



**CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT**  
**IN THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM**

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5:30 P.M.

JANUARY 19, 2023

*The Second Thursday after the Epiphany*

Choral Evensong

# VOLUNTARY

Fantasia

Thomas Morley

THE PEOPLE STAND.

## INTROIT

Harold Friedell

Saw you never, in the twilight, when the sun had left the skies,  
Up in heav'n the clear start shining  
Through the gloom, like silver eyes?  
So of old the wise men, watching, saw a little stranger star,  
And they knew the King was given, and they followed it from far.

Know ye not that lowly baby was the bright and morning Star?  
He who came to light the Gentiles, and the darken'd isles afar?  
And we, too, may seek his cradle;  
There our hearts' best treasures bring;  
Love, and faith, and true devotion for our Saviour, God, and King.

*-Cecil Frances Alexander*

Cecil Frances Humphreys Alexander (1818–1895) was a prolific writer of hymn texts, particularly for children (e.g., Hymnal Nos. 102, 405). The text of this anthem was set to music by Harold Friedell (1905–1958), former Organist and Master of the Choir at St. Bartholomew's Church in New York City. This setting appears as the last of *Eight Orisons* composed by Friedell and published in 1960.

## HYMN IN PROCESSION NO. 124

*Puer nobis*

## OPENING SENTENCES

For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to my name, and a pure offering. For my name will be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts.

*-Malachi 1:11*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 62*

Dear friends in Christ, here in the presence of Almighty God, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, so that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

**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.  
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,  
spare thou those who confess their faults,  
restore thou those who are penitent,  
according to thy promises declared unto mankind  
in Christ Jesus 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 DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant us absolution and remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE PEOPLE STAND.

# THE PRECES

Thomas Morley

SUNG BY THE CHOIR.

Precentor: O Lord, open thou our lips.

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

Precentor: O God, make speed to save us.

*Choir:* 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 PEOPLE SIT.

## PSALM 99

*Anglican Chant:* Edgar Frederick Day

SUNG BY THE CHOIR.

- 1 The Lord is King, be the people never so impatient;  
he sitteth between the cherubims; be the earth never so unquiet.
- 2 The Lord is great in Sion,  
and high above all people.
- 3 They shall give thanks unto thy Name  
which is great, wonderful, and holy.
- 4 The King's power loveth judgement; thou hast prepared equity,  
thou hast executed judgement and righteousness in Jacob.
- 5 O magnify the Lord our God,  
and fall down before his footstool; for he is holy.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among such as call upon his Name:  
these called upon the Lord, and he heard them.
- 7 He spake unto them out of the cloudy pillar;  
for they kept his testimonies, and the law that he gave them.

- 8 Thou heardest them, O Lord our God;  
    thou forgavest them, O God, and punishedst their own inventions.
- 9 O magnify the Lord our God, and worship him upon his holy hill;  
    for the Lord our God is holy.

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.

## A READING FROM THE FIRST EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS.

I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." <sup>13</sup>Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup>I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. <sup>18</sup>For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1:10-18)

Here endeth the Reading.

## Tone I in Fauxbourdon

SUNG BY THE CHOIR.

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 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.

*-Luke 1:46-55*

Thomas Morley (1557-1602) is primarily known as a madrigalist, though he composed some music for the church. Tonight's setting of the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* features both chant and *fauxbourdon*. In earlier polyphonic settings of these Canticles, composers would alternate verses sung to chant in the original church modes with sections of polyphony. The form of polyphony evolved over time, beginning with simple organum, or voices singing in parallel intervals, leading several centuries later to complex counterpoint and polyphony. Between these two points, in the fifteenth century, the practice of *fauxbourdon* was born. Meaning "false bass" in French, *fauxbourdon* is a method of harmonization utilizing parallel and consistent harmonies – such as fourths and sixths – below a chant or *cantus firmus*. This technique enables the text to be very clearly understood. By the time of Morley's composition, however, fauxbourdon was no longer a standard mode of composition, but rather, is utilized here for special effect, highlighting the text with a static harmonic underscoring. In fact, the type of harmony in these *fauxbourdon* sections is standard four-part writing within the context of the given mode, rather than the traditional use of parallel intervals.

## A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW.

Now when he heard that John had been arrested, Jesus withdrew into Galilee. <sup>13</sup>And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup>"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— <sup>16</sup>the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned." <sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." <sup>18</sup>While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. <sup>23</sup>And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. (4:12-23)

Here endeth the Reading.

Tone VII in Fauxbourdon

SUNG BY THE CHOIR.

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.

*-Luke 2:29-32*

THE PEOPLE STAND.



# THE APOSTLES' CREED

*PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 66*

**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 catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## THE RESPONSES

Richard Ayleward

SUNG BY THE CHOIR.

Precentor: The Lord be with you.

*Choir:* And with thy spirit.

Precentor: Let us pray.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

*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,  
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. Amen.

Precentor: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

*Choir:* And grant us thy salvation.

Precentor: O Lord, save the State.

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

Precentor: Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

*Choir:* And make thy chosen people joyful.

Precentor: O Lord, save thy people.

*Choir:* And bless thine inheritance.

Precentor: Give peace in our time, O Lord.

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

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

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

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and all the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## A 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 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.**

## A COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST 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.**

THE PEOPLE SIT.

## THE WELCOME

There shall a star from Jacob come forth,  
 And a sceptre from Israel rise up,  
 And dash in pieces princes and nations.

-Numbers 24:17

As bright the star of morning gleams,  
 So Jesus sheddeth glorious beams,  
 Of light and consolation!  
 Thy Word, O Lord,  
 Radiance darting, truth imparting,  
 Gives salvation;  
 Thine be praise and adoration!

-Philipp Nicolai

*There Shall a Star* by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) was composed as a chorus in his unfinished oratorio, *Christus*. The text is an excerpt from the Book of Numbers as well as a paraphrase of Philipp Nicolai's great Epiphany hymn *How Brightly Beams the Morning Star* (Hymnal No. 497).

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

## A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 72

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee, and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

## THE GRACE

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.**

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN NO. 117

*Morning Star*

VOLUNTARY    Finale (Andante), from *Sonata No. 6*, Op. 65    Felix Mendelssohn

THE PEOPLE REMAIN STANDING UNTIL THE PROCESSION LEAVES THE NAVE.

IF YOU DESIRE, KNEEL FOR A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER.





*Come to me,  
all who labor and are heavy laden,  
and I will give you rest.*

Matthew 11.28

The Church of the Advent was founded with the City of Birmingham in 1872.

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT (EPISCOPAL)  
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