Welcome to “Voices of Grace”, our virtual worship experience that features parishioners leading worship from their own homes. We hope you join us from yours! Wherever you are, we pray for your health and well-being. God bless you!

Jonathan+

Festal Choral Evensong for the Feast of the Ascension
Voices of Grace “Virtual” Worship
May 21, 2020

Voluntary

Majesté du Christ demandant sa gloire à son Père from l’Ascension

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

The Invitatory and Psalter

The Preces

Officiant

O God, make speed to save us.

People

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Al-le-lu-ia.

Please join in singing the Office Hymn on the following page.
THE OFFICE HYMN 221

Words: Medieval Latin; sts. 1-3, tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); st. 4, tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885)
Music: Gonfalon Royal, Percy Carter Buck (1871-1947)

Psalm 24

Sung by the Choir

Antiphon

He who came down from heaven has ascended far above all heavens.
He is the King of glory, Hallelujah!

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,*
the world and all who dwell therein.
For it is he who founded it upon the seas* 
and made it firm upon the rivers of the deep.
"Who can ascend the hill of the Lord? *
and who can stand in his holy place?"
"Those who have clean hands and a pure heart,*
who have not pledged themselves to falsehood,
nor sworn by what is a fraud.
They shall receive a blessing from the Lord *
and a just reward from the God of their salvation."
Such is the generation of those who seek him, *
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.
Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors; *
and the King of glory shall come in.
"Who is this King of glory?" *
"The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle."
Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors; *
and the King of glory shall come in.
"Who is he, this King of glory?" *
"The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory."
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: 
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Antiphon

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST READING  Hebrews 2:5-18

NOW God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere, ‘What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honour, subjecting all things under their feet.’ Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, ‘I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.’ And again, ‘I will put my trust in him.’ And again, ‘Here am I and the children whom God has given me.’ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Reader  The Word of the Lord.
People  Thanks be to God.

MAGNIFICAT

The Magnificat is Mary’s song of praise sung during the visitation to her cousin Elizabeth. As the Magnificat is sung, the High Altar is censed, representing the prayers of the people ascending with Christ up into heaven.
Magnificat anima mea Dominum;
Et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo, Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae; ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes. Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est, et sanctum nomen ejus, Et misericordia ejus a progenie in progenies timentibus eum. Fecit potentiam in bracchio suo; Dispersit superbos mente cordis sui. Deposuit potentes de sede, et exaltavit humiles. Esurientes implevit bonis, et divites dimisit inanes. Suscepit Israel, puerum suum, recordatus misericordiae suae, Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros, Abraham et semini ejus in saecula.

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
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 forever. 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: Oreste Ravanello (1871-1938)

THE SECOND READING

NOW the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

NUNC DIMITTIS

The Nunc Dimittis is sung by the prophet Simeon upon seeing the child Jesus presented in the Temple.


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: Plainsong
THE APOSTLES’ CREED

Believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

(The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who 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 those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE SUFFRAGES

(Cantor or Officiant)
That this evening may be holy, good, and peace-ful,

(We en-treat you, O Lord.)
THE COLLECTS

ALMIGHTY God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

ORD Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. Amen.

EEP watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love’s sake. Amen.

ANTHEM

ASCENDIT DEUS in jubilatione,  
et Dominus in voce tubae. Alleluia.  

God is gone up with a merry noise,  
and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet. Alleluia.

Words: Psalm 47:5a  
Music: Carlo Carturan (1858-1936)
A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Officiant    Let us pray.

A LMIGHTY God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

THE DISMISSAL AND GRACE

Cantor or Officiant
Let us bless the Lord.

People
Thanks be to God.

Officiant    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.

HYMN 215

1 See the Con - queror mounts in tri - umph; see the King in roy - al state,
2 He who on the cross did suf - fer, he who from the grave a - rose, he has van - quished sin and God’s right hand: there we sit in heaven - ly char - iot, to his heaven - ly pal - ace gate!
3 Thou hast raised our hu - man na - ture on the clouds to plac - es, there with thee in glo - ry stand.

Hark! the choirs of an - gel voic - es joyful
While he lifts his hands in bless - ing, he is
Jesus reigns, ad - dored by an - gels; Man with
This week, we pray for: Phyllis Noke, Ricky and Patty Birkes, Anne Clanton, the family of Louis Nielsen, Sarah, Diana, Ruby, Lola, Tim, Emily, Chris Yengbeh, Jo-Ann, James, Bob Scanlan, Robert Cramer, Bob Nelson, Kenneth Scanlan, Jerry Clifford, all those caring for the sick, those seeking treatments and vaccines for the virus, and all those whose work places them in harm’s way. We also pray for those members of our church who are homebound.

~ PRAYER LIST ~

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