



Solemn Evensong

with music led by

cantor and organ

Anglican Church of St John the Evangelist
Gordon



Live-streamed
Sunday, 13 September 2020
4.00pm

Evensong

Evensong is the choral Office of Evening Prayer. It has its roots in the Catholic Church's evening offices of Vespers and Compline. It was assembled in its present form by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer about 470 years ago and included the famous pairing of the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* canticles that has inspired composers and worshippers alike for so long now. It is based on Biblical texts in Reading, Psalm, Canticle, and responses.

Choral Evensong is regularly sung at St John's Gordon on the second Sunday of the month (from March to November at 4pm), under normal circumstances. Remaining Evensongs in 2020 will be held on the following days, streamed via the St John the Evangelist Gordon FaceBook page:

11 October

8 November (*Remembrance Sunday*)



Music today:

Evensong today is sung by a single voice to comply with current social distancing requirements.

Organists & Cantors today:

Organist & Director of Music: Dr Brett McKern

Assistant Director of Music: Ms Nicola Chau

Music at St John's



Officiant today:

Fr Ernest Chau, *Rector Locum Tenens of Gordon*

Order of Service

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

All stand to sing the hymn as the Sanctuary Party and clergy enter.

Processional Hymn: 439i *Praise to the Holiest in the height* (Gerontius)

**1. Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise,
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways.**

**2. O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
A second Adam to the fight
And to the rescue came.**

**3. O wisest love! that flesh and blood,
Which did in Adam fail,
Should strive afresh against the foe,
Should strive, and should prevail;**

**4. And that a higher gift than grace
Should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence and his very self,
And essence all-divine.**

**5. O generous love! that he who smote
In man for man the foe,
The double agony in Man
For man should undergo;**

**6. And in the garden secretly,
And on the cross on high,
Should teach his brethren, and inspire
To suffer and to die.**

**7. Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise,
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways!**

John Henry Newman (1801-90)

The congregation remains standing as the opening Responses are sung.

Cantor. ✕ O Lord, open thou our lips. (Plainsong)

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.

Cantor. ✕ 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.

Cantor. Praise ye the Lord.

Choir. The Lord's name be praised.

The Congregation sits. The Psalms of the day are sung.

Psalm 72 (chant by Sir F.A.G. Ouseley)

1. Give the King thy judgements, O God:
and thy righteousness unto the King's son.
2. Then shall he judge thy people according unto right:
and defend the poor.
3. The mountains also shall bring peace:
and the little hills righteousness unto the people.
4. He shall keep the simple folk by their right:
defend the children of the poor, and punish the wrong-doer.
5. They shall fear thee, as long as the sun and moon endureth:
from one generation to another.
6. He shall come down like the rain into a fleece of wool:
even as the drops that water the earth.
7. In his time shall the righteous flourish:
yea, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth.
8. His dominion shall be also from the one sea to the other:
and from the flood unto the world's end.
9. They that dwell in the wilderness shall kneel before him:
his enemies shall lick the dust.

10. The kings of Tharsis and of the isles shall give presents:
the kings of Arabia and Saba shall bring gifts.
11. All kings shall fall down before him:
all nations shall do him service.
12. For he shall deliver the poor when he crieth:
the needy also, and him that hath no helper.
13. He shall be favourable to the simple and needy:
and shall preserve the souls of the poor.
14. He shall deliver their souls from falsehood and wrong:
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.
15. He shall live, and unto him shall be given of the gold of Arabia:
prayer shall be made ever unto him, and daily shall he be praised.
16. There shall be an heap of corn in the earth, high upon the hills:
his fruit shall shake like Libanus,
and shall be green in the city like grass upon the earth.
17. His Name shall endure for ever;
his Name shall remain under the sun among the posterities:
which shall be blessed through him; and all the heathen shall praise him.
18. Blessed be the Lord God, even the God of Israel:
which only doeth wondrous things;
19. And blessed be the Name of his majesty for ever:
and all the earth shall be filled with his majesty. *Amen, Amen.*

The Congregation stands.

- ✠ 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 sit.

Old Testament Lesson: *Leviticus 19:1-4, 9-18.*

The Lector saith: Here beginneth the nineteenth chapter of the book of Leveticus.

And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, Ye shall be holy: for I the Lord your God am holy. Ye shall fear every man his mother, and his father, and keep my sabbaths: I am the Lord your God. Turn ye not unto idols, nor make to yourselves molten gods: I am the Lord your God. And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest. And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I am the Lord your God. Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another. And ye shall not swear by my name falsely, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the Lord. Thou shalt not defraud thy neighbour, neither rob him: the wages of him that is hired shall not abide with thee all night until the morning. Thou shalt not curse the deaf, nor put a stumblingblock before the blind, but shalt fear thy God: I am the Lord. Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment: thou shalt not respect the person of the poor, nor honour the person of the mighty: but in righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbour. Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people: neither shalt thou stand against the blood of thy neighbour; I am the Lord. Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him. Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the Lord.

The Lector concludes: Here endeth the First Lesson.

All stand and sing the Office Hymn.

Office Hymn: 431 *O Thou who camest from above*

(Hereford)

**1. 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.**

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

**3. 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 thy gift in me.**

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

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

The congregation remains standing for the Magnificat during which the altar is censed.

(Noble in B minor)

Magnificat.

St. Luke I.

✠ 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.

All sit.

New Testament Lesson: *St Luke 10:25-37.*

The Lector saith: Here beginneth the twenty-fifth verse of the tenth chapter of Gospel according to St Luke.

And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou? And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live. But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour? And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

The Lector concludes: Here endeth the Second Lesson.

All stand.

(Noble in B minor)

Nunc dimittis.

St. Luke ii. 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.

Remain standing.

Dr Thomas Tertius Noble (1867-1953) was an Englishman, spending some time as Assistant Organist to Stanford at Trinity College, Cambridge. He then became Organist of Ely Cathedral and then York Minster, but spent much of his working life as Organist of St Thomas', Fifth Avenue, New York. He died in the USA. His compositional output was church music, and this setting of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis is for what he is most often remembered. It is for choir in four parts and organ, but today is sung in an arrangement for solo voice and organ.

Remain standing. Then shall be sung the Apostles' Creed, by the Minister and the people standing, facing east.



Cantor. 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 Catholick Church; The Communion of Saints: The Forgiveness of sins: ✠ The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting.



A - men.

And after that, all face as before, and these Prayers follow.

Cantor. The Lord be with you.

(Plainsong)

Choir. And with thy spirit.

Cantor. Let us pray.

All kneel.

Cantor. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Choir. Christ, have mercy upon us.

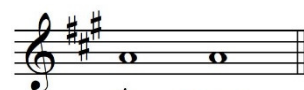
Cantor. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Then shall all intone the Lord's Prayer.



Cantor. Our Father

All. 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.



A - men.

The Prayers continue.

Cantor. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Choir. And grant us thy salvation.

Cantor. O Lord, save the Queen.

Choir. And mercifully hear 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.

Then shall follow the Collects; the first of the day; the second for Peace; and the third for Aid against all Perils, as hereafter followeth:



Leader. Almighty and everlasting God, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

Choir. Amen.

Leader. 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.

Choir. Amen.

Leader. 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.

Choir. Amen.

The final Responses are then sung.

(Plainsong)

Cantor. The Lord be with you.

Choir. And with thy spirit.

Cantor. The Lord give us his peace:

Choir. And life eternal. Amen.

Priest. ✠ May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy and love of God, rest in peace.

All. **Amen.**

The Congregation sits.

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

Anthem: *Jesu, Joy of man's desiring* (J.S. Bach)

Jesu, joy of man's desiring,
Holy wisdom, love most bright,
Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring,
Soar to uncreated light.
Word of God, our flesh that fashioned,
With the fire of life impassioned,
Striving still to Truth unknown,
Soaring, dying 'round Thy throne.

Through the way where hope is guiding,
Hark, what peaceful music rings,
Where the flock, in thee confiding,
Drink of joy from deathless springs.
Theirs is beauty's fairest pleasure,
Theirs is wisdom's holiest treasure.
Thou dost ever lead Thine own,
In the love of joys unknown.

*Text: att to Robert Bridges OM (1844-1930)
after Martin Janus (c.1620-c.1682)*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) is one of the best-known composers of all time. Much of his work has religious symbolism numerically or visually. His strong Lutheran faith allowed him to mix his religion with the art of counterpoint of his day. Jesu Joy of man's desiring is from Cantata number 147, Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben (BWV 147). This movement is very popular at weddings, funerals and other significant occasions, amongst others.

Priest. Let us pray.

All kneel as the Occasional Prayers are offered for the world, the Church, St John's, and all in need.

The prayers conclude:

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom.

Priest. 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.

All. Amen.

2 Corinthians xiii.

Priest. ✠ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore.

All. Amen.

All stand for the singing of the hymn.

Hymn: 424 *O Love divine, how sweet thou art!*

(Cornwall)

**1. O Love divine, how sweet thou art!
When shall I find my longing heart
All taken up by thee?
I thirst, I faint and die to prove
The greatness of redeeming love,
The love of Christ to me.**

**2. Stronger his love than death or hell,
Its riches are unsearchable:
The first-born sons of light
Desire in vain its depths to see;
They cannot reach the mystery,
The length and breadth and height.**

**3. God only knows the love of God;
O that it now were shed abroad
In this poor stony heart!
For love I sigh, for love I pine;
This only portion, Lord, be mine,
Be mine this better part.**

**4. For ever would I take my seat
With Mary at the Master's feet:
Be this my happy choice;
My only care, delight, and bliss,
My joy, my heaven on earth, be this,
To hear the Bridegroom's voice.**

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

All sit for the preaching of the Sermon.

The Sermon: Rev'd Fr Ernest Chau, *Rector Locum Tenens of Gordon*

*All stand for the singing of this hymn. Normally a **collection** would be taken during this hymn. Your offering for the work and ministry of the parish can be made as per the instructions on **page 15**. Thank you.*

Collection Hymn: 251 *Sun of my soul*

(Abends)

**1. Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear,
It is not night if thou be near;
O may no earth-born cloud arise
To hide thee from thy servant's eyes.**

**2. When the soft dews of kindly sleep
My wearied eyelids gently steep,
Be my last thought, how sweet to rest
For ever on my Saviour's breast.**

**3. Abide with me from morn till eve,
For without thee I cannot live;
Abide with me when night is nigh,
For without thee I dare not die.**

**4. If some poor wand'ring child of thine
Have spurned to-day the voice divine,
Now, Lord, the gracious work begin;
Let him no more lie down in sin.**

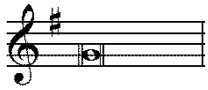
**5. Watch by the sick; enrich the poor
With blessings from thy boundless store;
Be every mourner's sleep to-night,
Like infant's slumbers, pure and right.**

**6. Come near and bless us when we wake,
Ere through the world our way we take;
Till in the ocean of thy love
We lose ourselves in heaven above.**

John Keble (1792-1866)

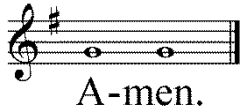
All remain standing as the Priest pronounces the Blessing.

✠ The Blessing



The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always.

All



A-men.

All stand for the recessional.

Organ Postlude: *Toccata à 4 Voc* (Sweelinck)

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621) was a Dutch organist, harpsichordist, composer and teacher of subsequent German composer-organists. In his organ works he pioneered the independence of the pedal part, and his works are noted for their development of fugal form. Certainly, elements of this polyphonic treatment can be heard in this Toccata. Toccata literally means 'touched', and is generally a keyboard work with lots of fast notes for the hands to play. Again, there is an element of this in this particular toccata.

Music notes © B. McKern, 2020.

Offerings

Your financial gift for the work and ministry of the parish can be made by via:

- *EFT: Name: St John's Church Gordon
 BSB: 032083
 A/C: 810231*
- *Post to: Church of St John the Evangelist
 PO Box 295
 Gordon, NSW, 2072*

Thank you.



ST JOHN'S MUSIC ASSOCIATION

St Augustine said that he who sings, prays twice. From before the building of the present St John's Church, for almost 145 years, music and liturgy have been important to the Parish.

The St John's Music Association Inc. was formed in 2009 to support, conduct and promote the performance of quality music at the Anglican Church of St John the Evangelist Gordon, in the Anglican Church in Australia and in the Sydney region through Anglican liturgical music, concerts and recitals, providing scholarships for organists and singers, maintaining and enhancing the organ of St John's, and providing musical scores and robes for use at St John's.

In 2011 the St John's Music Association was accepted on to the Register of Cultural Organisations. Donations of \$2 and over to the St John's Music Association Public Fund are tax deductible.

Please see Don Yorath (Association Public Officer) or Dr Brett McKern (Director of Music) for further information.

Please consider how you can support the Association or find out more about it. Just complete the information below and return it to PO Box 295 Gordon NSW 2072 or the Parish Office.



St John's Music Association Donation Form

Name:

Address:

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Email:

Phone:

- I wish to donate \$..... by –
- Cheque payable to St John's Music Association, or
- Direct credit to the Association's bank account BSB 032-089 A/c 274652. *Please include your name in the description box.*
Tax deductible receipts for donations of \$2 or more will be posted to donors.
- I wish to offer my services as a volunteer to the Association

The Public Officer's contact details:
Don Yorath – email musicassociation@stjohnsgordon.org.au Mobile 0419 285 263