by Selwyn alumnus Grayston Ives (b. 1948), who matriculated in 1967, noted in college shorthand as follows: Grayston Ives (SE 1967).

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 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.

music: The Edington Service – Grayston Ives (SE 1967)

Please sit.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

The second lesson comes from the New Testament, the part of the Bible which recounts the life of Christ, and that of the early Christian Church.

Matthew 5: 1-16

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

‘Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

‘Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

‘Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

‘Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

‘You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

‘You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Please stand.

NUNC DIMITTIS *(sung by the Choir)*

The second Canticle is the song sung by the prophet Simeon when the infant Jesus was presented to him in the Temple. Simeon was assured that he would not die until he had seen the salvation which God promises throughout the Old Testament. The story is told in the Gospel of St Luke.

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.

music: The Edington Service – Grayston Ives (SE 1967)

Please remain standing and turn to face East (the altar). At every Evensong we profess the faith of the Church, called the Creed (from Credo, Latin for "I believe"). You can join in if you like, or simply listen.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Officiant 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 catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Turn to face centre.

LESSER LITANY AND RESPONSES

Here the Officiant and the Choir pray on behalf of the whole community. This provides an opportunity for stillness and contemplation, much needed at the end of a busy day.

The Lord be with you :
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

Please sit.

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

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.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us :
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King :
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 Collect (Prayer) for the Day

(1) LORD, we beseech thee, grant thy people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow thee the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(2) *The 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 both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that, by thee, we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

(3) *The Collect for Aid against all 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 Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Music: Joanna Forbes L'Estrange.

THE ANTHEM *(sung by the Choir)*

The choir sings a piece which helps to reflect on the lessons and the themes of the service. The composer of today's anthem was Selwyn College's first ever Organ Scholar, Charles Wood, who matriculated in 1888 when the college was just six years old.

Expectans expectavi

words: C. H. Sorley (1895-1915)

music: Charles Wood (1866-1926; SE 1888)

This sanctuary of my soul
Unwitting I keep white and whole,
Unlatch'd and lit if Thou should's't care
To enter or to tarry there.
With parted lips and outstretch'd hands
And list'ning ears Thy servant stands.
Call Thou early, call Thou late,
To Thy great service dedicate
My soul, keep white and whole.

SERMON

On Sundays, there is a short sermon often given by a visiting preacher. Today's preacher is the Dean of Chapel and Chaplain, who, like most of you, is new to Selwyn this term.

The Revd Dr Arabella Milbank Robinson, Dean of Chapel & Chaplain

PRAYERS

We pray for the world and the community. We remember the sick and those in need, and we pray for peace for the departed. At the end, we say the Grace together:

**The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the Love of God,
and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. Amen.**

Please stand.

HYMN Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

At most services, we sing a hymn together. Please feel free to join in, or just to listen.

1

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
Hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more.

2

Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong Deliverer,
Be thou still my strength and shield.

3

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's Destruction
Land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises
I will ever give to thee.

Words: William Williams (1717-91) tr Peter Williams and others

Music: CWM RHONNDA, John Hughes (1873-1932)

THE BLESSING

The Dean of Chapel blesses us all. At the end, we respond with Amen.

THE DISMISSAL *(sung by the Choir)*

The Lord be with you:
And with thy spirit.

The Lord give us his peace.
And life eternal. Amen.

Music: E W Naylor (1867-1934)

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fugue on a theme of Corelli (BWV 579) – J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

You are welcome to stay and listen to the organ, which was built in 2004 by the renowned Québec firm, Orgues Létourneau Ltée. It is played by the Percy Young Senior Organ Scholar, Adam Field, a second-year undergraduate Music student at Selwyn. You are also welcome to leave during the voluntary; if you do, please do so quietly to avoid disturbing those who would like to listen or pray.

The College Prayer

O Lord, the Resurrection
and the Life of them that believe,
who didst enrich thy servant
GEORGE AUGUSTUS SELWYN
with thy manifold gifts of grace,
grant that all who serve thee here
may be taught by his example
to serve in their several callings
to the honour of thy Name,
who livest and reignest
with the Father and the Holy Ghost,
one God world without end. Amen.

This service is being livestreamed at:
<https://youtu.be/HqivmyFZc0E>

Full details of what is on offer in Selwyn Chapel are on the College website at
www.sel.cam.ac.uk/about/chapel-and-choir

The Chapel Facebook page is www.facebook.com/SelwynChapel

We livestream most chapel services to YouTube:
www.youtube.com/SelwynCollegeChapel

Our next services of Choral Evensong are as follows:

Thursday 6 October at 6.30pm

Sunday 9 October at 6.00pm

Thereafter, Choral Evensong is sung at 6pm on Sundays,
and at 6:30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays during Full Term.

Morning prayers are said at 8:45am each weekday,
commencing tomorrow (Monday 3 October).

*If you would like to enquire about being involved in the chapel,
reading lessons, serving, handing out hymnbooks, welcoming people to chapel,
please contact the Dean of Chapel, Arabella Milbank Robinson, on amm245.*

*If you would like to enquire about singing in the choir,
please contact the Director of Music, Sarah MacDonald, on seam100.*