

CLARE COLLEGE CHAPEL



Choral Evensong

Broadcast live on BBC Radio 3

Wednesday 6 November 2024
3.00 p.m.

This service is being broadcast live on BBC Radio 3. Please turn off alarms, telephones, pagers etc. during the service. Please try to keep coughs and noises to a minimum and turn pages quietly.

Please note that the use of cameras, recording equipment, video cameras and mobile phones is not permitted in Chapel.

The Introit is sung

Introit	Justorum animae in manu Dei sunt, et non tanget illos tormentum malitiae. Visi sunt oculis insipientium mori; illi autem sunt in pace.	<i>The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God and there no torment shall touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die, but they are in peace.</i>
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Words *Wisdom 3: 1–3*

Music *Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)*

Welcome The Dean

Responses *(sung by the choir)*
O Lord, open thou our lips;
And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us;
O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Praise ye the Lord;
The Lord's Name be praised.

Music *Lucy Walker (1998–)**

**These Responses were written for and premièred by Graham Ross and the Choir in 2021*

All sit

Psalm 32 Blessèd is he whose unrighteousness is forgiven: and whose sin is cover'd.
Blessèd is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth no sin: and in whose spirit
there is no guile.
For while I held my tongue: my bones consumed away through my daily
complaining. For thy hand is heavy upon me day and night: and my moisture
is like drought in the summer.
I will acknowledge my sin unto thee: and mine unrighteousness have I not hid.
I said, I will confess my sins unto the Lord: and so thou forgavest the
wickedness of my sin.
For this shall every one that is godly make his prayer unto thee, in a time when
thou mayest be found: but in the great water-floods they shall not come nigh
him.

Thou art a place to hide me in, thou shalt preserve me from trouble: thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance.

I will inform me, and teach thee in the way wherein thou shalt go: and I will guide thee with mine eye.

Be ye not like to horse and mule, which have no understanding: whose mouths must be held with bit and bridle, lest they fall upon thee.

Great plagues remain for the ungodly: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord, mercy embraceth him on ev'ry side.

Be glad, O ye righteous, and rejoice in the Lord: and be joyful, all ye that are true of heart.

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.

Chant Jones

Psalm 33

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous: for it becometh well the just to be thankful.

Praise the Lord with harp: sing praise unto him with the lute, and instrument of ten strings.

Sing unto the Lord a new song: sing praises lustily unto him with a good courage.

For the word of the Lord is true: and all his works are faithful.

He loveth righteousness and judgement: the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

By the word of the Lord were the heavens made: and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

He gathereth the waters of the sea together, as it were upon an heap: and layeth up the deep, as in a treasure-house.

Let all the earth fear the Lord: stand in awe of him, all ye that dwell in the world.

For he spake, and it was done: he commanded and it stood fast.

The Lord bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: and maketh the devices of the people to be of none effect, and casteth out the counsels of princes.

The counsel of the Lord shall endure for ever: and the thoughts of his heart from generation to generation.

Blessèd are the people, whose God is the Lord Jehovah: and blessèd are the folk, that he hath chosen to him to be his inheritance.

The Lord looked down from heaven, and beheld all the children of men: from the habitation of his dwelling he considereth all them that dwell on the earth.

He fashioneth all the hearts of them: and understandeth all their works.

There is no king that can be saved by the multitude of an host: neither is any mighty man delivered by much strength.

A horse is counted but a vain thing to save a man: neither shall he deliver any man by his great strength.

Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him: and upon them that put their trust in his mercy.

To deliver their soul from death: and to feed them in the time of dearth.
Our soul hath patiently tarried for the Lord: for he is our help and our shield.
For our heart shall rejoice in him: because we have hoped in his holy Name.
Let thy merciful kindness, O Lord, be upon us: like as we do put our 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.

Chant Randall

Psalm 34

I will always give thanks unto the Lord: his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof and be glad.
O praise the Lord with me: and let us magnify his Name together.
I sought the Lord and he heard: yea, he delivered me out of all my fear.
They had an eye unto him and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed.
Lo, the poor crieth, and the Lord heareth him: yea, and saveth him out of all his troubles.
The angel of the Lord tarrieth round about them that fear him: and delivereth them.
O taste and see how gracious the Lord is: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.
O fear the Lord ye that are his saints: for they that fear him lack nothing.
The lions do lack and suffer hunger: but they who seek the Lord shall want no manner of thing that is good.
Come, ye children, and hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
What man is he that lusteth to live: and would fain see good days?
Keep thy tongue from evil: and thy lips that they speak no guile.
Eschew evil, and do good: seek peace, and ensue it.
The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous: and his ears are open unto their prayers.
The countenance of the Lord is against them that do evil: to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.
The righteous cry and the Lord heareth them: and delivereth them out of all their troubles.
The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart: and will save such as be of an humble spirit.
Great are the troubles of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of all.
He keepeth all his bones: so that not one of them is broken.
But misfortune shall slay the ungodly: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.
The Lord delivereth the souls of his servants: and all they that put their trust in him shall not be destitute.
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.

Chant Pratt

Reading

Proverbs 3: 27–35

Here beginneth the twenty-seventh verse of the third chapter of the Book of Proverbs.

Withhold not good from them to whom it is due,
when it is in the power of thine hand to do it.

Say not unto thy neighbour, “Go, and come again, and tomorrow I will give”,
when thou hast it with thee.

Devise not evil against thy neighbour,
seeing he dwelleth securely beside thee.

Strive not with a man without cause,
if he have done thee no harm.

Envy thou not the oppressor,
and choose none of his ways.

For the crooked man is an abomination to the Lord:
but his presence is with the righteous.

The curse of the Lord is on the house of the wicked:
but he blesseth the habitation of the just.

Surely he scorneth the scorers:
but he giveth grace unto the lowly.

The wise shall inherit glory:
but shame shall be the promotion of fools.

Here endeth the first Lesson.

All stand as the Choir stands

Hymn 431 O Thou who camest from above,
The pure celestial fire to impart,
Kindle a flame of sacred love
On the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn
With inextinguishable blaze,
And trembling to its source return
In humble prayer, and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
To work, and speak, and think for thee;
Still let me guard the holy fire,
And still stir up the gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will,
My acts of faith and love repeat,
Till death thy endless mercies seal,
And make my sacrifice complete.

Words *Charles Wesley (1707–88)*
Music *Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–76)*

Please remain standing

Magnificat (*sung by the Choir*)

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.

Words *Luke 1: 46–55*
Music *Graham Ross (1985–, Clare 2003)***

*** These canticles receive their first broadcast today*

All sit

Here beginneth the twenty-first verse of the eighteenth chapter of the Gospel according to St Matthew.

Then came Peter to Jesus, and said, “Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?”

Jesus saith unto him, “I say not unto thee, ‘Until seven times’: but, ‘Until seventy times seven’.

Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.

And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.

But forasmuch as he could not pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.

The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, “Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.”

Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.

But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellow-servants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, “Pay me what thou owest”.

And his fellow-servant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, “Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.”

And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.

So when his fellow-servants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.

Then Then his lord, after he had called him, said unto him, “O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst it of me. Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow-servant, even as I had pity on thee?”

And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.

So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye forgive not your brother from your heart.”

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

All stand as the Choir stands

Nunc dimittis *(sung by the choir)*

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.

Words *Luke 2: 29–32*

Music *Graham Ross*

The Apostles' Creed *(All turn towards the East)*

All 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 Lesser Litany and Responses *(sung by the choir)*

The Lord be with you
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

All kneel or sit

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

Our Father, which art in heaven...

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King;
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;
And make thy chosen people joyful.
O Lord, save thy people;
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord;
Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us;
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collects

The First Collect, for the Day:

O God, our refuge and strength, who art the author of all godliness; Be ready, we beseech thee, to hear the devout prayers of thy Church; and grant that those things which we ask faithfully we may obtain effectually; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 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.

Music *Lucy Walker*

All sit

Anthem

How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle.
O Jonathan, thou wast slain in thy high places.
O Jonathan, woe is me for thee,
O Jonathan, my brother, Jonathan, very kind hast thou been to me:
thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women.
How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war destroyed.

Words *2 Samuel 1: 25–27*
Words *Robert Ramsey (c. 1612–44)*

The Prayers, which conclude with the Grace

All **The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen.**

All stand
Hymn 417

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home;

Under the shadow of thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

Words *Isaac Watts (1674–1748)*
Music *St. Anne, William Croft (1678–1727)*

The Blessing

Please sit quietly at the start of the Voluntary, and remain in place silently until the voluntary has finished.

Voluntary *Elegy*

John Ireland (1879–1962)

The Revd Dr Mark Smith *Dean*
Mr Alex Macdonald *Decani Scholar*

Mr Graham Ross *Director of Music*
Daniel Blaze *Sir William McKie Senior Organ Scholar*
Evie Perfect *Junior Organ Scholar*