

CHORAL EVENSONG

15 October 2025 7:00pm



St George's Cathedral, Kingston

Versicles & Responses: Byrd

Setting: Evening Service in B Flat, C. V. Stanford

Please stand, as you are able, as the Choir and Clergy enter the Cathedral.

Minister: O LORD, open thou our lips;

Choir: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Minister: 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, is now, and
ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord;

Please sit.

Psalm 78 – part 2 *Attendite, popule.*

MANY a time did God's people rebel against him in the wilderness, / and grieve him in the desert.

43 They turned back and tempted God, / and provoked the Holy One of Israel.

44 They thought not of his hand, / and of the day when he delivered them from the hand of the enemy;

45 How he had wrought his miracles in Egypt, / and his wonders in the field of Zoan.

46 He turned their rivers into blood, / so that they could not drink of their streams.

47 He sent among them swarms of flies, which devoured them, / and frogs, which destroyed them.

48 He gave their fruit unto the caterpillar, / and their labour unto the locust.

49 He destroyed their vines with hail-stones, / and their sycamore-trees with the frost.

50 He smote their cattle also with hail-stones, / and their flocks with hot thunderbolts.

51 He cast upon them the fury of his wrath, anger, displeasure, and trouble: / a band of destroying angels.

52 He made a way for his indignation, and spared not their soul from death, / but gave their life over to the pestilence;

53 And smote all the first-born in Egypt, / the firstlings of their strength in the dwellings of Ham.

54 BUT as for his own people, he led them forth like sheep, / and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.

55 He brought them out safely, that they did not fear, / and overwhelmed their enemies in the sea.

56 He brought them unto his holy border, / even to the mountain which he had purchased with his right hand.

57 He cast out the nations also before them, / caused their land to be divided among them for an heritage, and made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.

58 YET they tempted and rebelled against the Most High God, / and kept not his testimonies;

59 But turned back, and fell away like their forefathers, / starting aside like a broken bow.

60 For they grieved him with their hill-altars, / and provoked him to displeasure with their images.

61 When God heard this, he was wroth, / and took sore displeasure at Israel;

62 So that he forsook the tabernacle in Shiloh, / even the tent that he had pitched among men.

63 He delivered his strength into captivity, / and his glory into the enemy's hand.

64 He gave his people over also unto the sword, / and was wroth with his inheritance.

65 The fire consumed their young men, / and their maidens were not given to marriage.

66 Their priests were slain with the sword; / and their widows made no lamentation.

67 So the Lord awaked as one out of sleep, / and like a giant refreshed with wine.

68 He smote his enemies backward, / and put them to a perpetual shame.

69 He refused the tabernacle of Joseph, / and chose not the tribe of Ephraim;

70 But chose the tribe of Judah, / even the hill of Sion which he loved.

71 And he built his sanctuary like the heights of heaven, / and like the earth which he hath founded for ever.

72 He chose David also his servant, / and took him away from the sheep-folds.

73 As he was following the ewes with their young he brought him, / that he might feed Jacob his people, and Israel his inheritance.

74 So he fed them with a faithful and true heart, / and ruled them prudently with all his power.

The First Lesson is written in the book of Ezekiel, in the 14th chapter, beginning at the first verse.

Certain elders of Israel came to me and sat down before me. And the word of the Lord came to me: Mortal, these men have taken their idols into their hearts, and placed their iniquity as a stumbling-block before them; shall I let myself be consulted by them? Therefore speak to them, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Any of those of the house of Israel who take their idols into their hearts and place their iniquity as a stumbling-block before them, and yet come to the prophet—I the Lord will answer those who come with the multitude of their idols, in order that I may take hold of the hearts of the house of Israel, all of whom are estranged from me through their idols.

Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: Repent and turn away from your idols; and turn away your faces from all your abominations. For any of those of the house of Israel, or of the aliens who reside in Israel, who separate themselves from me, taking their idols into their hearts and placing their iniquity as a stumbling-block before them, and yet come to a prophet to inquire of me by him, I the Lord will answer them myself. I will set my face against them; I will make them a sign and a byword and cut them off from the midst of my people; and you shall know that I am the Lord.

If a prophet is deceived and speaks a word, I, the Lord, have deceived that prophet, and I will stretch out my hand against him, and will destroy him from the midst of my people Israel. And they shall bear their punishment—the punishment of the inquirer and the punishment of the prophet shall be the same— so that the house of Israel may no longer go astray from me, nor defile themselves any more with all their transgressions. Then they shall be my people, and I will be their God, says the Lord God.

The word of the Lord came to me: Mortal, when a land sins against me by acting faithlessly, and I stretch out my hand against it, and break its staff of bread and send famine upon it, and cut off from it human beings and animals, even if Noah, Daniel, and Job, these three, were in it, they would save only their own lives by their righteousness, says the Lord God. If I send wild animals through the land to ravage it, so that it is made desolate, and no one may pass through because of the animals; even if these three men were in it, as I live, says the Lord God, they would save neither sons nor daughters; they alone would be saved, but the land would be desolate. Or if I bring a sword upon that land and say, ‘Let a sword pass through the land’, and I cut off human beings and animals from it; though these three men were in it, as I live, says the Lord God, they would save neither sons nor daughters, but they alone would be saved. Or if I send a pestilence into that land, and pour out my wrath upon it with blood, to cut off humans and animals from it; even if Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it, as I live, says the Lord God, they would save neither son nor daughter; they would save only their own lives by their righteousness.

For thus says the Lord God: How much more when I send upon Jerusalem my four deadly acts of judgement, sword, famine, wild animals, and pestilence, to cut off humans and animals from it! Yet, survivors shall be left in it, sons and daughters who will be brought out; they will come out to you. When you see their ways and their deeds, you will be consoled for the evil that I have brought upon Jerusalem, for all that I have brought upon it. They shall console you, when you see their ways and their deeds; and you shall know that it was not without cause that I did all that I have done in it, says the Lord God.

Here endeth the first lesson.

The Office Hymn *(please stand)*



Christ, the fair glory of the holy angels,
Thou who hast made us, thou who o'er us rulest,
Grant of thy mercy unto us thy servants
Steps up to heaven.

4 Send thy archangel, Raphael, the restorer
Of the misguided ways of those who wander,
Who at thy bidding strengthens soul and body
With thine anointing.

2 Send thy archangel, Michael, to our succour;
Peacemaker blessed, may he banish from us
Striving and hatred, so that for the peaceful
All things may prosper.

5 May the blest Mother of our God and Saviour,
May the assembly of the saints in glory,
May the celestial companies of angels
Ever assist us.

3 Send thy archangel, Gabriel, the mighty;
Herald of heaven, may he from us mortals
Spurn the old serpent, watching o'er the temples
Where thou art worshiped.

6 Father almighty, Son and Holy Spirit,
God ever blessed, be thou our preserver;
Thine is the glory which the angels worship,
Veiling their faces. Amen.

Coelites plaudant
Melody from the *Rouen Antiphoner*, 1728

Latin, c9th cent
tr John Athelstan Riley 1858-1945

Please remain standing

Magnificat. St Luke 1. 46

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.*

Please sit

The Second Lesson is written in the Gospel according of John, in the 18th chapter, beginning at the twenty-eighth verse.

Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said, 'What accusation do you bring against this man?' They answered, 'If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.' Pilate said to them, 'Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.' The Jews replied, 'We are not permitted to put anyone to death.' (This was to fulfil what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

Then Pilate entered the headquarters¹¹ again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.' Pilate asked him, 'What is truth?'

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, 'I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?' They shouted in reply, 'Not this man, but Barabbas!' Now Barabbas was a bandit.

Here endeth the second lesson.

Please stand

Nunc Dimittis. St Luke 2.29.

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.*

Please remain standing

IBELIEVE 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.*

Minister: The Lord be with you;

Choir: And with thy spirit.

Minister: Let us pray.

Please kneel as you are able

Choir: 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, on 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.*

Minister: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

Choir: And grant us thy salvation.

Minister: O Lord, save the King;

Choir: And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Minister: Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;

Choir: And make thy chosen people joyful.

Minister: O Lord, save thy people;

Choir: And bless thine inheritance.

Minister: Give peace in our time, O Lord;

Choir: Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Minister: O God, make clean our hearts within us;

Choir: And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

LORD, we pray thee that thy grace may always prevent and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Second Collect, for Peace.

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. *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 Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Please sit.

The Anthem

Let all mortal flesh keep silence
and stand with fear and trembling,
and lift itself above all earthly thought.

For the King of kings and Lord of lords,
Christ our God,
cometh forth to be our oblation,
and to be given for Food to the faithful.

Edward Bairstow 1874-1946

Before Him come the choirs of angels
with every principality and power;
the Cherubim with many eyes,
and wingèd Seraphim,
who veil their faces as they shout exultingly the
hymn: Alleluia

Habakkuk 2:20

The Prayers

Please kneel as you are able

O HEAVENLY Father, who hast filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works; that in thanksgiving, and rejoicing in thy whole creation, we may learn to serve thee with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A LMIGHTY and most merciful God, we remember before you all poor and neglected persons whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the old and the sick, and all who have none to care for them. Help us to heal those who are broken in body or spirit, and to turn their sorrow into joy. Grant this, Father, for the love of your Son, who for our sake became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A LMIGHTY and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully hear our prayers, and grant to this Diocese, and to those who minister within it, all things needful for its spiritual welfare. Strengthen and confirm the faithful; protect and guide the children; visit and relieve the sick; turn and soften the wicked; arouse the careless; recover the fallen; restore the penitent. Remove all hindrances to the advancement of thy truth; and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within the fold of thy holy Church, to the honour and glory of thy blessed Name; through Jesus Christ our lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer of Saint Chrysostom.

A LMIGHTY 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 grant their requests: Fulfil 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. *Amen.*

2 Corinthians 13:14.

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 *(please stand)*



Holy Spirit, ever dwelling
In the holiest realms of light;
Holy Spirit, ever brooding
O'er a world of gloom and night;
Holy Spirit, ever raising
Those of earth to thrones on high;
Living, life-imparting Spirit,
Thee we praise and magnify.

3 Holy Spirit, ever working
Through the Church's ministry;
Quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving,
Setting captive sinners free;
Holy Spirit, ever binding
Age to age, and soul to soul:
In a fellowship unending
Thee we worship and extol.

2 Holy Spirit, ever living
As the Church's very life;
Holy Spirit, ever striving
Through her in a ceaseless strife;
Holy Spirit, ever forming
In the Church the mind of Christ;
Thee we praise with endless worship
For thy fruit and gifts unpriced.

Salisbury
Herbert Howells 1892-1983

Timothy Rees, 1874-1939

Please remain standing for the recession.

The Right Rev'd William Cliff, Bishop of Ontario
The Ven. Bill Clarke

The Cathedral Church of St George

www.stgeorgescathedral.ca