



# Choral Evensong

GONVILLE & CAIUS COLLEGE CHAPEL

Be still, and know that I am GOD. (*Psalm 46.10*)

הַרְפוּ וְדַעוּ כִּי־אֲנִי אֱלֹהִים אָרוּם

scolavsate kaiV gnw'te of{ti ejgwv eijmi oJ qeov"

*cessate et cognoscite quoniam ego sum Deus.*

In Choral Evensong we draw near to God in the stillness, joining our prayers with the angels and saints as the music unfolds around us; and we deepen our faith through reflection on the scriptures, letting his word speak to our hearts.

As the day draws to a close we offer to God our needs and hopes, our failures and doubts, our thanks and joy. And we pray 'as well for others as for ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love': in the full assurance of hope, that his service is perfect freedom.

This Chapel is a house of prayer, where worship has been offered to God since the late 14<sup>th</sup> century. It is dedicated to the Annunciation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

*The front cover shows a detail from the Caius Choir Book, a music manuscript of the early 16th century acquired by the College in the late 17th century (MS 667). It shows the opening of one voice part from a polyphonic setting of the Magnificat: 'Et exulta[-vit spiritus meus]' ('and my spirit hath rejoiced'). The Magnificat initial is on p. 131, and is from the setting by Henry Prentyce (d. 1514), his only extant composition.*

# The Order for Choral Evensong

*according to the Book of Common Prayer 1662 (& 1928)*

## The Order on Sundays

*The music, readings and hymns for this service are noted on the buff coloured music list.  
Before the service, an ORGAN VOLUNTARY is played.*

*All stand at the entrance of the Choir, Precentor and Dean.*

*If an introit hymn is to be sung, the number is announced.*

*The Dean calls the congregation to prayer with a sentence of scripture and invitation:*

(1662) Dearly beloved brethren, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before the face of almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart, and humble voice, unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying after me:

*or:*

(1928) Beloved, we are come together in the presence of almighty God and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make confession of our sins; to pray, as well for others as for ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all men such things as their well-being doth require. Wherefore let us kneel in silence, and remember God's presence with us now.

*All kneel*

*All* **Almighty and most merciful Father,  
we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.  
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own  
hearts.  
We have offended against thy holy laws.  
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;  
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;  
and there is no health in us.  
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.  
Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.  
Restore thou them that are penitent;  
according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord.  
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,  
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,  
to the glory of thy holy name. Amen.**

*The Dean declares God's forgiveness, either:*

(1662) Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins: he pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe his holy gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*or:*

(1928) May the almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



*All* Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done,  
in 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.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

*All stand: the Dean and Choir sing the PRECES*

O Lord, open thou our lips  
and our mouth shall shew 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.

## THE PSALM

*The Psalm is announced.*

*All stand to sing a congregational psalm (printed on the white service sheet):  
all sit when the Choir sings the psalm (which may be followed in the green 'Shorter Prayer  
Book').*

*Sit*

## THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

*The readings for the day are listed on the white service sheet.  
The readings may be followed in the pew Bibles.*

*After the First Lesson, all stand for the first Gospel Canticle, the Song of Mary.  
Gospel Canticles are usually sung by the Choir. If they are to be sung by Choir and  
congregation together, the setting will be printed on the white service sheet.*

## **MAGNIFICAT**

*Luke 1.46-55*

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 shewed 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.*

*Sit*

## **THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

*All stand for the second Gospel Canticle, the Song of Simeon.*

## NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2.29-32

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 turn east to say*

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

*Dean* I believe in God

*All* **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.**

*All turn back from the east:*

*the Dean and Choir sing* **THE LESSER LITANY**

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

*Kneel (the Dean & Choir remain standing)*

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,

in 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.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the *Queen*.

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 Dean sings the COLLECTS, normally three, but four in Advent & Lent.*

*The first Collect, of the day.*

*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.

*All sit for the ANTHEM, announced by the Dean.*

*After the Anthem, all kneel.*

## **THE PRAYERS**

*The prayers end with the Grace, prayed by 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.**

*Notices are given out.*

*Stand*

**HYMN** (*listed on the white service sheet*)

*Sit*

**THE SERMON**

*Stand*

**THE SECOND HYMN** (*listed on the white service sheet*)

*Remain standing for*

**THE BLESSING** (*the Choir sings the 'Amen'*)

*and for the recession of the Dean [and Preacher].*

*An **ORGAN VOLUNTARY** is played to end the service.*

*If you wish to leave before the end of the voluntary, please do so quietly.*

*Drinks are served in the SCR after Sunday Evensong, and all are welcome.*

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