

# EPIPHANY #

Seattle

# CHORAL EVENSONG THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

MAY 29, 2025

5:30 pm

Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong. Choral Evensong has its roots in the ancient monastic offices of Vespers and Compline, from which it retains a framework in which prayers are chanted, Scripture is read, and canticles (biblical songs) are sung in response to the lessons. Since the sixteenth century, Evensong has provided a daily opportunity for stillness, contemplation, prayer, and praise in the cathedrals, chapels, and great parish churches of England. Today it is sung regularly throughout the Anglican communion (of which the Episcopal Church is a part). The congregation adds its prayer to the offering of the choir, and is encouraged to join heartily in the speaking of responses and the singing of hymns.

#### **CHORAL EVENSONG**

#### THE VOLUNTARY

At the sound of the bell, all rise as able.

#### THE PROCESSION

#### HYMN 214: Hail the day that sees him rise

Llanfair



#### **OPENING SENTENCES**

Officiant

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRECES Setting by Jessica French

Cantor O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

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

Cantor 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.

Cantor Praise ye the Lord.

Choir The Lord's name be praised.

Sung by all.

#### PHOS HILARON: Hymn 36—O gladsome Light, O grace of God the Father's face

Le Cantique de Siméon



Clap your hands together, all ye people \* O sing unto God with the voice of melody.

For the Lord is high, and to be feared \* he is the great King upon all the earth.

He shall subdue the people under us \* and the nations under our feet.

He shall choose out an heritage for us \* even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.

God is gone up with a merry noise \* and the Lord with the sound of the trump.

O sing praises, sing praises unto our God \* O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.

For God is the King of all the earth \* sing ye praises with understanding.

God reigneth over the heathen \* God sitteth upon his holy seat.

The princes of the people are joined unto the people of the God of Abraham \* for God, which is very high exalted, doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.

The people stand for the Gloria Patri.

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.

All are seated.

#### THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

#### THE MAGNIFICAT: Evening Service in C

**Charles Villiers Stanford** 

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 showed 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.

The people stand for the Gloria Patri.

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.

#### All are seated.

#### THE SECOND LESSON: Luke 24:44-53

Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The people remain seated.

#### THE NUNC DIMITTIS: Evening Service in C

Stanford

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.

The people stand for the Gloria Patri.

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.

All remain standing and chant the creed.

#### 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 RESPONSES Setting by French

Cantor The Lord be with you. Choir And with thy Spirit.

Cantor Let us pray.

The people kneel.

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

All 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.

Cantor O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Cantor O Lord, save the state.

Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

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

Cantor O Lord, save thy people.
Choir And bless thine inheritance.
Cantor Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

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

#### THE COLLECTS

Cantor

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Saviour Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

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

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 thine only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The people are seated.

#### THE WELCOME

During the following anthem, a collection is taken for the Music Fund at Epiphany. The Music Fund exists to provide the resources necessary to accomplish our mission of excellence in sacred music for the city of Seattle. You may contribute by using the QR code here, or by cash or check. Gifts of stock may be made by contacting Pam Demian at pdemian@epiphanyseattle.org. This evening's service of Choral Evensong is funded directly by your support, and we thank you in advance for your generosity. Gifts of any size are needed and appreciated.



Sung by the choir.

#### THE ANTHEM: Ascendit Deus

Peter Philips

God is gone up with a merry noise: and the Lord with the sound of the trump, alleluia. The Lord has prepared his seat in heaven, alleluia.

(Sung in Latin)

Silence is kept after the anthem.

All stand.

### THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

All Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all thou hast made. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;

but above all for thine inestimable love

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,

for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies,

that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;

and that we show forth thy praise,

not only with our lips, but in our lives,

by giving up our selves to thy service,

and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,

be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

#### A PRAYER OF SAINT CHRYSOSTOM

Officiant

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.** 

#### THE BLESSING

Officiant The Lord be with you.

All And with thy Spirit.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Officiant Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him

from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

#### HYMN 218: A hymn of glory let us sing

Deo gracias



The people remain standing as the procession exits the church.

You are invited to a reception in the chapel.



Epiphany Music Academy is a music school located in the heart of Seattle's Madrona neighborhood. The Academy's faculty is composed of area music teachers, each well-known in their field for performance, teaching, and education. The Academy provides a place for the Seattle community and beyond to access a variety of music lessons and classes for all people, regardless of age, ability, or ambition.

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Kelli Martin, Presider
Zachary Hemenway, Director of Music
Dr. Wyatt Smith, Organist
The Epiphany Choir



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To find out more about all of our ministries go to **epiphanyseattle.org/engage**.

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Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you have a place at Epiphany.