



# Choral Evensong

## & HOLY COMMUNION

*Please see the insert for the musical settings, Scripture texts, and the hymn.*

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*All stand at the entrance of the procession.*

*The Officiant first reads one or more sentences of Scripture.*

### INVITATORY & PSALTER

*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.

*All sit.*

*The Choir sings the appointed portion of the Psalter (see insert)*

*The People stand as the Choir sings*

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** (*seated; see insert*)

**MAGNIFICAT** (*standing*) *The Song of Mary—Luke 1:46–55*

**M**Y ☩ 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** (*seated; see insert*)

**NUNC DIMITTIS** (*standing*) *The Song of Simeon—Luke 2:29–32*

**L**ORD, ✠ 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** (*standing*)

*Chanted in unison by the Choir and People*

**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**

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who 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 Officiant sings the Collects beginning with The Collect of the Day.*

*The Second 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 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*

**L**IGHTEN 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.

**THE ANTHEM** (*seated; see insert*)

**THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING** (*kneeling*)

**A**Lmighty 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 Priest 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 HYMN** (*standing; see insert*)

✠ ✠ ✠

*The Choir processes out as the High Altar is prepared for Holy Communion.*

*Those who wish to remain are invited forward to sit in the choir stalls for the Eucharistic liturgy.*

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH & THE WORLD** (*kneeling*)

BCP 328

**CONFESSION OF SIN** (*kneeling*)

BCP 330

**A**Lmighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER** (*standing*)

BCP 340

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* We lift them up unto the Lord.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People* It is meet and right so to do.

*The Celebrant continues with the Preface, which concludes*

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

*Celebrant and People*

**H**OLY, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

✠ Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

*All kneel as the Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*kneeling*)

BCP 336

**THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS** (*kneeling*)

**W**E do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

*All baptized Christians who are permitted to receive Holy Communion in their own church are welcome to do so on this occasion.*

*After everyone has received Holy Communion, all kneel for the Postcommunion Prayer.*

**POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER** (*kneeling*)

BCP 339

**A**Lmighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

**BLESSING & DISMISSAL** (*kneeling*)

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. [Alleluia, alleluia.]  
*People* Thanks be to God. [Alleluia, alleluia.]

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## ABOUT THIS SERVICE

The origins of Choral Evensong go back many centuries, and have their roots in the ancient patterns of monastic worship, which were based on the regular singing of all 150 psalms and the systematic reading of the Bible. Brief services, or offices, were said or sung throughout the day and night, in accordance with St. Paul's instruction to 'pray without ceasing', so that the whole of the daily routine of monks and nuns could be sanctified and offered to God. In the aftermath of the Reformation in England, the first *Book of Common Prayer* (published in 1549) combined elements from a number of the monastic offices to form the dual services of Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer, or Evensong. Each has as its central feature the recitation or singing of the Psalms; readings from Scripture; and prayers for the Church, the world, and those in need. Both services have fixed songs or canticles associated with them, including the *Magnificat* (the Song of Mary from St. Luke's Gospel) and the *Nunc dimittis* (the Song of Simeon from St. Luke's Gospel) at Evensong. This format was formalized in *The Book of Common Prayer 1662* and has remained largely unchanged ever since.

*The image on the front cover is a miniature of Christ in Majesty with the symbols of the Evangelists.  
Origin: England, S. (Westminster or St Albans)*

**PLEASE LEAVE THIS CARD IN THE PEW OR AT THE DOOR**

*The foregoing text of the service of worship in this program is taken from The Book of Common Prayer 1662 [Church of England]. The Book of Common Prayer 1979 alone is of authority in the worship of the Episcopal Church. The Bishop of Dallas has provided permission for the use of this Rite and the program is provided for convenience of use on this occasion.*



CHURCH *of the* INCARNATION

*A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas and a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion.*

3966 McKinney Avenue Dallas, TX 75204-2099 ☛ Phone: 214-521-5101 ☛ Email: [info@incarnation.org](mailto:info@incarnation.org)

[www.incarnation.org](http://www.incarnation.org)