

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

established 1706



THE DAY OF THE ASCENSION

Choral Evensong

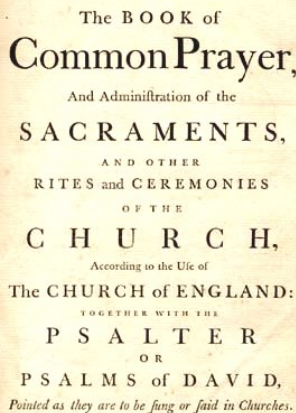
Thursday, 13 May 2021 at 7:00pm

Welcome!

to this historic, living church where the saints have gathered to worship since 1706!

Please **silence** all electronic devices.

This service is taken from the *Book of Common Prayer* adopted in 1662. This edition was in use in the English Colonies when the Parish of St. Andrew's was established in 1706.



The scripture lessons (outside of the Psalms) are taken from the King James Version of the Bible, which was authorized by the Church of England in 1611.

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Thursday, 13 May 2021

Choral Evensong at 7:00pm

THE INTROIT

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot
Traditional Spiritual

(arranged by David & Judith Acres, May 2017)

Chorus: Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home; swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.

1. I looked over Jordan, and what did I see, coming for to carry me home; a band of Angels coming after me, coming for to carry me home.

Swing low....

2. If you get there before I do, coming for to carry me home; tell all my friends I'm coming to, coming for to carry me home.

Swing low....

3. I'm sometimes up, I'm sometimes down, coming for to carry me home, but still my soul feels heavenly bound, coming for to carry me home.

Swing low....

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN *(Please stand)*

Tune: *Llanfair*

The image shows the musical notation for the Proclamation Hymn. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and common time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The hymn is a four-part setting with the following lyrics:

1. Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
2. There the glo - rious tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!
3. See! he lifts his hands a - bove; Al - le - lu - ia!
4. Lord be - yond our mor - tal sight, Al - le - lu - ia!

glo - rious to his na - tive skies; Al - le - lu - ia!
lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates! Al - le - lu - ia!
See! he shows the prints of love; Al - le - lu - ia!
raise our hearts to reach thy height, Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ, a - while to mor - tals giv'n, Al - le - lu - ia!
Wide un - fold the ra - diant scene; Al - le - lu - ia!
Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!
There thy face un - cloud - ed see, Al - le - lu - ia!

en - ters now the high - est heav'n! Al - le - lu - ia!
take the King of glo - ry in! Al - le - lu - ia!
bless - ings on his Church be - low. Al - le - lu - ia!
find our heav'n of heav'ns in thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.
Music: LLANFAIR, Robert Williams (1781-1821)

(The congregation shall remain standing and the Proest will say)

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 cloke 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:

(To be said by the whole congregation here present, all standing)

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 Priest offers Absolution to the people and invites them to be Seated)

THE PRECES & RESPONSES *(Sung by the Choir)*

William Smith of Durham (1603-1645)

Cantor: O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir: *And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.*

Cantor: O God, make speed to save us.

Choir: *O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Choir: *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

Choir: *The Lord's Name be praised.*

Then shall be said or sung
the Psalms in order as they
be appointed.

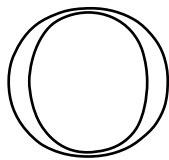
The Psalm texts for this
day are taken from the
Coverdale Psalter found in
the Book of Common Prayer,
(1662) translated by the
Rt. Rev'd Myles Coverdale,
(c. 1488-1569) Bishop of
Exeter.

THE PSALM (*Sung by the Choir*)

Omnes gentes, plaudite

Psalm 47

(Clap your hands, ye people)



CLAP your hands together, all ye people; O sing unto God with
the voice of melody. 2. For the Lord is high, and to be feared; he is
the great King upon all the earth. 3. He shall subdue the people un-
der us, and the nations under our feet. 4. He shall choose out an
heritage for us, even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.

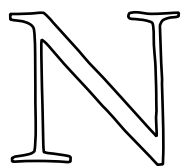
5. God is gone up with a merry noise, and the Lord with the sound of the trump. 6.
O sing praises, sing praises unto our God; O sing praises, sing praises unto our
King. 7. For God is the King of all the earth; sing ye praises with understanding. 8.
God reigneth over the heathen; God sitteth upon his holy seat. 9. The princes of
the people are joined unto the people of the God of Abraham; for God, which is
very high exalted, doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the be-
ginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

(Please be seated for the First Lesson)

THE FIRST LESSON

Hebrews 8



Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high
priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Maj-
esty in heaven, a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the
Lord set up, not man. For every high priest is appointed to offer
gifts and sacrifices; thus it is necessary for this priest also to have something to of-
fer. Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are priests
who offer gifts according to the law. They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly
things. For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, say-
ing, "See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on
the mountain." But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more ex-
cellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on bet-
ter promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been
no occasion to look for a second. For he finds fault with them when he says:
"Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will establish a new cove-
nant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant
that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring
them out of the land of Egypt. For they did not continue in my covenant, and so I
showed no concern for them, declares the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will
make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws
into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they
shall be my people. And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor and each one
his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of
them to the greatest. For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will re-
member their sins no more." In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one
obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

Here endeth the Lesson.

(Please stand for the singing of the hymn)

1 The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glo - ry now;
 2 The high - est place that heaven af - fords is his, is his by right,
 3 the joy of all who dwell a - bove, the joy of all be - low,
 4 To them the cross with all its shame, with all its grace is given;
 5 They suf - fer with their Lord be - low, they reign with him a - bove,

1 a roy - al di - a - dem a - dorns the might - y vic - tor's brow.
 2 the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heaven's e - ter - nal Light;
 3 to whom he man - i - fests his love and grants his name to know.
 4 their name, an ev - er - last - ing name; their joy, the joy of heaven.
 5 their prof - it and their joy to know the mys - tery of his love.

6 The cross he bore is life and health,
 though shame and death to him:
 his people's hope, his people's wealth,
 their everlasting theme.

Words: Thomas Kelly (1769-1855)

Music: *St. Magnus*, melody from *Divine Companion*, 1707; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), after John Pyke Hullah (19th cent.)

(Please be seated for the singing of the Magnificat)

THE MAGNIFICAT (*Sung by the Choir*)

St. Luke 1:46-55

Magnificat in F
 Craig S. Lang (1891-1971)

MY soul doth magnify the Lord and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his hand-maiden. 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 imaginations 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 of 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.

From the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer:

And after that Magnificat (or the Song of the blessed Virgin Mary) in English, as followeth.

Holpen: *verb.* archaic past participle of "help"

From the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer:

Then a Lesson of the New Testament, as it is appointed. And after that Nunc dimittis (or the Song of Simeon) in English, as followeth.

Then Jesus said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

Then Jesus opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

And Jesus led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

Here endeth the Lesson.

(Please Remain Seated)

THE NUNC DIMITTIS (*Sung by the Choir*)

St. Luke 2:29-32

Nunc dimittis in F
Craig S. Lang (1891-1971)

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 peoples; to be a light to lighten the Gentiles and 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 Stand for The Creed)

THE CREED (*Spoken in Unison*)

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.

THE SUFFRAGES, LORD'S PRAYER, & RESPONSES Setting: William Smith of Durham

(Sung by the Choir)

Cantor: The Lord be with you.

(The congregation will please be seated)

Choir: *And with thy spirit.*

Cantor: Let us pray. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Choir: *Christ, have mercy upon us.*

Cantor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Choir: *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.

Cantor: O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Choir: *And grant us thy salvation.*

Cantor: O Lord, save the State.

Choir: *And mercifully bear us when we call upon thee.*

Cantor: Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

Choir: *And make thy chosen people joyful.*

Cantor: O Lord, save thy people.

Choir: *And bless thine inheritance.*

Cantor: Give peace in our time, O Lord.

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

Cantor: O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Choir: *And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.*

From the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer:

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

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

Then the Minister, Clerks, and people shall sing the Lord's Prayer with a loud voice.

A COLLECT FOR ASCENSION DAY

From the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer:

Then shall follow three Collects; the first of the day; The second for Peace; The third for Aid against all Perils, as hereafter followeth: which two last Collects shall be daily said at Evening Prayer without alteration.

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **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 Savior. **Amen.**

THE 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 Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

From the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer:

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Anthony Thompson

In Quires and Places where they sing here followeth the Anthem.

THE ANTHEM: Sung by The Old St Andrew's Parish Church Choir

"Hallelujah Chorus"

Words: Revelation 19.6 & 11.5 and Music by G F Handel (1685-1759)

Hallelujah, for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth,
Hallelujah! The Kingdom of this world is become the Kingdom of our Lord
And of his Christ, and He shall reign for ever and ever,
Hallelujah! King of Kings, and Lord of Lords,
And He shall reign for ever and ever, Hallelujah!

A PRAYER FOR THE CLERGY AND PEOPLE

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who alone workest great marvels; Send down upon our Bishops, and Curates, and all Congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

A PRAYER OF ST. 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 BLESSING

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.*

(Please stand for the final hymn)

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

Tune: *Salve Feste Dies*

Refrain



Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! blest day that art hal - lowed for - ev - er,
day when the Christ a - scends, high in the hea - vens to reign.

Fine

1. He who was nailed to the cross is Lord and the ru - ler of na - ture;
3. God the Cre - a - tor, the Lord who rul - est the earth and the hea - vens,
5. Spi - rit of life and of power, now flow in us, fount of our be - ing,

to Refrain



all things cre - a - ted on earth sing to the glo - ry of God:
guard us from harm with - out, cleanse us from e - vil with - in:
light that dost light - en all, life that in all dost a - bide:

2. Dai - ly the love - li - ness grows, a - dorned with the glo - ry of blos - som;
4. Je - sus the health of the world, en - light - en our minds, thou Re - deem - er,
6. Praise to the Giv - er of good! Thou Love who art au - thor of con - cord,

to Refrain



hea - ven her gates un - bars, fling - ing her in - crease of light:
Son of the Fa - ther su - preme, on - ly - be - got - ten of God:
pour out thy balm on our souls, or - der our ways in thy peace:

Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus (540?-600?); tr. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.
Music: SALVE FESTE DIES, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)



The Ascension
by Gustave Doré (1832-1883)



The Ascension of Our Lord

Giotto di Bondone (1266-1337: painted in 1304)