

# Choral Evensong, Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup> August 2022



Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong, sung by the Quorum singers, under the direction of Chris Williams. The organist is Jules Addison. The minister tonight is The Reverend Mary Gregory, Canon for Arts & Reconciliation. The Canticles are the *Setting for 5 voices in Latin* by Thomas Tallis (1505-1585), and the responses are by Joanna Forbes L'Estrange. The service can be followed in the purple service book.

## Introit

Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum,  
ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.  
Sitivit anima mea ad Deum fortem vivum:  
quando veniam et apparebo ante faciem Dei?

*Like as the hart desireth the water-brooks:  
so longeth my soul after thee, O God.*

*My soul is athirst for God, yea, even for the living God:  
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?*

*from Psalm 42*

*Music by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594)*

## Psalm 119:49-72

49. O THINK upon thy servant, as concerning thy word: wherein thou hast caused me to put my trust.
50. The same is my comfort in my trouble: for thy word hath quickened me.
51. The proud have had me exceedingly in derision: yet have I not shrunked from thy law.
52. For I remembered thine everlasting judgements, O Lord: and received comfort.
53. I am horribly afraid: for the ungodly that forsake thy law.
54. Thy statutes have been my songs: in the house of my pilgrimage.
55. I have thought upon thy Name, O Lord, in the night-season: and have kept thy law.
56. This I had: because I kept thy commandments.
57. THOU art my portion, O Lord: I have promised to keep thy law.

58. I made my humble petition in thy presence with my whole heart: O be merciful unto me, according to thy word.
  59. I called mine own ways to remembrance: and turned my feet unto thy testimonies.
  60. I made haste, and prolonged not the time: to keep thy commandments.
  61. The congregations of the ungodly have robbed me: but I have not forgotten thy law.
  62. At midnight I will rise to give thanks unto thee: because of thy righteous judgements.
  63. I am a companion of all them that fear thee: and keep thy commandments.
  64. The earth, O Lord, is full of thy mercy: O teach me thy statutes.
  65. O LORD, thou hast dealt graciously with thy servant: according unto thy word.
  66. O learn me true understanding and knowledge: for I have believed thy commandments.
  67. Before I was troubled, I went wrong: but now have I kept thy word.
  68. Thou art good and gracious: O teach me thy statutes.
  69. The proud have imagined a lie against me: but I will keep thy commandments with my whole heart.
  70. Their heart is as fat as brawn: but my delight hath been in thy law.
  71. It is good for me that I have been in trouble: that I may learn thy statutes.
  72. The law of thy mouth is dearer unto me: than thousands of gold and silver.
- 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 First Lesson** *Isaiah 30: 8-21*

Go now, write it before them on a tablet,  
and inscribe it in a book,  
so that it may be for the time to come  
as a witness for ever.  
For they are a rebellious people,  
faithless children,  
children who will not hear  
the instruction of the Lord;  
who say to the seers, 'Do not see';

and to the prophets, 'Do not prophesy to us what is right;  
speak to us smooth things,  
prophesy illusions,  
leave the way, turn aside from the path,  
let us hear no more about the Holy One of Israel.'  
Therefore thus says the Holy One of Israel:  
Because you reject this word,  
and put your trust in oppression and deceit,  
and rely on them;  
therefore this iniquity shall become for you  
like a break in a high wall, bulging out, and about to collapse,  
whose crash comes suddenly, in an instant;  
its breaking is like that of a potter's vessel  
that is smashed so ruthlessly  
that among its fragments not a sherd is found  
for taking fire from the hearth,  
or dipping water out of the cistern.

For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel:  
In returning and rest you shall be saved;  
in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.

But you refused and said,  
'No! We will flee upon horses'—  
therefore you shall flee!  
and, 'We will ride upon swift steeds'—  
therefore your pursuers shall be swift!  
A thousand shall flee at the threat of one,  
at the threat of five you shall flee,  
until you are left  
like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain,  
like a signal on a hill.

Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you;  
therefore he will rise up to show mercy to you.  
For the Lord is a God of justice;  
blessed are all those who wait for him.

Truly, O people in Zion, inhabitants of Jerusalem, you shall weep no more. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry; when he hears it, he will answer you. Though the Lord may give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your Teacher will not hide himself any more, but your eyes

shall see your Teacher. And when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left, your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.'

### **The Second Lesson** *2 Corinthians 9*

Now it is not necessary for me to write to you about the ministry to the saints, for I know your eagerness, which is the subject of my boasting about you to the people of Macedonia, saying that Achaia has been ready since last year; and your zeal has stirred up most of them. But I am sending the brothers in order that our boasting about you may not prove to have been empty in this case, so that you may be ready, as I said you would be; otherwise, if some Macedonians come with me and find that you are not ready, we would be humiliated—to say nothing of you—in this undertaking. So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you, and arrange in advance for this bountiful gift that you have promised, so that it may be ready as a voluntary gift and not as an extortion. The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written,

'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;  
his righteousness endures for ever.'

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

### **The Collect for the day**

Let thy merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of thy humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Anthem

O Lord, make thy servant, Elizabeth our Queen,  
to rejoice in thy strength.  
Give her her heart's desire, and deny not the request of her lips,  
but prevent her with thine everlasting blessing,  
and give her a long life, ev'n for ever and ever.  
Amen.

*A Prayer for the Queen  
William Byrd (1543-1623)*

## The Hymn

Now thank we all our God,  
with hearts and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things hath done,  
in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mother's arms  
hath blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us;  
and keep us in his grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son, and him who reigns  
with them in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God,  
whom earth and heaven adore,  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

*Words by M. Rinkart (1586-1649) translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)*  
*Tune CP 530 Nun Danket Later form of melody by J. Crüger (1598-1662)*  
*Harmony chiefly from F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy Lobgesang (1840)*

## **Voluntary**

*'March' from 3 Pieces for Organ* William Walton (1902-1983)

