

EVENSONG

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Gathering

† In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Priest. O Lord, open thou our lips.

Answer. **And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**

Priest. O God, make speed to save us.

Answer. **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

All stand.

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

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

Priest. Praise ye the Lord.

Answer. **The Lord's Name be praised.**

Then shall be sung the Magnificat (or the Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary).

MAGNIFICAT - Luke 1

Response

O Lord our God, how wonderful Your name in all the Earth.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord:

my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;

Who has looked with favour on his lowly servant:

from this day all generations will call me blessed. **Response**

The Almighty has done great things for me:

and holy is his name.

God has mercy on those who fear him:

from generation to generation. **Response**

The Lord has shown strength with his arm:

and scattered the proud in their conceit,

Casting down the mighty from their thrones:

and lifting up the lowly. **Response**

God has filled the hungry with good things:

and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel:

to remember the promise of mercy,

The promise made to our forebears:

to Abraham and his children for ever. **Response**

Then a Lesson, as appointed.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH

A hymn is sung

All praise to Thee, my God, this night,
For all the blessings of the light!
Keep me, O keep me, King of kings,
Beneath Thine own almighty wings.

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.

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

When in the night I sleepless lie,
My soul with heavenly thoughts supply;
Let no ill dreams disturb my rest,
No powers of darkness me molest.

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Then a Lesson of the New Testament, as it is appointed.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

SERMON

NUNC DIMITTIS - Luke 2.29

Lord God, you now have set your Servant free (Gibbons)

Then shall be said or sung the Apostles' Creed, by the Minister and the people standing.

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 Catholick Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of
sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.**

And after that these Prayers following: the Minister first pronouncing with a loud voice,

Minister. The Lord be with you.

Answer. **And with thy spirit.**

Minister. Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Answer. **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Then the Minister, choir and people shall sing the Lord's Prayer.

**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.**

Then the Priest standing up shall say,

Priest. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Answer. **And grant us thy salvation.**

Priest. O Lord, save the King.

Answer. **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Priest. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

Answer. **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

Priest. O Lord, save thy people.

Answer. **And bless thine inheritance.**

Priest. Give peace in our time, O Lord.

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

Priest. O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Answer. **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

*Then shall follow three Collects: The first of the day:
The second for Peace: The third for Aid against all
Perils, as hereafter followeth.*

The First Collect at Evening Prayer

GRANT to us, Lord, we beseech thee,
the spirit to think and do, that we, who cannot do
any thing that is good without thee, may by thee
be enabled to live according to thy will; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Second Collect at Evening Prayer

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 both 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.**

The Anthem

*In Quires and Places where they sing here followeth the
Anthem. The Anthem this evening is 'O Sacrum
Convivium' (Tallis).*

*O sacrum convivium!
in quo Christus sumitur:
recolitur memoria passionis eius:
mens impletur gratia:
et futurae gloriae nobis pignus datur. Alleluia.*

Translation of original Latin

*O sacred banquet!
in which Christ is received,
the memory of his Passion is renewed,
the mind is filled with grace,
and a pledge of future glory to us is given.
Alleluia.*

Such prayers may follow as the Minister has ordered.

Evening Prayers

Let the darkness of night
surround us. Let light and
warmth gather us.
And let God's people say Amen. **Amen.**

Let the tools be stored
Let the winds blow around us,
but let hearts be glad and
minds be calm. And let God's
people say Amen. **Amen.**

LORD, it is night.
The night is for stillness
Let us be still in the
presence of God. It is night
after a long day.

What has been
done has
been done;
what has not been done
has not been done; let it be.

NOW that dusk is near –
with parrots in the gum trees lessening their
chatter, with the distant roar of cars fading
to a mere murmur – may I hear the 'voice of
the One
who walks in the
garden in the cool
of the evening',
and, in hearing
that voice,
find a little of the Eden-

peace which some day will be perfected.
This I pray in the name of him
who was once mistaken for a gardener.

LORD, be the guest of our homes;
keep far from them the deceits of the evil one.
May your holy angels watch over us as guardians of our peace. And may your
blessing be always upon us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Choir sings Ave Verum Corpus (Setting by Byrd)

Ave, ave, verum corpus
Natum de Maria Virgine
Vere passum immolatum
In cruce pro homine

Cuius latus perforatum
Aqua fluxit et sanguine
Esto nobis praegustatum
In mortis examine
In mortis examine

O Iesu dulcis, O Iesu pie,
O Iesu, fili Mariae.
Miserere mei. Amen

Translation of original Latin

Hail, true Body, born
of the Virgin Mary,
having truly suffered, sacrificed
on the cross for mankind,
from whose pierced side
water and blood flowed:
Be for us a sweet foretaste
in the trial of death!

O sweet Jesus, O holy Jesus,
O Jesus, son of Mary,
have mercy on me. Amen.

A 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 honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer of Saint Chrysostom.

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 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.

**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.**

Solo musical item

Lyndon Green, Tenor - Ave Maria, Composer Michael Head

*Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum.
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Iesus.
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.*

Translation of original Latin

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 in the hour of our death. Amen.

† In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

A final hymn is sung.

The day you gave us, Lord, is ended,
the darkness falls at your behest.
To you our morning hymns ascended;
your praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank you that your church, unsleeping
while earth rolls onward into light,
through all the world her watch is keeping,
and never rests by day or night.

Across each continent and island
as dawn leads on another day,
the voice of prayer is never silent,
nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun that bids us rest is waking
our friends beneath the western sky,
and hour by hour fresh lips are making
your wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it, Lord: your throne shall never,
like earth's proud empires, pass away.
Your kingdom stands and grows forever,
till all your creatures own your sway.