



CHRIST CHURCH
CATHEDRAL
A CATHEDRAL FOR THE CITY

Sunday, 31 August, 2025 — Proper 22, Year C

Choral Evensong
4.00 p.m.

Book of Common Prayer (BCP), p. 20
Officiant: Canon Ian Alexander

Music for the Responses: William Byrd (d. 1623)
Setting for the Canticles: Fauxbordons — William Byrd (d. 1623)

This service is being broadcast live on the Internet. By attending, you acknowledge and consent to the fact that video images of you may appear there.

Prelude: Rhosymedre Ralph Vaughan Williams (d. 1958)

All stand as able when the chancel party enters.

Preces & Responses *remain standing*

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.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, and is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see:
O thou, who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee:
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Text: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847).

Music: William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

Psalm 119.81-96

all are now seated

My soul longeth for thy salvation,
and I have a good hope because of thy word.
Mine eyes long sore for thy word,
saying, 'O when wilt thou comfort me?'
For I am become like a bottle in the smoke;
yet do I not forget thy statutes.
How many are the days of thy servant?
when wilt thou do judgement on them that persecute me?
The proud have digged pits for me,
who are not after thy law.
All thy commandments are true:

they persecute me falsely; O be thou my help.
 They had almost made an end of me upon earth;
 but I forsook not thy precepts.
 O quicken me after thy loving-kindness;
 and so shall I keep the testimonies of thy mouth.
 O Lord thy word
 standeth fast for ever in the heavens.
 Thy truth also remaineth from one generation to another;
 thou hast laid the foundation of the earth and it abideth.
 They continue this day according to thine ordinances;
 for all things serve thee.
 If my delight had not been in thy law,
 I should have perished in my trouble.
 I will never forget thy precepts;
 for with them thou hast quickened me.
 I am thine O save me;
 for I have sought thy precepts.
 The ungodly laid wait for me to destroy me;
 but I will consider thy testimonies.
 I see that all things come to an end;
 but thy commandment is exceeding broad.
 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 Reading

Isaiah 33.13-22

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: Magnificat

sung by the choir, all standing

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
 and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
 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 Reading

John 3.22-36 / *all seated*

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: Nunc dimittis

all standing

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

remain standing

Officiant I believe in God
All say **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.

Lesser Litany & the Lord's Prayer

Officiant The Lord be with you.
Choir And with thy spirit.
Officiant Let us pray.

All kneel.

Choir Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Choir Our Father which in heaven art,
Lord hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth,
Even as the same in heaven is.
Give us, O Lord, our daily bread this day.
As we forgive our debtors,
So forgive our debts we pray.
Into temptation lead us not,
From evil make us free.
For kingdom, power and glory thine
Both now and ever be. Amen.

Suffrages

the congregation remains kneeling

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
Choir And grant us thy salvation.
Officiant O Lord, save the King.

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.

Collect of the Day

American Book of Common Prayer, p. 181

Officiant Lord of all power and might, who art the author and giver of all good things:
 Graft in our hearts the love of thy Name, increase in us true religion, nourish
 us with all goodness, and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through
 Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, for ever and ever.
Choir Amen.

Fixed Collects

Officiant 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 Saviour.
Choir Amen.
Officiant 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.
Choir Amen.

Anthem

Peaceful woods, the dusk descending,
 Fragrant now with Summer's ending;
 There I rested, and e'er sleeping,
 Praying, sought His sweet safekeeping.

Thus I lay there, silent praying;
 "Lord, I wander ever straying;

Wand'ring through the world, yet knowing.
Thou wilt guard me, and my going.

"Let not darkness from Thee hide me,
May Thine angels watch beside me.
Guard us all while we are sleeping,
Safe for ever in Thy keeping."

Text: Geoffrey Russell-Smith (d.1998)

Music: Zoltán Kodály (d. 1967)

Homily

Canon Ian Alexander

Hymn for the Offering

Tune: Slane (Common Praise #505)

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art —
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father; thine own may I be,
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

Riches I heed not, nor the world's empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, when victory is won,
may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Text: Irish hymn (8th cent.); tr. Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); vers. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Vers. © courtesy of the estate of Eleanor H. Hull and Chatto & Windus Ltd.

Music: Melody Irish trad.; arr. Martin Shaw (1875-1958), alt. Arr. © Oxford University Press.

Prayers of the Community

all kneel with the officiant

Officiant Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt hear their requests: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting.

People **Amen.**

The Grace

All **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. Amen.**

Voluntary: Final from Symphony no. 1

Louis Vierne (d. 1937)



Assisting with Today's Service

Sidespeople David Collins, Jacquie Collins

Verger Bob Fearnley

Musicians Members of The Cathedral Choir
Donald Hunt, *Director of Music*

Readers David Collins, Jacquie Collins

Camera and Tech Team The Cathedral Technical Team



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