

Choral Evensong
Sixth Sunday of Easter

5 May 2024

6.00pm



*Welcome to Liverpool Parish Church. All are welcome to take part as they feel called.
Evensong, which combines the ancient monastic services
of Vespers and Compline (evening and night prayer), and has been sung
in Cathedrals and Parish Churches all over the country since the sixteenth century.*



Organ: Ruhig bewegt (from Sonata 2) – Paul Hindemith (1895-1963)

*Please stand, as you are able, as the clergy enter and the choir sings the Introit:
This is the day that the Lord hath made. We will rejoice and be glad in it.*

Words: Psalm 118.24

Music: Anon

Priest: 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 such things as their well-being doth require. Wherefore let us kneel in silence, and remember God's presence with us now.

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.

Priest: 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.

The preces and responses are sung to a setting by William Byrd (1539-1623)

Cantor O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

○ God, make speed to save us.
○ 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.

Office hymn:

**Christ the Lord is risen again! Christ hath broken every chain!
Hark, the angels shout for joy, singing evermore on high, Alleluya!**

**He who gave for us his life, who for us endured the strife,
Is our Paschal Lamb today; we too sing for joy, and say Alleluya**

**He who bore all pain and loss comfortless upon the Cross
Lives in glory now on high, pleads for us, and hears our cry.
Alleluya!**

**He whose path no records tell, who descended into hell;
Who the strong man armed hath bound, now in highest heaven is
crowned. Alleluya!**

**Now he bids us tell abroad now the lost may be restored,
How the penitent forgiven, how we too may enter heaven.
Alleluya!**

**Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed, Christ, today thy people feed;
Take our sins and guilt away, that we all may sing for ay, Alleluya!**

Words: German Michael Weisse c.1480-1534

Translated by Catherine Winworth (1827-78)

Music: 'Orientis Partibus' French Medieval melody Harmony RVW (1872-1958)

Please sit as the choir sings Psalm 45

1. My heart is inditing of a good matter * I speak of the things which I have made unto the King.
2. My tongue is the pen * of a ready writer.
3. Thou art fairer than the children of men * full of grace are thy lips, because God hath blessed thee for ever.

4. Gird thee with thy sword upon thy thigh, O thou most Mighty * according to thy worship and renown.
 5. Good luck have thou with thine honour * ride on, because of the word of truth, of meekness, and righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things.
 6. Thy arrows are very sharp, and the people shall be subdued unto thee * even in the midst among the King's enemies.
 7. Thy seat, O God, endureth for ever * the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre.
 8. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity * wherefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.
 9. All thy garments smell of myrrh, aloes, and cassia * out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad.
 10. Kings' daughters were among thy honourable women * upon thy right hand did stand the queen in a vesture of gold, wrought about with divers colours.
 11. Hearken, O daughter, and consider, incline thine ear * forget also thine own people, and thy father's house.
 12. So shall the King have pleasure in thy beauty * for he is thy Lord God, and worship thou him.
 13. And the daughter of Tyre shall be there with a gift * like as the rich also among the people shall make their supplication before thee.
 14. The King's daughter is all glorious within * her clothing is of wrought gold.
 15. She shall be brought unto the King in raiment of needle-work * the virgins that be her fellows shall bear her company, and shall be brought unto thee.
 16. With joy and gladness shall they be brought * and shall enter into the King's palace.
 17. Instead of thy fathers thou shalt have children * whom thou mayest make princes in all lands.
 18. I will remember thy Name from one generation to another * therefore shall the people give thanks unto thee, world without end.
- [we stand for the Gloria Patri]*
- 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

Old Testament Reading (Song of Solomon 4.16-5.5, 8.6-7)

The choir sings the 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 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 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.

[we stand for the Gloria Patri]

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.

Music: Fourth Evening Service—Adrian Batten (1591-1637)

New Testament Reading (Revelation 3.14-end)

The choir sings 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.

[we stand for the Gloria Patri]

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.

Music: Fourth Evening Service—Adrian Batten (1591-1637)

Please remain standing to say the Apostles' Creed:

**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.**

Cantor The Lord be with you

Choir And with thy spirit

Cantor Let us pray.

[please kneel or sit]

Choir 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.

Cantor O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Choir 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 Collect of the Day:

O Lord, from whom all good things do come; Grant to us thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that be good, and by thy merciful guiding may perform the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. 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.

The choir sings the Anthem:

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Words: Colossians 3.1-4

Music: Orlando Gibbons (1582-1625)

Sermon— Mthr Jennifer Brady

Please kneel for the prayers:

The Grace: **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.**

Please stand to sing the hymn:

**Jesus lives! thy terrors now can, O Death, no more appal us;
Jesus lives! by this we know thou, O grave, canst not enthrall us.
Alleluia!**

**Jesus lives! henceforth is death but the gate of life immortal;
This shall calm our trembling breath, when we pass its gloomy
portal. Alleluia!**

**Jesus lives! for us he died; then, alone to Jesus living,
Pure in heart may we abide, glory to our Saviour giving. Alleluia!**

**Jesus lives! our hearts know well ought from us his love shall sever;
Life, nor death, nor powers of hell tear us from his keeping ever.
Alleluia!**

**Jesus lives! to him the throne over all the world is given;
May we go where he is gone, rest and reign with him in heaven.
Alleluia!**

Words: Christian Gellert (1715-69)

Music: 'St Albinus' Henry John Gauntlett (1905-76)

The Blessing:

... and the ✠blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Organ: Prelude and Fugue in D BuxWV139 – Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

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