



# Choral Even-song

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*Soliloquy*

David Conte (b. 1955)

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

## PRECES & RESPONSES

Matthew Martin (b. 1976)

*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*

**I** WILL always 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.

**T**HE pride of the heavenly heights is the clear firmament, the appearance of heaven in a spectacle of glory. The sun, when it appears, making proclamation as it goes forth, is a marvelous instrument, the work of the Most High. At noon it parches the land; and who can withstand its burning heat? A man tending a furnace works in burning heat, but the sun burns the mountains three times as much; it breathes out fiery vapors, and with bright beams it blinds the eyes. Great is the Lord who made it; and at his command it hastens on its course. He made the moon also, to serve in its season to mark the times and to be an everlasting sign. From the moon comes the sign for feast days, a light that wanes when it has reached the full. The month is named for the moon, increasing marvelously in its phases, an instrument of the hosts on high shining forth in the firmament of heaven. The glory of the stars is the beauty of heaven, a gleaming array in the heights of the Lord. At the command of the Holy One they stand as ordered, they never relax in their watches. Look upon the rainbow, and praise him who made it, exceedingly beautiful in its brightness. It encircles the heaven with its glorious arc; the hands of the Most High have stretched it out. Though we speak much we cannot reach the end, and the sum of our words is: “He is the all.” Where shall we find strength to praise him? For he is greater than all his works. Terrible is the Lord and very great, and marvelous is his power. When you praise the Lord, exalt him as much as you can; for he will surpass even that. When you exalt him, put forth all your strength, and do not grow weary, for you cannot praise him enough. Who has seen him and can describe him? Or who can extol him as he is? Many things greater than these lie hidden, for we have seen but few of his works.

**Magnificat***Westminster Service*

Ruth Gipps (1921–1999)

**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**

Matthew 13:24–34a

**A**NOTHER parable Jesus put before the crowd saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the householder came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then has it weeds?’ He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he said, ‘No; lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” Another parable he put before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.” He told them another parable. “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.” All this Jesus said to the crowds in parables.

**NUNC DIMITTIS***Westminster Service*

Ruth Gipps

**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 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 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, 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 Collect of the Day*

OUR LORD, from whom all good things do come; Grant to us thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that are good, and by thy merciful guiding may perform the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

### *The Second Collect, for Peace*

OUR 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

TE lucis ante terminum  
Rerum Creator poscimus  
Ut pro tua clementia  
Sis præsul et custodia.

Procul recedant somnia  
Et noctium phantasmata  
Hostemque nostrum comprime  
Ne pollutantur corpora.

Præsta, Pater piissime  
Patrique compar unice  
Cum spiritu Paraclito  
Regnans per omne sæculum. Amen

## *Evening Hymn*

H. Balfour Gardiner (1877–1950)

*To thee, before the close of day  
creator of the world, we pray  
that with thy wonted favor, thou  
wouldst be our guard and keeper now.*

*From all ill dreams defend our eyes,  
from nightly fears and fantasies:  
tread under foot our ghostly foe,  
that no pollution we may know.*

*O Father, that we ask be done  
through Jesus Christ thine only Son,  
who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,  
shall live and reign eternally. Amen.*

*Office Hymn for Compline, c. 6<sup>th</sup> cent.*

## 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 534

God is working his purpose out

*Purpose*

**G**OD is working his purpose out  
as year succeeds to year:  
God is working his purpose out,  
and the time is drawing near;  
nearer and nearer draws the time,  
the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.

From utmost east to utmost west,  
wherever foot hath trod,  
by the mouth of many messengers  
goes forth the voice of God;  
give ear to me, ye continents,  
ye isles, give ear to me,  
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.

March we forth in the strength of God,  
with the banner of Christ unfurled,  
that the light of the glorious gospel of truth  
may shine throughout the world:  
fight we the fight with sorrow and sin  
to set their captives free,  
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.

All we can do is nothing worth  
unless God blesses the deed;  
vainly we hope for the harvest-tide  
till God gives life to the seed;  
yet nearer and nearer draws the time,  
the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*Church bells beyond the stars*

Cecilia McDowall (b. 1951)