

ST. JAMES

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
CHORAL EVENSONG

February 1, 2026
5:00P.M.

ORGAN RECITAL • 4:30P.M.

Austin Clark, *organ*

Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr, BWV 662

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Pari intervallo

Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)

Adoration

Florence Price (1887–1953)

Thema mit Variationen

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

Fanfare

John Cook (1918–1984)

*There will be a brief pause following the recital,
during which we invite you to maintain holy silence as we prepare for worship.*

CHORAL EVENSONG • 5:00P.M.

Thank you for worshipping with us today! Evensong is a service to give thanks for the day that has past, pray for safety through the night, and to look forward to the coming of Christ, to a better day. It is a poetic, deeply spiritual service rich with symbolism and mystery. The service is primarily Choral; the Choir sings most of the service on behalf of the congregation in monastic style. Evensong has been offered daily in cathedrals and churches throughout the world for almost 500 years.

The spiritual apex of Evensong are the two canticles, or songs taken directly from the Bible. The Magnificat, sung by Mary upon her Visitation to her cousin Elizabeth (who would bear John the Baptist), is used to respond to the Messianic longing heard in the prophecies of the Old Testament Lesson. The Nunc Dimittis, which Simeon sang after a long life of waiting for that Messiah, is used to respond to the New Testament reading, the fulfillment of those Old Testament prophecies. We invite you to listen, sing, and surround yourself with the beauty of holiness.

THE INVITATORY & PSALTER

All stand as the Choir and Ministers enter.

The Introit

Music: Simon Lindley (1948–2025)

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum et benedicta fructus ventris tui, Jesus. Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis, nunc et in hora mortis nostrae, ora pro nobis peccatoribus. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

The Opening Sentences

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

I will bless the Lord who giveth me counsel; my heart teacheth me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall.

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”

Sung by the Choir

Preces & Responses

Setting: Thomas Ebdon (1738–1811)

- 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.
- V. 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.
- V. Praise ye the Lord.
- R. The Lord's name be praised.

The hymn is sung by all

Hymn 662

1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide;
2 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
3 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
4 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

the dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide:
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

when o - ther help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain sha - dows flee;

help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bide with me.
I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793–1847)

Music: *Eventide*, William Henry Monk (1823–1889)

Psalm 8

- ¹ O Lord our Governor, how excellent is thy Name in all the world *
thou that has set thy glory above the heavens!
- ² Out of the mouth of very babes and sucklings
hast thou ordained strength, because of thine enemies *
that thou mightest still the enemy, and the avenger.
- ³ For I will consider thy heavens, even the works of thy fingers *
the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained.
- ⁴ What is man, that thou art mindful of him *
and the son of man, that thou visitest him?
- ⁵ Thou madest him lower than the angels *
to crown him with glory and worship.
- ⁶ Thou makest him to have dominion of the works of thy hands *
and thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet;
- ⁷ All sheep and oxen *
yea, and the beasts of the field;
- ⁸ The fowls of the air, and the fishes of the sea *
and whatsoever walketh through the paths of the seas.
- ⁹ O Lord our Governor *
how excellent is thy Name in all the world!

Psalm 84

- ¹ O how amiable are thy dwellings *
thou Lord of hosts!
- ² My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord *
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- ³ Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house,
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young *
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- ⁴ Blessed are they that dwell in thy house *
they will be alway praising thee.
- ⁵ Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee *
in whose heart are thy ways.
- ⁶ Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well *
and the pools are filled with water.
- ⁷ They will go from strength to strength *
and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Sion.
- ⁸ O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer *
hearken, O God of Jacob.

- 9 Behold, O God our defender *
and look upon the face of thine Anointed.
- 10 For one day in thy courts *
is better than a thousand.
- 11 I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God *
than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness.
- 12 For the Lord God is a light and defence *
the Lord will give grace and worship,
and no good thing shall he withhold from them that live a godly life.
- 13 O Lord God of hosts *
blessed is the man that putteth his trust in thee.

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 LESSONS

First Lesson

Isaiah 51:9-16

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the Lord! Awake, as in days of old, the generations of long ago! Was it not you who cut Rahab in pieces, who pierced the dragon? Was it not you who dried up the sea, the waters of the great deep; who made the depths of the sea a way for the redeemed to cross over? So the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. I, I am he who comforts you; why then are you afraid of a mere mortal who must die, a human being who fades like grass? You have forgotten the Lord, your Maker, who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth. You fear continually all day long because of the fury of the oppressor, who is bent on destruction. But where is the fury of the oppressor? The oppressed shall speedily be released; they shall not die and go down to the Pit, nor shall they lack bread. For I am the Lord your God, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar—the Lord of hosts is his name. I have put my words in your mouth, and hidden you in the shadow of my hand, stretching out the heavens and laying the foundations of the earth, and saying to Zion, ‘You are my people.’

Here endeth the lesson.

All stand.

Magnificat

Music: Herbert Sumson (1899–1995), *Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis* in G major
Words: Song of Mary, Luke 1:46-55; & Gloria Patri

✠ 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.

All sit.

Second Lesson

Mark 8:22-30

A reading from the Gospel of Mark.

They came to Bethsaida. Some people brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village; and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, 'Can you see anything?' And the man looked up and said, 'I can see people, but they look like trees, walking.' Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he looked intently and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. Then he sent him away to his home, saying, 'Do not even go into the village.' Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' And they answered him, 'John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' He asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.' And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Here endeth the Lesson.

All stand.

Nunc Dimittis

Music: Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995), *Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis* in G major
 Words: Song of Simeon, Luke 2:29-32; & Gloria Patri

✠ 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.

All sing

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 PRAYERS

Preces & Responses

Setting: Thomas Ebdon (1738–1811)

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

The congregation kneels. Then is sung

V. Lord, have mercy upon us.
R. Christ, have mercy upon us.
V. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father,
who 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 those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

V. O Lord, shew 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 prayers conclude with the following

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and in our time grant us thy peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Collect for Aid against Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercies defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Prayer for Mission

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake. Amen.

The Welcome

The Rev. R. Lynn Hooks



The offering at this service goes toward the Choirs' next Choral Residency at Wells Cathedral in the United Kingdom.

Offering plates are located at the rear of the nave.

To support the Music Ministry online, scan the QR code with a smart device.

The Anthem

Music: Herbert Howells (1892–1983), *Collegium Regale*, Jubilate
Words: Psalm 100

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God;
it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; *
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving
and into his courts with praise; *
be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.
For the Lord is gracious;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

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.

All stand to say

The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all men.
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Hymn 517



1 How love - ly is thy dwell - ing - place, O Lord of hosts, to
 2 Be - side thine al - tars, gra - cious Lord, the swal - lows find a
 3 They who go through the des - ert vale will find it filled with
 4 One day with - in thy courts ex - cels a thou - sand spent a -

me! My thirst - y soul de - sires and longs with -
 nest; how hap - py they who dwell with thee and
 springs, and they shall climb from height to height till
 way; how hap - py they who keep thy laws nor

in thy courts to be; my ve - ry heart and
 praise thee with - out rest, and hap - py they whose
 Zi - on's tem - ple rings with praise to thee, in
 from thy pre - cepts stray, for thou shalt sure - ly

flesh cry out, O liv - ing God, for thee.
 hearts are set up - on the pil - grim's quest.
 glo - ry throned, Lord God, great King of kings.
 bless all those who live the words they pray.

Words: Para. of Psalm 84; sts. 1-2, *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, 1650; sts. 3-4, Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944)
 Music: *Brother James' Air*, J. L. MacBeth Bain (1840?-1925)

The Blessing and Dismissal

The Officiant gives a blessing. The Dismissal is then sung.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

V. Let us bless the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Harold Darke (1888–1976)

Meditation on *Brother James' Air*

The Choir and Ministers depart during the organ voluntary, after which the congregation may be seated or depart.

All are invited to a reception in Coleman Hall.



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