



# Choral Even-song

The Third Sunday of Advent

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*Rorate cæli (Choral orné)*

Jeanne Demessieux (1921–1968)

*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 103

*Benedic, anima mea*

*Setting: H. W. Davies (1896–1941)*

**P**RAISE the LORD, O my soul : and all that is within me praise his holy Name.  
Praise the LORD, O my soul : and forget not all his benefits;  
Who forgiveth all thy sin : and healeth all thine infirmities;  
Who saveth thy life from destruction : and crowneth thee with mercy and loving-kindness;  
Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things : making thee young and lusty as an eagle.  
The LORD executeth righteousness and judgement : for all them that are oppressed with wrong.  
He shewed his ways unto Moses : his works unto the children of Israel.  
The LORD is full of compassion and mercy : long-suffering, and of great goodness.  
He will not always be chiding : neither keepeth he his anger for ever.  
He hath not dealt with us after our sins : nor rewarded us according to our wickednesses.  
For look how high the heaven is in comparison of the earth : so great is his mercy also toward them that fear him.  
Look how wide also the east is from the west : so far hath he set our sins from us.  
Yea, like as a father pitieth his own children : even so is the LORD merciful unto them that fear him.  
For he knoweth whereof we are made : he remembereth that we are but dust.  
The days of man are but as grass : for he flourisheth as a flower of the field.  
For as soon as the wind goeth over it, it is gone : and the place thereof shall know it no more.  
But the merciful goodness of the LORD endureth for ever and ever upon them that fear him :  
and his righteousness upon children's children;  
Even upon such as keep his covenant : and think upon his commandments to do them.  
The LORD hath prepared his seat in heaven : and his kingdom ruleth over all.  
O praise the LORD, ye angels of his, ye that excel in strength :  
ye that fulfil his commandment, and hearken unto the voice of his words.  
O praise the LORD, all ye his hosts : ye servants of his that do his pleasure.  
O speak good of the LORD, all ye works of his, in all places of his dominion : praise thou the LORD, O my soul.

*(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 13:6–13

**W**AIL, for the day of the Lord is near; as destruction from the Almighty it will come! Therefore all hands will be feeble, and every man's heart will melt, and they will be dismayed. Pangs and agony will seize them; they will be in anguish like a woman in travail. They will look aghast at one another; their faces will be aflame. Behold, the day of the Lord comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger, to make the earth a desolation and to destroy its sinners from it. For the stars of the heavens and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be dark at its rising and the moon will not shed its light. I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; I will put an end to the pride of the arrogant, and lay low the haughtiness of the ruthless. I will make men more rare than fine gold, and mankind than the gold of Ophir. Therefore I will make the heavens tremble, and the earth will be shaken out of its place, at the wrath of the Lord of hosts in the day of his fierce anger.

### Magnificat

*Short Service*

Thomas Tallis (1505–1585)

**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

John 3:22–30

**A**fter speaking with Nicodemus Jesus and his disciples went into the land of Judea; there he remained with them and baptized. John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was much water there; and people came and were baptized. For John had not yet been put in prison. Now a discussion arose between John's disciples and a Jew over purifying. And they came to John, and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you bore witness, here he is, baptizing, and all are going to him." John answered, "No one can receive anything except what is given him from heaven. You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him. He who has the bride is the bridegroom; the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice; therefore this joy of mine is now full. He must increase, but I must decrease."

### NUNC DIMITTIS

*Short Service*

Thomas Tallis

**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

*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

**O**UR 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 Collects of the Day*

**O**LORD Jesus Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee; Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

**A**LMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through the same Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. Amen.

*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.

**MOTET**

**A**UDIVI vocem de cælo venientem:  
Oleum recondite in vasis vestris,  
dum sponsus advenerit.  
Media nocte, clamor factus est.  
Ecce sponsus venit.

*I heard a voice coming from heaven:  
Store up oil in your vessels,  
Until the bridegroom cometh.  
A cry goes up at midnight:  
Behold, the bridegroom cometh.*

Thomas Tallis

*Jeremiah 40:10 & Matthew 25:6*

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

**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 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.

## HYMN 68

Rejoice! rejoice, believers

*Llangloffan*

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*Praeludium in G minor, BuxWV 149*

Dietrich Buxtehude (c. 1637–1707)