Choral Evensong

Chapel of St Edmund Hall



The First Sunday after
Trinity
30 May 2021
6.15pm

Evensong: From 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.

We began term in the season of Easter, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and the new world created by his life and work. We celebrated the Feast of Pentecost. Christ, seated at the right hand of God the Father, pours out upon his disciples the promised gift of the Holy Spirit.

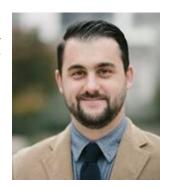
We are now in the season after Trinity Sunday, and will go our separate ways soon, saying good-bye to leavers. A long succession of Sundays stretches on through the vacation until the autumn, when our community will regather. After an unpredictable year, let us take time to remember the gifts we have received this year in our communion with God and one another.

We are nearly all on Zoom, though there are some limited spaces for inperson attendance. 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

This evening's speaker is the Revd Roger Revell. He is a Canadian Anglican priest and a research fellow in the Faculty of Theology and Religion, supporting the Virtues and Vocations Initiative of the Oxford Character Project.



Cover image: Matthias Gerung, 'Raising of the Son of the Widow at Nain' (ca. 1530) in the Ottheinrich Bible (ca. 1430), the oldest illustrated manuscript of the New Testament in German, f. 81v. Wikimedia Commons.

Organ Voluntary

Opening Sentence

The mouth of the righteous is exercised in wisdom, and his tongue will be talking of judgement.

Psalm 37.31

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

O Lord, open thou our lips,

Choir: and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God make speed to save us.

Choir: O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Praise ye the Lord.

Choir: The Lord's name be praised.

Music: Plainsong

The Choir sings Psalm 37.1-6

1 Fret not thyself because of the ungodly, neither be thou envious against the evil-doers.

- 2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and be withered even as the green herb.
- 3 Put thou thy trust in the Lord, and be doing good; dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.
- 4 Delight thou in the Lord, and he shall give thee thy heart's desire.
- 5 Commit thy way unto the Lord, and put thy trust in him, and he shall bring it to pass.
- 6 He shall make thy righteousness as clear as the light and thy just dealing as the noon-day.

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: William Morley (d. 1721)

The First Lesson (Jeremiah 6.16-21)

Thus says the LORD:
Stand at the crossroads, and look,
and ask for the ancient paths,
where the good way lies; and walk in it,
and find rest for your souls.
But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'
Also I raised up sentinels for you:
'Give heed to the sound of the trumpet!'

But they said, 'We will not give heed.'

Therefore hear, O nations, and know, O congregation, what will happen to them.

Hear, O earth; I am going to bring disaster on this people, the fruit of their schemes,

because they have not given heed to my words; and as for my teaching, they have rejected it.

Of what use to me is frankincense that comes from Sheba, or sweet cane from a distant land?

Your burnt-offerings are not acceptable, nor are your sacrifices pleasing to me.

Therefore thus says the LORD:

See, I am laying before this people stumbling-blocks against which they shall stumble; parents and children together, neighbour and friend shall perish..

The Choir 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 (Luke 7.11-17)

Soon afterwards he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town. When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, 'Do not weep.' Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, 'Young man, I say to you, rise!' The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized all of them; and they glorified God, saying, 'A great prophet has risen among us!' and 'God has looked favourably on his people!' This word about him spread throughout Judea and all the surrounding country.

The Choir 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, 15th-century English setting

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 God, the strength of all them that put their trust in thee, mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace, that in keeping of thy commandments we may please thee, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 Choir sings the Anthem

Welcome Jesu,
Deep in my soul Forever stay,
Joy and love my heart are filling
On this glad and sacred day.

Words: Traditional

Music: James MacMillan (1959-)

The Address

The Revd Roger Revell

Intercessions may include this response

Lord, in thy mercy

All: hear our prayer.

The 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 373)

How shall I sing that majesty which angels do admire?
Let dust in dust and silence lie; sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.
Thousands of thousands stand around thy throne, O God most high; ten thousand times ten thousand sound thy praise; but who am I?

Thy brightness unto them appears, whilst I thy footsteps trace; a sound of God comes to my ears, but they behold thy face.
They sing, because thou art their Sun; Lord, send a beam on me; for where heaven is but once begun there alleluias be.

Enlighten with faith's light my heart, inflame it with love's fire; then shall I sing and bear a part with that celestial choir.
I shall, I fear, be dark and cold, with all my fire and light; yet when thou dost accept their gold, Lord, treasure up my mite.

How great a being, Lord, is thine, which doth all beings keep!
Thy knowledge is the only line to sound so vast a deep.
Thou art a sea without a shore, a sun without a sphere; thy time is now and evermore, thy place is everywhere.

Words: John Mason (1646-1694) Melody: 'Coe Fen', Ken Naylor (1931-1991)

The Blessing

Organ Voluntary

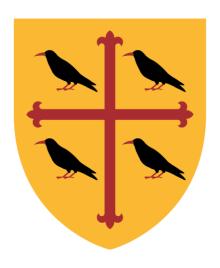
Regular Services (25 April to 20 June)

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. Choral Evensong has limited in person spaces, and is broadcast via Zoom.

Special Services

Sunday 20th June, Week 9 Leaver's Evensong (6.15pm)



University of Oxford

St Edmund Hall