

# CHORAL EVENSONG

20 May 2026 7:00pm



St George's Cathedral, Kingston

*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.

*Minister.* 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.

*Minister.* Praise ye the Lord;

*Choir.* The Lord's name be praised.

*Please sit.*

## Psalm 103

PRAISE the LORD, O MY soul: / and all that is within me praise his holy Name.

2 Praise the LORD, O MY soul: / and forget not all his benefits;

3 Who forgiveth all thy sin, / and healeth all thine infirmities;

4 Who saveth thy life from destruction, / and crowneth thee with mercy and loving-kindness;

5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things, / making thee young and lusty as an eagle.

6 THE LORD executeth righteousness and judgement / for all them that are oppressed with wrong.

7 He showed his ways unto Moses, / his works unto the children of Israel.

8 The LORD is full of compassion and gracious, / long-suffering, and of great goodness.

9 He will not always be chiding: / neither keepeth he his anger for ever.

10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins, / nor rewarded us according to our wickednesses.

11 For look how high the heaven is in comparison of the earth, / so great is his mercy also toward them  
that fear him.

12 Look how wide also the east is from the west, / so far hath he set our sins from us.

13 Yea, like as a father pitieth his own children, / even so is the LORD merciful unto them that fear him.

14 For he knoweth whereof we are made: / he remembereth that we are but dust.

15 THE days of man are but as grass; / for he flourisheth as a flower of the field.

16 For as soon as the wind goeth over it, it is gone; / and the place thereof shall know it no more.

17 But the merciful goodness of the LORD endureth for ever and ever upon them that fear him, / and his  
righteousness unto children's children;

18 Even unto such as keep his covenant, / and think upon his commandments to do them.

19 THE LORD hath established his throne in heaven, / and his kingdom ruleth over all.

20 O praise the LORD, ye angels of his, ye that excel in strength, / ye that fulfil his commandment, and  
hearken unto the voice of his word.

21 O praise the LORD, all ye his hosts, / ye servants of his that do his pleasure.

22 O speak good of the LORD, all ye works of his, in all places of his dominion: / praise thou the LORD,  
O my soul.

The First Lesson is written in the book of Judges, in the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter, beginning at the seventeenth verse. Then the Ammonites were called to arms, and they encamped in Gilead; and the Israelites came together, and they encamped at Mizpah. The commanders of the people of Gilead said to one another, 'Who will begin the fight against the Ammonites? He shall be head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.'

Now Jephthah the Gileadite, the son of a prostitute, was a mighty warrior. Gilead was the father of Jephthah. Gilead's wife also bore him sons; and when his wife's sons grew up, they drove Jephthah away, saying to him, 'You shall not inherit anything in our father's house; for you are the son of another woman.' Then Jephthah fled from his brothers and lived in the land of Tob. Outlaws collected around Jephthah and went raiding with him.

After a time the Ammonites made war against Israel. And when the Ammonites made war against Israel, the elders of Gilead went to bring Jephthah from the land of Tob. They said to Jephthah, 'Come and be our commander, so that we may fight with the Ammonites.' But Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, 'Are you not the very ones who rejected me and drove me out of my father's house? So why do you come to me now when you are in trouble?' The elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, 'Nevertheless, we have now turned back to you, so that you may go with us and fight with the Ammonites, and become head over us, over all the inhabitants of Gilead.' Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, 'If you bring me home again to fight with the Ammonites, and the LORD gives them over to me, I will be your head.' And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, 'The LORD will be witness between us; we will surely do as you say.' So Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him head and commander over them; and Jephthah spoke all his words before the LORD at Mizpah.

Then Jephthah sent messengers to the king of the Ammonites and said, 'What is there between you and me, that you have come to me to fight against my land?' The king of the Ammonites answered the messengers of Jephthah, 'Because Israel, on coming from Egypt, took away my land from the Arnon to the Jabbok and to the Jordan; now therefore restore it peaceably.' Once again Jephthah sent messengers to the king of the Ammonites and said to him: 'Thus says Jephthah: Israel did not take away the land of Moab or the land of the Ammonites, but when they came up from Egypt, Israel went through the wilderness to the Red Sea and came to Kadesh. Israel then sent messengers to the king of Edom, saying, "Let us pass through your land"; but the king of Edom would not listen. They also sent to the king of Moab, but he would not consent. So Israel remained at Kadesh. Then they journeyed through the wilderness, went around the land of Edom and the land of Moab, arrived on the eastern side of the land of Moab, and camped on the other side of the Arnon. They did not enter the territory of Moab, for the Arnon was the boundary of Moab. Israel then sent messengers to King Sihon of the Amorites, king of Heshbon; and Israel said to him, "Let us pass through your land to our country." But Sihon did not trust Israel to pass through his territory; so Sihon gathered all his people together, and encamped at Jahaz, and fought with Israel. Then the LORD, the God of Israel, gave Sihon and all his people into the hand of Israel, and they defeated them; so Israel occupied all the land of the Amorites, who inhabited that country. They occupied all the territory of the Amorites from the Arnon to the Jabbok and from the wilderness to the Jordan. So now the LORD, the God of Israel, has conquered the Amorites for the benefit of his people Israel. Do you intend to take their place? Should you not possess what your god Chemosh gives you to possess? And should we not be the ones to possess everything that the LORD our God has conquered for our benefit? Now are you any better than King Balak son of Zippor of Moab? Did he ever enter into conflict

with Israel, or did he ever go to war with them? While Israel lived in Heshbon and its villages, and in Aroer and its villages, and in all the towns that are along the Arnon, for three hundred years, why did you not recover them within that time? It is not I who have sinned against you, but you are the one who does me wrong by making war on me. Let the LORD, who is judge, decide today for the Israelites or for the Ammonites.’ But the king of the Ammonites did not heed the message that Jephthah sent him. Here endeth the first lesson.

The Office Hymn *(please remain standing)*



Eternal Monarch, King most high,  
Whose blood hath brought redemption nigh,  
By whom the death of Death was wrought  
And conquering grace's battle fought:

2 Ascending to the throne of might,  
And seated at the Father's right,  
All power in heaven is Jesu's own,  
That here his manhood had not known.

3 Yea, angels tremble when they see  
How changed is our humanity;

That flesh hath purged what flesh had stained,  
And God, the flesh of God, hath reigned.

4 Be thou our joy and strong defence,  
Who art our future recompense:  
So shall the light that springs from thee  
Be ours through all eternity.

5 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,  
All praise to thee let earth accord,  
Who art, while endless ages run,  
With Father and with Spirit One.  
Amen.

*Gonfalon Royal*  
Percy Carter Buck 1871-1947

Latin, 9<sup>th</sup> cent. or earlier  
† John Mason Neale 1818-66  
REH 169

*Please remain standing*

Magnificat. St Luke 1. 46

**M**Y 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 a Letter to the Hebrews, in the 10th chapter, beginning at the first verse.

Since the law has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered year after year, make perfect those who approach. Otherwise, would they not have ceased being offered, since the worshippers, cleansed once for all, would no longer have any consciousness of sin? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sin year after year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

‘Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;  
in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.  
Then I said, “See, God, I have come to do your will, O God”  
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).’

When he said above, ‘You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings’ (these are offered according to the law), then he added, ‘See, I have come to do your will.’ He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, ‘he sat down at the right hand of God’, and since then has been waiting ‘until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.’ For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

‘This is the covenant that I will make with them  
after those days, says the Lord:  
I will put my laws in their hearts,  
and I will write them on their minds’,

he also adds,  
‘I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.’

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Here endeth the second lesson.

*Please stand*

Nunc Dimittis. St Luke 2.29.

**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.*

*Please remain standing*

**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.*

*Minister:* The Lord be with you;

*Choir:* And with thy spirit.

*Minister:* Let us pray.

*Please sit or kneel*

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**O**UR 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.

**A**Lmighty and everlasting God, who hast given unto us thy servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of the Divine Majesty to worship the Unity: We beseech thee, that this holy faith may evermore be our defence against all adversities; who livest and reignest, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

*The Second 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 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.*

**L**IGHTEN 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

O clap your hands, all ye people;  
shout unto God with the voice of triumph.

For the Lord most high is terrible.  
He is a great King over all the earth.

God is gone up with a shout,  
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

Sing praises to God; sing praises.  
Sing praises to our King; sing praises.  
For God is the King of all the earth.

Sing ye praises with understanding.  
God reigneth over the heathen.

God sitteth upon the throne of His holiness.  
Sing praises unto our King. Sing praises.

Ralph Vaughan Williams 1872-1958

Psalms 47

## The Prayers

*Please sit or kneel*

**O** GOD, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**A**LMIGHTY and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honour and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**O** GOD of peace, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God; 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.*

**T**HE 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



Glory to thee, my God, this night  
For all the blessings of the light;  
Keep me, O keep me, King of kings,  
Beneath thy own almighty wings.

2 Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,  
The ill that I this day have done,  
That with the world, myself and thee,  
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

3 Teach me to live, that I may dread  
The grave as little as my bed;  
Teach me to die, that so I may  
Rise glorious at the awful day.

4 O may my soul on thee repose,  
And with sweet sleep my eyelids close,  
Sleep that may me more vigorous make  
To serve my God when I awake.

5 Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise him all creatures here below,  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*Tallis's Canon*  
Thomas Tallis c1505-85

Thomas Ken 1637-1711  
REH 148

*Please remain standing for the recession.*

Officiant: The Very Rev. Douglas Michael, Dean of Ontario  
Brad Barbeau, organist      The Cathedral Choir

*Join us on Wednesday 27 May at 7pm for Choral Evensong sung by the Capella Regalis Choirs from Halifax, NS.*

**The Cathedral Church of St George**

[www.stgeorgescathedral.ca](http://www.stgeorgescathedral.ca)