

Choral Evensong

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

ORGAN VOLUNTARYIntroduction and Passacaglia

Walter Alcock (1861–1947)

Preces & Responses

Philip Moore (b. 1943)

The Officiant reads one or more sentences of Scripture.

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 34 Benedicam Dominum Setting: S. Dettra

WILL alway give thanks unto the LORD: his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.

O praise the LORD with me: and let us magnify his Name together.

I sought the LORD, and he heard me: yea, he delivered me out of all my fear.

They had an eye unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed.

Lo, the poor crieth, and the LORD heareth him: yea, and saveth him out of all his troubles.

The angel of the LORD tarrieth round about them that fear him: and delivereth them.

O taste, and see, how gracious the LORD is: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

O fear the LORD, ye that are his saints: for they that fear him lack nothing.

The lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they who seek the LORD shall want no manner of thing that is good.

Come, ye children, and hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

What man is he that lusteth to live : and would fain see good days?

Keep thy tongue from evil: and thy lips, that they speak no guile.

Eschew evil, and do good: seek peace, and ensue it.

The eyes of the LORD are over the righteous: and his ears are open unto their prayers.

The countenance of the LORD is against them that do evil: to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth them: and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart: and will save such as be of an humble spirit.

Great are the troubles of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of all.

He keepeth all his bones: so that not one of them is broken.

But misfortune shall slay the ungodly: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.

The LORD delivereth the souls of his servants: and all they that put their trust in him shall not be destitute.

(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 Esther 3:1–4:3

FTER Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs, were both hanged from the gallows, King Ahasu-erus promoted Haman Athe Agagite, the son of Hammedatha, and advanced him and set his seat above all the princes who were with him. And all the king's servants who were at the king's gate bowed down and did obeisance to Haman; for the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mordecai did not bow down or do obeisance. Then the king's servants who were at the king's gate said to Mordecai, "Why do you transgress the king's command?" And when they spoke to him day after day and he would not listen to them, they told Haman, in order to see whether Mordecai's words would avail; for he had told them that he was a Jew. And when Haman saw that Mordecai did not bow down or do obeisance to him, Haman was filled with fury. But he disdained to lay hands on Mordecai alone. So, as they had made known to him the people of Mordecai, Haman sought to destroy all the Jews, the people of Mordecai, throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasu-erus. In the first month, which is the month of Nisan, in the twelfth year of King Ahasuerus, they cast Pur, that is the lot, before Haman day after day; and they cast it month after month till the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar. Then Haman said to King Ahasu-erus, "There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom; their laws are different from those of every other people, and they do not keep the king's laws, so that it is not for the king's profit to tolerate them. If it please the king, let it be decreed that they be destroyed, and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver into the hands of those who have charge of the king's business, that they may put it into the king's treasuries." So the king took his signet ring from his hand and gave it to Haman the Agagite, the son of Hammedatha, the enemy of the Jews. And the king said to Haman, "The money is given to you, the people also, to do with them as it seems good to you." Then the king's secretaries were summoned on the thirteenth day of the first month, and an edict, according to all that Haman commanded, was written to the king's satraps and to the governors over all the provinces and to the princes of all the peoples, to every province in its own script and every people in its own language; it was written in the name of King Ahasu-erus and sealed with the king's ring. Letters were sent by couriers to all the king's provinces, to destroy, to slay, and to annihilate all Jews, young and old, women and children, in one day, the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, and to plunder their goods. A copy of the document was to be issued as a decree in every province by proclamation to all the peoples to be ready for that day. The couriers went in haste by order of the king, and the decree was issued in Susa the capital. And the king and Haman sat down to drink; but the city of Susa was perplexed. When Mordecai learned all that had been done, Mordecai rent his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, wailing with a loud and bitter cry; he went up to the entrance of the king's gate, for no one might enter the king's gate clothed with sackcloth. And in every province, wherever the king's command and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting and weeping and lamenting, and most of them lay in sackcloth and ashes.

MAGNIFICAT Evening Service in D Herbert Brewer (1865–1928)

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 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Jesus opened his mouth and taught them, saying, "Beware of practicing your piety before men in order to be seen by them; for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. Thus, when you give alms, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

NUNC DIMITTIS Evening Service in D Herbert Brewer

ORD, \(\Phi \) 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

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

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

KEEP, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy Church with thy perpetual mercy; and, because the frailty of man without thee cannot but fall, keep us ever by thy help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ 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.

Hear my prayer, O God; incline thine ear! Thyself from my petition do not hide! Take heed to me! Hear how in prayer I mourn to thee! Without thee all is dark, I have no guide. The enemy shouteth, the godless come fast! Iniquity, hatred, upon me they cast! The wicked oppress me, where shall I fly? Perplex'd and bewilder'd, O God, hear my cry! My heart is sorely pain'd within my breast, my soul with deathly terror is oppress'd. Trembling and feafulness upon me fall, with horror overwhelm'd, Lord, hear me call! O for the wings, for the wings of a dove! Far away, far away would I rove! In the wilderness build me a nest, and remain there forever at rest.

Psalm 55:1-7

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 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.

HYMN 37O brightness of the immortal Father's face

Evening Hymn



Words: Greek, 3rd cent.; tr. Edward W. Eddis (1825-1905); para. of O Gracious Light

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ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Elegy in F

George Thalben-Ball (1896–1987)