

# Choral Evensong

# The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY** 

Meditation John Ireland (1879–1862)

The Officiant reads one or more sentences of Scripture.

Preces & Responses Richard Ayleward (1626–1669)

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

**Choir** And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

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

Officiant 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.

Officiant Praise ye the Lord.

**Choir** The Lord's Name be praised.

PSALM 8 Domine, Dominus noster Setting: J. Corfe (1740–1820)

LORD our Governor, how excellent is thy Name in all the world :

thou hast set thy glory above the heavens!

Out of the mouth of very babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength, because of thine enemies :

that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

For I will consider thy heavens, even the works of thy fingers :

the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained.

What is man, that thou art mindful of him:

and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Thou madest him lower than the angels: to crown him with glory and worship.

Thou makest him to have dominion of the works of thy hands:

and thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet;

All sheep and oxen:

yea, and the beasts of the field;

The fowls of the air, and the fishes of the sea:

and whatsoever walketh through the paths of the seas.

O LORD our Governor:

how excellent is thy Name in all the world!

HOW amiable are thy dwellings :

thou LORD of hosts!

My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the LORD:

my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:

even thy altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house:

they will be alway praising thee.

Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee:

in whose heart are thy ways.

Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well:

and the pools are filled with water.

They will go from strength to strength:

and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Sion.

O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer:

hearken, O God of Jacob.

Behold, O God our defender:

and look upon the face of thine Anointed.

For one day in thy courts:

is better than a thousand.

I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God:

than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness.

For the LORD God is a light and defence :

the LORD will give grace and worship, and no good thing shall he withhold from them that live a godly life.

O LORD God of hosts:

blessed is the man that putteth his trust in thee.

#### (standing)

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.

First Lesson Isaiah 51:9–16

Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in days of old, the generations of long ago. Was it not thou that didst cut Rahab in pieces, that didst pierce the dragon? Was it not thou that didst dry up the sea, the waters of the great deep; that didst make the depths of the sea a way for the redeemed to pass over? And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. "I, I am he that comforts you; who are you that you are afraid of man who dies, of the son of man who is made like grass, and have forgotten the LORD, your Maker, who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth, and fear continually all the day because of the fury of the oppressor, when he sets himself to destroy? And where is the fury of the oppressor? He who is bowed down shall speedily be released; he shall not die and go down to the Pit, neither shall his bread fail. For I am the LORD your God, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar— the LORD of hosts is his name. And I have put my words in your mouth, and hid you in the shadow of my hand, stretching out the heavens and laying the foundations of the earth, and saying to Zion, 'You are my people.'"

Magnificat Evening Service in F John Ireland

MY SOUL doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. 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.

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.

Second Lesson John 7:14-31

As BOUT the middle of the feast of Tabernacles Jesus went up into the temple and taught. The Jews marveled at it, saying, "How is it that this man has learning, when he has never studied?" So Jesus answered them, "My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me; if any man's will is to do his will, he shall know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority. He who speaks on his own authority seeks his own glory; but he who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and in him there is no falsehood. Did not Moses give you the law? Yet none of you keeps the law. Why do you seek to kill me?" The people answered, "You have a demon! Who is seeking to kill you?" Jesus answered them, "I did one deed, and you all marvel at it. Moses gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man upon the sabbath. If on the sabbath a man receives circumcision, so that the law of Moses may not be broken, are you angry with me because on the sabbath I made a man's whole body well? Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment." Some of the people of Jerusalem therefore said, "Is not this the man whom they seek to kill? And here he is, speaking openly, and they say nothing to him! Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the Christ? Yet we know where this man comes from; and when the Christ appears, no one will know where he comes from." So Jesus proclaimed, as he taught in the temple, "You know me, and you know where I come from? But I have not come of my own accord; he who sent me is true, and him you do not know. I know him, for I come from him, and he sent me." So they sought to arrest him; but no one laid hands on him, because his hour had not yet come. Yet many of the people believed in him; they said, "When the Christ appears, will he do more signs than this man has done?"

NUNC DIMITTIS Evening Service in F John Ireland

ORD, Me 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.

#### THE APOSTLES' CREED

#### Sung by the Choir

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 PRAYERS

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

#### All kneel as the Choir sings

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

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

The Officiant and Choir sing

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us. Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Officiant O Lord, save the State.

**Choir** And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Officiant Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.
Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.

Officiant O Lord, save thy people.

Choir And bless thine inheritance.

Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord.

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

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

### The Collect of the Day

GOD, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright; Grant to us such strength and protection, as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

## The Second Collect, for Peace

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 our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

# The Third 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 Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
Choir Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Charles Kenneth Turner (1907–1977)

TRINITY, most blessed light, O Unity of sov'reign might! As now the fiery sun departs, Shed thou beams within our hearts.

To thee our morning song of praise, To thee our evening prayer we raise, Thee may our souls for evermore In lowly reverence adore.

All praise to God the Father be, All praise, Eternal Son, to thee, Whom with the Spirit we adore, For ever, and forevermore. Amen.

Attr. St. Ambrose (304–397); trans. J.M. Neale and others

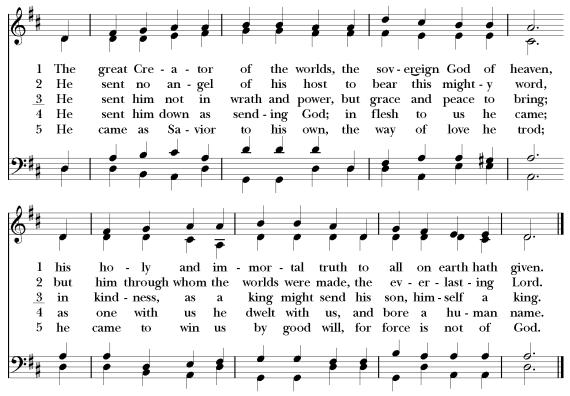
#### THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

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 men. 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 honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Officiant then says A Prayer of St. Chrysostom, after which he chants the concluding Grace

The grace ♥ of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

The great Creator of the worlds



6 Not to oppress, but summon all their truest life to find, in love God sent his Son to save, not to condemn mankind.

Words: *Epistle to Diognetus*, ca. 150; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: *Tallis' Ordinal*, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585)

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

A Joyous March

Leo Sowerby (1895–1968)