CHORAL EVENSONG

7 November 2026 3:00pm

Caelis Academy Ensemble



St George's Cathedral, Kingston

Cover: *Flanders Field*, Mary Riter Hamilton 1867-1954

Versicles & Responses: Bernard Rose 1916-96
Setting: *Evening Service*, Jean-Paul Fau b. 2005
Prelude: *Cortège et Litanie, op. 19 no. 2*, Marcel Dupre 1886-1971

Introit:

Faire is the heaven where happy soules have place
In full enjoyment of felicitie;
Whence they doe still behold the glorious face
Of the Divine, Eternall Majestie;
Yet farre more faire be those bright Cherubins
Which all with golden wings are overdight,
And those eternall burning Seraphins
Which from their faces dart out fierie light;
Yet fairer than they both and much more bright
Be th'Angels and Archangels which attend
On God's owne person, without rest or end.
These then in faire each other farre excelling
As to the Highest they approach more neare,
Yet is that Highest farre beyond all telling
Fairer than all the rest which there appeare,
Though all their beauties joynd together were;
How then can mortall tongue hope to expresse
The image of such endlesse perfectnesse?

William Henry Harris 1883-1973

Edmund Spenser 1552–99
from *An Hymne of Heavenly Beautie*

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 84: 9-10, Herbert Howells. 1892-1983
Behold, O God our Defender, and look upon the face of thine Anointed.
For one day in thy courts is better than a thousand.

The First Lesson is written in the Wisdom of Solomon, in the third chapter, beginning at the first verse.

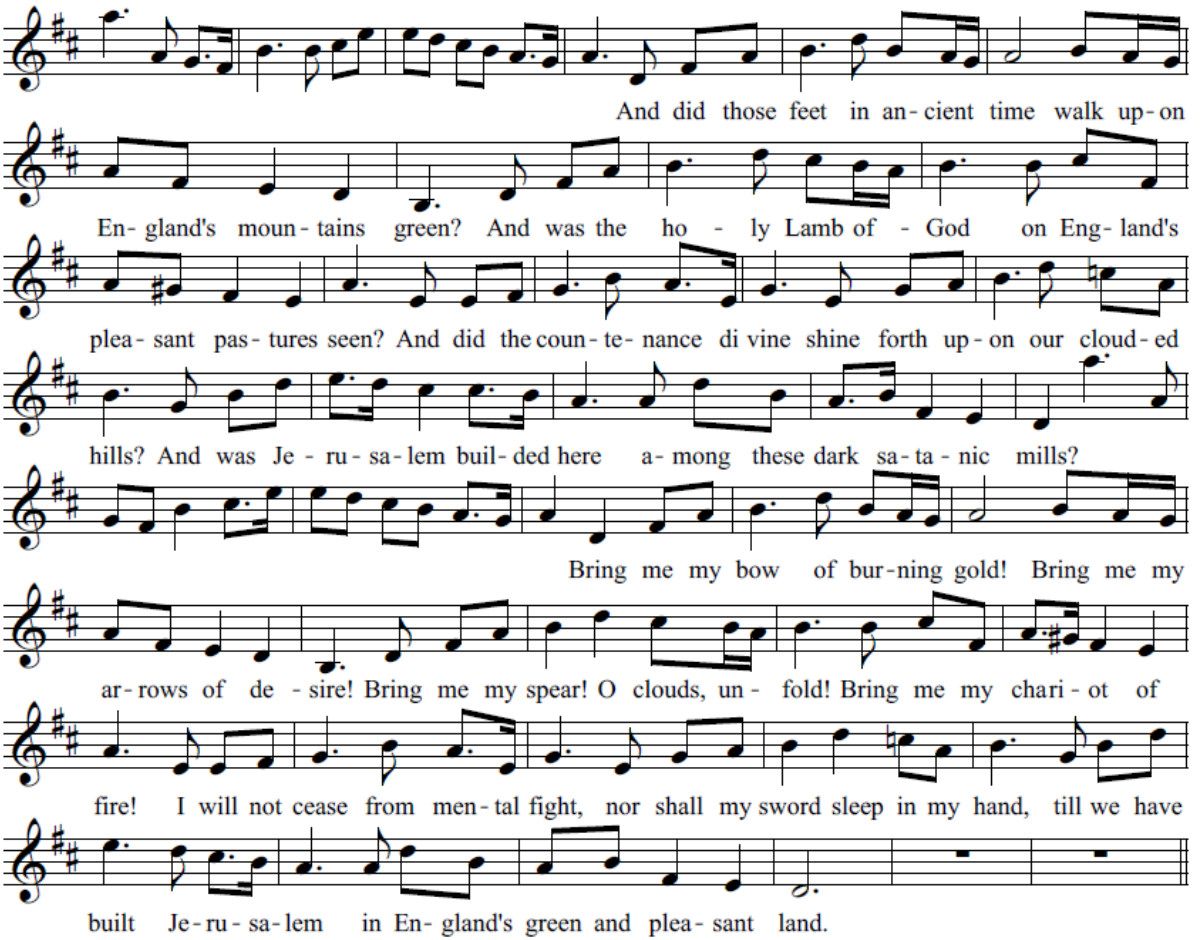
But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt-offering he accepted them. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through

the stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them for ever. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

Here endeth the first lesson.

The Office Hymn

(please stand as able)



Jerusalem
C. H. H. Parry 1848-1918

William Blake 1757-1827

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 First Epistle of Saint Peter, in the first chapter, beginning at the third verse.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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

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 kneel or sit

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.

OALMIGHTY God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant us grace so to follow thy blessed Saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys, which thou hast prepared for them that unfeignedly love thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Second Collect, for Peace.

OGOD, 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

Te lucis ante terminum,
Rerum Creator, poscimus
Ut pro tua clementia
Sis praesul et custodia.

Procul recedant somnia
Et noctium phantasmata,
Hostemque nostrum comprime
Ne polluantur corpora.

Praesta, Pater piissime,
Patrique compar Unice,
Cum Spiritu Paraclito
Regnans per omne saeculum. Amen.

Henry Balfour Gardner 1877-1950

Before the ending of the light,
Creator of all things, we ask you
that, in your mercy,
you would be our protector and our guard.

Far off let dreams depart,
and the phantoms of the night;
hold back our enemy,
lest our bodies be defiled.

Grant this, most loving Father,
and you, only Son, equal to the Father,
who with the Spirit, the Comforter,
reign for all ages. Amen.

Office hymn at Compline, 7th–8th century; Roman Breviary, 1632

The Prayers

Please kneel or sit

ETERNAL God, who rulest in the kingdoms of mortals: Grant, we most humbly beseech thee, honour and safety to our Sovereign Lord, King CHARLES; peace throughout the Commonwealth of his peoples; promotion of true religion; encouragement to learning and godly living; a patient service to the concord of the world; and, by all these, glory to thy holy Name; for his sake to whom thou hast given all power in heaven and earth, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

O LORD of hosts, stretch forth, we pray thee, thine almighty arm to strengthen and protect the King's forces in every peril of sea, and land, and air; shelter them in the day of battle, and ever keep them safe from all evil; endue them with loyalty and courage; and grant that in all things they may serve as seeing thee who art invisible; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, with whom do live the spirits of them that depart hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful, after they are delivered from the burden of the flesh, are in joy and felicity: We praise and magnify thy holy Name for all thy servants who have finished their course in thy faith and fear; and we most humbly beseech thee that at the day of the general resurrection, we, and all they who are of the mystical body of thy Son, may be set on his right hand, and hear that his most joyful voice, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. Grant this, O merciful Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

BE mindful, O Lord, of thy people bowed before thee, and of those who are absent through age, sickness, or infirmity. Care for the infants, guide the young, support the aged, encourage the faint-hearted, collect the scattered, and bring the wandering to thy fold. Travel with the voyagers, defend the widows, shield the orphans, deliver the captives, heal the sick. Succour all who are in tribulation, necessity, or distress. Remember for good all those that love us, and those that hate us, and those that have desired us, unworthy as we are, to pray for them. And those whom we have forgotten, do thou, O Lord, remember. For thou art the Helper of the helpless, the Saviour of the lost, the Refuge of the wanderer, the Healer of the sick. Thou, who knowest each man's need, and hast heard his prayer, grant unto each according to thy merciful loving-kindness and thy eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *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 Bishop may bless the people or the following will be said:

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.*

The Dismissal

Please stand

Minister: The Lord be with you.
Choir: And with thy spirit.
Minister: Let us bless the Lord.
Choir: Thanks be to God.

Commendation

Give rest unto your servants with your saints, O God,
where there is neither pain nor sorrow,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.

All of us go down to the dust,
yet even at the grave we make our song:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Rupert Lang b. 1948

Kontakion for the Departed (Eastern Orthodox)
Book of Alternative Services

Hymn



Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

3 I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

4 I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

5 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies:
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

Eventide
William Henry Monk 1823-89

Henry Francis Lyte 1793-1847

Postlude: *Fugue sur le nom d'Alain, Op. 7,* Maurice Duruflé 1902-86

Please remain standing for the recession.

The Right Reverend William Cliff, Bishop of Ontario

Caelis Academy Ensemble:
Matthew Larkin, Director
Nathan Jeffery, Organist
Jean-Paul Feo, Organist

Welcome to worship at St. George's Cathedral. We are so glad that you are here for this service of Choral Evensong. If you are able, please consider supporting the mission and ministry of the Cathedral by visiting www.stgeorgescathedral.ca/give, scanning the QR-code, or by leaving an offering in the baskets as you depart. We hope this service has been meaningful to you and that we will welcome you again soon.

WWW.STGEORGESCATHEDRAL.CA