



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
in the City of Battle Creek—the Diocese of Western Michigan

CHORAL EVENSONG

sung by
The St. Thomas Choral Scholars

The Fifth Sunday
after the Epiphany
7 February 2021

A note concerning the service

Based on the services held daily in the medieval Church, Choral Evensong (as arranged in the Book of Common Prayer) has been sung regularly since the Sixteenth Century. Many people enjoy Choral Evensong because it provides opportunity for contemplation and reflection. The service utilizes the 1662 Book of Common Prayer and includes readings (just as would occur at Evening Prayer) and prayers led by a priest. A Psalm, anthem, and a setting of the *Magnificat* and the *Nunc dimittis* are sung by the choir.

Participants in today's service:

Officiant: Fr. Brian Coleman

Lector: Ginny Baldwin

Organist & Choirmaster: Dr. Stephen White

The St. Thomas Choral Scholars

Alexis Stark

Charles Grantier

Samuel Gantt

David Sedlecky

ORDER OF SERVICE

Voluntary *Organ Hymn* Raymond Haan
(b. 1938)

The Preces Rachel Aarons
(b. 1984)

- V* O Lord, open thou our lips;
R And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
V O God, make speed to save us:
R O Lord, make haste to help us.
R Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost:
R As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.
R Praise ye the Lord.
R The Lord's name be praised.

Psalm 34 Tone VII2

- 1 I will always give thanks unto the Lord:
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- 2 My soul shall make her boast in the Lord:
the humble shall hear therof, and be glad.
- 3 O praise the Lord with me:
and let us magnify his Name together.
- 4 I sought the Lord, and he heard me:
yea, he delivered me out of all my fear.
- 5 They had an eye unto him, and were lightened:
and their faces were not ashamed.
- 6 Lo, the poor crieth, and the lord heareth him:
Yea, and saveth him out of all his troubles.
- 7 The angel of the Lord tarrieth round about them
that fear him:
and deliverth them.
- 8 O taste, and see, how gracious the Lord is:
blessed is the man that trusteth in him.
- 9 O fear the Lord, ye that are his saints:
for they that fear him lack nothing.
- 10 The lions do lack, and suffer hunger:
but they who seek the Lord shall want no
manner of things that is good.

- 11 Come, ye children, and hearken unto me:
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
- 12 What man is he that lusteth to live:
and would fain see good days?
- 13 Keep thy tongue from evil:
and thy lips, that they speak no guile.
- 14 Eschew evil, and do good:
seek peace, and ensue it.
- 15 The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous:
and his ears are open unto their prayers.
- 16 The countenance of the Lord is against them that do evil:
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.
- 17 The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth them:
and delivereth them out of all their troubles.
- 18 The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart:
and will save such as be of an humble spirit.
- 19 Great are the troubles of the righteous:
but the Lord delivereth him out of all.
- 20 He keepeth all his bones:
so that not one of them is broken.
- 21 But misfortune shall slay the ungodly:
and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.
- 22 The Lord delivereth the souls of his servants:
and all they that put their trust in him shall not be destitute.
- 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 First Lesson

Isaiah 57:14-21

It shall be said, "Build up, build up, prepare the way, remove every obstruction from my people's way." For thus says the high and lofty one who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with those who are contrite and humble in spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite. For I will not continually accuse, nor will I always be angry; for then the spirits would grow faint before me, even the souls that I have made. Because of their wicked covetousness I was angry; I struck them, I hid and was angry; but they kept turning back to their own ways. I have seen their ways, but I

will heal them; I will lead them and repay them with comfort, creating for their mourners the fruit of the lips. Peace, peace, to the far and the near, says the LORD; and I will heal them. But the wicked are like the tossing sea that cannot keep still; its waters toss up mire and mud. There is no peace, says my God, for the wicked.

A brief silence follows the Lesson.

Magnificat

Short Service
Thomas Weelkes
(1576-1623)

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.

The Second Lesson

John 7:37-46

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, some in the crowd said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Messiah." But some asked, "Surely the Messiah does not come from Galilee, does he? Has not the scripture said that the Messiah is descended from David and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?" So there was a division in the crowd because of him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him. Then the temple police went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, "Why did you not arrest him?" The police answered, "Never has anyone spoken like this!"

A brief silence follows the Lesson.

Nunc dimittis

T. Weelkes

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.

The Apostles' Creed

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 Lesser Litany

R. Aarons

V The Lord be with you.
R And with thy spirit.
V Let us pray.
R 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 Responses

R. Aarons

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

The Collects

Anthem

Gracious Light

Jim Stanley
(b. 1954)

Gracious light, radiant in glory, splendor of the heavenly Father;
Holy, immortal, blest Jesus Christ.
With the people who in darkness dwell,
We behold the heavens' holy light.
We praise you: Father, Son, and Spirit;
you are worthy of our joyful praise,
O Son of God, O author of Life;
Now and always everywhere adored.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Hymn No. 31

Dunedin

The Grace

Voluntary

Fugue in C minor, BWV 537

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

To make a financial contribution to the ongoing ministries of
St. Thomas Church, please visit
<https://onrealm.org/stthomasbc/-/give/now>

All contributions are greatly appreciated.