St John’s College Chapel

Evensong

Broadcast live on BBC Radio 3

Wednesday 4th May 2022
Our Chapel is one of the most recognisable buildings in Cambridge and is home to a lively and inclusive community. You are always welcome here, whatever your beliefs or background.

St John’s has a distinguished tradition of religious music and, since the 1670s, has maintained a world-famous College Choir, whose main duty is singing the daily services (Tuesday to Sunday) in the College Chapel during the University Term.

The College also has a mixed-voice choir, St John’s Voices, who sing the Choral Service on Monday. You will find details of choral services on the Chapel page of the College website.

The Rev’d Dr Mark Oakley
Dean

The Revd Andrew Hammond
Chaplain

The Chapel is fitted with a hearing induction loop for those who are hearing-impaired.
ORDER OF SERVICE

Please join in all texts printed in bold.

Please stand at the entry of the Choir and Clergy, then sit when they do. Please then stand with the Choir, which will be in response to a cue from the BBC.

INTROIT: MY BELOVED SPAKE

My beloved spake, and said unto me,
rise up my love, my fair one, and come away.
For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone;
the flowers appear on the earth;
the time of the singing of birds is come,
and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land
the figtree putteth forth her green figs,
and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell.
Arise my love, my fair one and come away.

Words  Song of Solomon 2. 10–13
Music  Patrick Hadley
(1899–1979)

The Chaplain introduces the service.

The Chaplain and Choir sing the Preces.

O Lord, open thou our lips.
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.
O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.
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.
Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord’s Name be praised.

Music  Humphrey Clucas
(b. 1941)

Please sit.
The Chaplain introduces the psalms.

Psalm 22

My God, my God, look upon me; why hast thou forsaken me and art so far from my health, and from the words of my complaint? O my God, I cry in the day-time, but thou hearest not and in the night-season also I take no rest. And thou continuest holy O thou worship of Israel. Our fathers hoped in thee they trusted in thee, and thou didst deliver them. They called upon thee, and were holpen they put their trust in thee, and were not confounded. But as for me, I am a worm, and no man a very scorn of men, and the outcast of the people. All they that see me laugh me to scorn they shoot our their lips, and shake their heads, saying, He trusted in God, that he would deliver him let him deliver him, if he will have him. But thou art he that took me out of my mother's womb thou wast my hope, when I hanged yet upon my mother's breasts. I have been left unto thee ever since I was born thou art my God, even from my mother's womb. O go not from me, for trouble is hard at hand and there is none to help me. Many oxen are come about me fat bulls of Basan close me in on every side. They gape upon me with their mouths as it were a ramping and a roaring lion. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint my heart also in the midst of my body is even like melting wax.
My strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue cleaveth to my gums
    and thou shalt bring me into the dust of death.
For many dogs are come about me
    and the council of the wicked layeth siege against me.
They pierced my hands and my feet; I may tell all my bones
    they stand staring and looking upon me.
They part my garments among them
    and casts lots upon my vesture.
But be not thou far from me, O Lord
    thou art my succour, haste thee to help me.
Deliver my soul from the sword
    my darling from the power of the dog.
Save me from the lion's mouth
    thou hast heard me also from among the horns of the unicorns.
I will declare thy Name unto my brethren
    in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.
O praise the Lord, ye that fear him
    magnify him, all ye of the seed of Jacob,
    and fear him, all ye seed of Israel.
For he hath not despised, nor abhorred, the low estate of the poor
    he hath not hid his face from him,
    but when he called unto him he heard him.
My praise is of thee in the great congregation
    my vows will I perform in the sight of them that fear him.
The poor shall eat and be satisfied
    they that seek after the Lord shall praise him;
    your heart shall live for ever.
All the ends of the world shall remember themselves, and be turned unto the Lord
    and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before him.
For the kingdom is the Lord's
    and he is the Governor among the people.
All such as be fat upon earth
    have eaten and worshipped.
All they that go down into the dust shall kneel before him
    and no man hath quickened his own soul.
My seed shall serve him
    they shall be counted unto the Lord for a generation.
They shall come, and the heavens shall declare his righteousness
    unto a people that shall be born, whom the Lord hath made.

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.

Chant  Matthew Camidge
(1758–1844)

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd
    therefore can I lack nothing.
He shall feed me in a green pasture
    and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
He shall convert my soul
    and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness,
    for his Name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil
    for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
Thou shalt prepare a table before me
gainst them that trouble me
    thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.
But thy loving-kindness and mercy
shall follow me all the days of my life
    and I will dwell in the house of the Lord 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.

Chant  Charles Hylton Stewart
(1884–1932)
Please sit.

FIRST LESSON

GENESIS 3. 8–21

Here begins the eighth verse of the third chapter of the book of the
Genesis: an ancient understanding of temptation, disobedience
and the human condition.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the
time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid
themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of
the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him,
‘Where are you?’ He said, ‘I heard the sound of you in the garden,
and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.’ He said,
‘Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree
of which I commanded you not to eat?’ The man said, ‘The woman
whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and
I ate.’ Then the Lord God said to the woman, ‘What is this that you
have done?’ The woman said, ‘The serpent tricked me, and I ate.’

The Lord God said to the serpent,

‘Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and
dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity
between you and the woman, and between your offspring and
hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.’

To the woman he said,

‘I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing: in pain you
shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your
husband, and he shall rule over you.’
And to the man he said,

‘Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, “You shall not eat of it”’, cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.’

The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all who live. And the Lord God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them.

Here ends the First Lesson.

*Please stand.*

**MAGNIFICAT: THE SONG OF MARY**

My soul doth magnify the Lord:
   and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his hand-maiden.
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 shewed 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.

Words *Luke 1. 46–55*  
Music *St Paul's Service*  
*Herbert Howells*  
*(1892–1983)*

*Please sit.*

**SECOND LESSON**

*1 Corinthians 15. 12–28*

Here begins the twelfth verse of the fifteenth chapter of the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians: St Paul argues passionately that the resurrection of Jesus is fundamental to our faith and our hope.

If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being: for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each
in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For 'God has put all things in subjection under his feet.' But when it says, ‘All things are put in subjection’, it is plain that this does not include the one who put all things in subjection under him. When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who put all things in subjection under him, so that God may be all in all.

Here ends the Second Lesson.

Please stand.

**NUNC DIMITTIS: THE SONG OF SIMEON**

Lord 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.

Words *Luke 2. 29–32*  
Music **ST PAUL’S SERVICE**  
*Herbert Howells*  
(1892–1983)

Please remain standing for the Creed, which all say, facing east.
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 Catholick Church;  
The Communion of Saints;  
The Forgiveness of sins;  
The Resurrection of the body.  
And the life everlasting. Amen.

The Chaplain and Choir sing the Responses, Lord’s Prayer and Collects.

The Lord be with you.  
And with thy spirit.

Please kneel or sit.

Let us pray.  
Lord have mercy upon us.  
Christ have mercy upon us.  
Lord have mercy upon us.
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.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.  
And grant us thy salvation.
O Lord, save the Queen.  
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.  
And make thy chosen people joyful.
O Lord, save thy people.  
And bless thine inheritance.
Give peace in our time, O Lord.  
Because there is none other that fighteth for us,  
but only thou, O God.
O God, make clean our hearts within us.  
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY
Almighty God, who has given thine only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin, and also an ensample of godly life; Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavour ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE 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 both 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 Saviour. Amen.
THE 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 Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Music Humphrey Lucas
(b. 1941)

The Chaplain introduces the anthem.

ANTHEM: LEAF FROM LEAF CHRIST KNOWS

Leaf from leaf Christ knows;
Himself the Lily and the Rose:

Sheep from sheep Christ tells;
Himself the Shepherd, no one else:

Star and star He names,
Himself outblazing all their flames:

Dove by dove, He calls
To set each on the golden walls:

Drop by drop, He counts
The flood of ocean as it mounts:

Grain by grain, His hand
Numbers the innumerable sand.

Lord, I lift to Thee
In peace what is and what shall be:

Lord, in peace I trust
To Thee all spirits and all dust.

Words Christina Rossetti
(1830–1894)

Music Judith Weir
(b. 1954)
THE PRAYERS

We pray for all those who are caught up in the horrors of war, violence, want and oppression. In particular we continue to pray, as we daily do, for the people of Ukraine.

O Lord our God, whose compassion fails not: support, we entreat you, the people on whom the terrors of invasion have fallen; and if their liberty be lost to the oppressor, let not their spirit and hope be broken, but stayed upon your strength till the day of deliverance; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We offer to God in prayer all the deepest and most pressing concerns of our own hearts.

A prayer by Christina Rossetti:

O Lord, who art as the shadow of a mighty rock in a weary land, who beholdest thy weak creatures, weary of labour, weary of pleasure, weary of hope deferred, weary of self: in thine abundant compassion and unutterable tenderness, bring us, we pray thee, unto thy rest.

Amen.

We pray for the world and for the needs of all its people, in a prayer of intercession from the ancient liturgies of the Eastern Orthodox Church.

Be mindful, O Lord, of your people here before you, and of those who are absent through age, sickness or infirmity. Care for the infants, guide the young, support the aged, encourage the faint-hearted, collect the scattered, and bring back the wandering to your fold. Travel with the voyagers, defend the widows, shield the orphans, deliver the captives, heal the sick. Succour all who are in tribulation, necessity or distress. Remember for good all those who love us, and those who hate us, and those who have desired us, unworthy as we are, to pray for them. And those whom we have
forgotten, Lord, remember. Grant unto each according to your merciful loving-kindness, and your eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE COLLEGE PRAYER

Bless, O Lord, the work of this College, which is called by the name of thy beloved disciple; and grant that love of the brethren and all sound learning may ever grow and prosper here, to thy honour and glory, and to the good of thy people, who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, livest and reignest, one God, world without end. Amen.

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.

You will be invited to stand for the hymn.

HYMN

Good Christian men, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King:
to all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluya! Alleluya! Alleluya!

The Lord of life is risen for ay:
bring flowers of song to strew his way;
let all mankind rejoice and say:
Alleluya! Alleluya! Alleluya!

Praise we in songs of victory
that Love, that Life, which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high:
Alleluya! Alleluya! Alleluya!
Thy name we bless, O risen Lord,
and sing today with one accord
the life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluya! Alleluya! Alleluya!

Words Cyril Alington
(1872–1955)

Tune VULPIUS (GELOB’T SEI GOTT)
Melody from Vulpius’s ‘Gesangbuch’ Jena 1609
Harmony Henry Ley (1887–1962)
Descant Christopher Robinson (b. 1936)

Please sit for the Organ Voluntary as this forms part of the broadcast.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Laudes

Francis Pott
(b. 1957)

Please stand as the Choir and Clergy depart.