

Choral Evensong

Chapel of St Edmund Hall



Sixth Sunday of Easter

Speaker: The Revd Dr George Westhaver

9 May 2021

6.15 pm

Evensong: Easter to Trinity

Evensong is one of the Church of England's ancient services. It provides an open and generous space for quiet and reflection, for song and speech and prayer, as it draws from biblical readings, canticles, and the Church's long tradition of hymns.

In Easter, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and the new world created by his life and work. As term continues, we will come to the feasts of the Ascension and Pentecost, when Christ was seated at the right hand of God the Father and poured out upon his disciples the promised gift of the Holy Spirit.

We will part in the season after the Feast of the Holy Trinity, which lends its name to Oxford's spring term. After an unusual year, we will take time to remember the gifts we have received in our communion with God and one another.

We are nearly all on Zoom. We invite everyone to join in, as they are able, by listening attentively to the choir, readers, and ministers, and by saying together (on mute) those prayers that are marked in **bold**: the Lord's Prayer, the Grace, and the Amens. We encourage you to sing along, too (on mute). Zoom details:

Meeting ID: 871 1237 7996

Password: 569780

The Revd Dr George Westhaver is Principal of Pusey House and Pusey Fellow of St Cross College. Pusey House was founded at the end of the 19th century to promote theological study and to serve as an independent chaplaincy to the University. George's research interests include E.B. Pusey and the Oxford Movement, the interpretation of Scripture, and artistic expression of Christian doctrine. He is originally from Canada.



Cover image: Depiction of John 21:1-14, detailed in stained glass window of St Dominic's priory church, San Francisco. [Photo](#) by Lawrence Lew, OP.

Organ Voluntary

Opening Sentence

The Lord layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: and maketh the clouds his chariot, and walketh upon the wings of the wind.

Psalm 104.3

The chaplain offers words of welcome, followed by the **Preces & Responses**

Choir: O Lord, open thou our lips,
and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

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

Choir: 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.

Choir: Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

Music: Ayleward

The St Edmund Consort sings Ps. 104.24-30 (Quam magnificata)

- 24 O Lord, how manifold are thy works;
in wisdom hast thou made them all;
the earth is full of thy riches.
- 25 So is the great and wide sea also,
wherein are things creeping innumerable,
both small and great beasts.
- 26 There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan,
whom thou hast made to take his pastime therein.
- 27 These wait all upon thee,
that thou mayest give them meat in due season.
- 28 When thou givest it them they gather it;
and when thou openest thy hand they are filled with good.
- 29 When thou hidest thy face they are troubled,
when thou takest away their breath they die,
and are turned again to their dust.
- 30 When thou lettest thy breath go forth they shall be made,
and thou shalt renew the face of the earth.

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: Henry Lawes (1596-1662)

The First Lesson (Ezekiel 47.1-12)

Then he brought me back to the entrance of the temple; there, water was flowing from below the threshold of the temple towards the east (for the temple faced east); and the water was flowing down from below the south end of the threshold of the temple, south of the altar. Then he brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me round on the outside to the outer gate that faces towards the east; and the water was coming out on the south side.

Going on eastwards with a cord in his hand, the man measured one thousand cubits, and then led me through the water; and it was ankle-deep. Again he measured one thousand, and led me through the water; and it was knee-deep. Again he measured one thousand, and led me through the water; and it was up to the waist. Again he measured one thousand, and it was a river that I could not cross, for the water had risen; it was deep enough to swim in, a river that could not be crossed. He said to me, 'Mortal, have you seen this?'

Then he led me back along the bank of the river. As I came back, I saw on the bank of the river a great many trees on one side and on the other. He said to me, 'This water flows towards the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah; and when it enters the sea, the sea of stagnant waters, the water will become fresh. Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish, once these waters reach there. It will become fresh; and everything will live where the river goes. People will stand fishing beside the sea from En-gedi to En-eglaim; it will be a place for the spreading of nets; its fish will be of a great many kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea. But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they are to be left for salt. On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh

fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing.'

The Pontigny Consort sings the Magnificat (Luke 1.46-55)

+ 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: Gilles Binchois (1400-1460)

The Second Lesson (John 21.1-14)

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

The Pontigny Consort sings the Nunc Dimittis (Luke 2:29-32)

+ 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: Anonymous, English

The Apostles' Creed:

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 Lesser Litany

The Lord be with you.
Choir: And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

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

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.

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

O Lord, save the Queen.
Choir: And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
Choir: And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.
Choir: And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Choir: Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Choir: And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Collect of the Day

O Lord, from whom all good things do come: Grant to us thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that be good, and by thy merciful guiding may perform the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Choir: Amen.

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.

Choir: Amen.

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 Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Choir: Amen.

Music: Plainsong

The Full Choir sings the Anthem

May he support us all the day long, till the shades lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done.

Then in his mercy may he give us a safe lodging, and holy rest, and peace at the last.

Words: St John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

Music: Arvo Pärt (1935-)

The Address

The Revd Dr George Westhaver

Intercessions may include this response

All: Lord, in thy mercy
hear our prayer.

Prayers conclude with the Grace

All: 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.

The Chaplain gives Notices and the choir sings the Hymn (NEH 115)

Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

In the grave they laid Him, Love who had been slain,
Thinking that He never would awake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Jesus' touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green

Words: John Macleod Campbell Crum (1872-1958)

Melody: *Noel nouvelet*, traditional French melody

Harmony: Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

The Blessing

Regular Services (25 April to 19 June)

Sunday	6.15pm	Choral Evensong
Mon-Thurs	6pm	Evening Prayer
Wed	12:30pm	Eucharist

During the week, Evening Prayer and the Eucharist take place in person for all members of college. If you can't join Evening Prayer in person, here are Zoom details (Meeting ID: 995 0203 2814 Password: Dv5MtD).

Special Services

Thursday 13 May, Ascension Day

Evening Prayer for the Feast of the Ascension will take place at the usual time (6pm). Earlier in the day, the Chaplain will attend the 12.15pm Mass at St Mary Magdalen's Church, before walking up the hill at South Park for a picnic lunch and special prayers for the feast day. All are welcome to join in. This will replace next week's St Edmund Saturday walk.

Sunday 23 May, Pentecost, Confirmation Service (10.30am)

The Bishop of Oxford will be confirming candidates at the University Church on the Feast of Pentecost. Many of the candidates will be from the Oxford colleges. There are limited spaces available. So if you would like to attend and support those being confirmed, please contact the Chaplain.

Thursday 3 June, Corpus Christi

Plans are coming together for a sung Eucharist on this day of celebration. Timings and details will be confirmed in the next few weeks.

Other Activities

Wednesday Reading Group (4.30pm)

We will be discussing Rowan Williams's book on the lives of saints, martyrs, poets, theologians, and social reformers: *Luminaries: Twenty Lives that Illuminate the Christian Way*. All members of college are welcome, and staff and students from Magdalen may join us online. Next week we will read the chapters on William Tyndale and Teresa of Avila. Zoom details (Meeting ID: 982 7681 8026 Password: H0UL9Z).



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