



Choral Evensong
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 2020 · 5:00 pm

Order of Service

Prelude *Méditation* (Symphony no 1 in C minor) *Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)*

Please stand at the entrance of the ministers

Sentence

Officiant The day is thine, and the night is thine; thou hast prepared the light and the sun.

Opening Responses [*sung by the choir*]

Cantor O Lord, open thou our lips.

Response And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Cantor O God, make speed to save us.

Response O Lord, make haste to help us.

Cantor Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

Response As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end.
Amen.

Cantor Praise ye the Lord.

Response The Lord's name be praised.

Please sit for the Psalm

Psalm 34. 1-10, 22 [*sung by the choir*]

I will always give thanks unto the Lord : his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
My soul shall make her boast in the Lord : the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.
O praise the Lord with me : and let us magnify his Name together.
I sought the Lord, and he heard me : yea, he delivered me out of all my fear.
They had an eye unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed.



Lo, the poor crieth, and the Lord heareth him : yea, and saveth him out of all his troubles.
The angel of the Lord tarrieth round about them that fear him : and delivereth them.
O taste, and see, how gracious the Lord is : blessed is the man that trusteth in him.
O fear the Lord, ye that are his saints : for they that fear him lack nothing.
The lions do lack, and suffer hunger : but they who seek the Lord shall want no manner of thing that is good.
The Lord delivereth the souls of his servants : and all they that put their trust in him shall not be destitute.

[stand] 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.

First Lesson (*Esther 3:1–4:3*)

After these things King Ahasuerus promoted Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced him and set his seat above all the officials who were with him. And all the king's servants who were at the king's gate bowed down and did obeisance to Haman; for the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mordecai did not bow down or do obeisance. Then the king's servants who were at the king's gate said to Mordecai, "Why do you disobey the king's command?" When they spoke to him day after day and he would not listen to them, they told Haman, in order to see whether Mordecai's words would avail; for he had told them that he was a Jew. When Haman saw that Mordecai did not bow down or do obeisance to him, Haman was infuriated. But he thought it beneath him to lay hands on Mordecai alone. So, having been told who Mordecai's people were, Haman plotted to destroy all the Jews, the people of Mordecai, throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus.

In the first month, which is the month of Nisan, in the twelfth year of King Ahasuerus, they cast Pur—which means "the lot"—before Haman for the day and for the month, and the lot fell on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar. Then Haman said to King Ahasuerus, "There is a certain people scattered and separated among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom; their laws are different from those of every other people, and they do not keep the king's laws, so that it is not appropriate for the king to tolerate them. If it pleases the king, let a decree be issued for their destruction, and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver into the hands of those who have charge of the king's business, so that they may put it into the king's treasuries." So the king took his signet ring from his hand and gave it to Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the enemy of the Jews. The king said to Haman, "The money is given to you, and the people as well, to do with them as it seems good to you."

Then the king's secretaries were summoned on the thirteenth day of the first month, and an edict, according to all that Haman commanded, was written to the king's satraps and to the governors over all the provinces and to the officials of all the peoples, to every province in its own script and every people in its own language; it was written in the name of King Ahasuerus and sealed with the king's ring. Letters were sent by couriers to all the king's provinces, giving orders to destroy,



to kill, and to annihilate all Jews, young and old, women and children, in one day, the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, and to plunder their goods. A copy of the document was to be issued as a decree in every province by proclamation, calling on all the peoples to be ready for that day. The couriers went quickly by order of the king, and the decree was issued in the citadel of Susa. The king and Haman sat down to drink; but the city of Susa was thrown into confusion.

When Mordecai learned all that had been done, Mordecai tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes, and went through the city, wailing with a loud and bitter cry; he went up to the entrance of the king's gate, for no one might enter the king's gate clothed with sackcloth. In every province, wherever the king's command and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting and weeping and lamenting, and most of them lay in sackcloth and ashes.

Here ends the first Lesson.

Magnificat [*sung by the choir*]

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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.

[*stand*] 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: Evening Service in A *Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995)*



Second Lesson (*James 1:19-27*)

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Here ends the second Lesson.

Nunc dimittis [*sung by the choir*]

p. 66

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.

[*stand*] 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: Evening Service in A *Herbert Sumsion* (1899-1995)

The Apostles' Creed [*stand and turn East*]

p. 66

All **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 choir sings

Cantor The Lord be with you.
Response And with thy spirit.
Cantor Let us pray.

Please kneel

Cantor Lord, have mercy upon us.
Response Christ, have mercy upon us.
Cantor 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.
Response And grant us thy salvation.
Cantor O Lord, save the State.
Response And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Cantor Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
Response And make thy chosen people joyful.
Cantor O Lord, save thy people.
Response And bless thine inheritance.



Cantor Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Response Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
Cantor O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Response And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect for the Day

p. 182

Grant us, O Lord, not to mind earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to cleave to those that shall abide; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The 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 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.

Homily

The Rev. Dr. Cheryl McFadden

Anthem

Giuseppe Pitoni (1657-1743)

Cantate Domino canticum novum; laus ejus in ecclesia sanctorum.
Laetetur Israel in eo qui fecit eum, et filii Sion exsultent in rege suo.

*O sing unto the Lord a new song: let the congregation of saints praise him.
Let Israel rejoice in him that made him: and let the children of Sion be joyful in their King.*



[Psalm 149:1-2]

Intercessions *[kneel or stand]*

Officiant Let us pray.

We pray for all those affected by the fires and all those who work to contain the fires;

For those in our nation suffering under injustice;

For all infected with the coronavirus, all who care for them, and all who work for a cure;

For our teachers, principals, and all those who dedicate their lives to the education of our children; that they would be granted wisdom, compassion, and clarity as they navigate a return to school;

For all parents and children; that they would be kept safe and feel your peace as they enter a new and different school year;

For our partners in faith... **First United Methodist Church in Greenwich, the Diocese of Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, the Episcopal Church of Cuba,** and in the Anglican cycle of prayer, **the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan...** for all bishops, clergy and people....

For those participating in the Bible Challenge...

For those who have been commended to us, especially **Jeanette Watkins Pickens, Michael and Annie Yardis, Robert Lloyd Doty, Rosetta Copeland, the Mazza family, Kay Sterling and family, Alisa Schwartz, Val Puskar, Chet Risio, Katherine, Susan Morris, Mae, Scott...**

For those who have died... and for **Betsy Walsh**, in whose memory the altar flowers are given today...

And we pray for all those whom we name now, either silently or aloud...

[The people may add their own prayers and thanksgivings.]

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ hast destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to life: Grant that we, being raised together with him, may know the comfort and strength of his presence,



and rejoice in hope of thy everlasting glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom be dominion and praise for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Officiant 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.**

All **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.**

Hymn

Savannah

[Sung by the choir. Viewers from home are invited to join in singing. Those attending the service in-person are asked to refrain from singing.]

Love's redeeming work is done,
Fought the fight, the battle won.
Death in vain forbids him rise;
Christ has opened paradise.

Lives again our glorious King;
Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Once he died our souls to save;
Where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led,
Following our exalted Head;
Made like him, like him we rise,
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Officiant The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Voluntary Allegro (Symphony no 6 in G minor)

Widor



During the voluntary, the ministers depart.

If you have been moved by the witness of Christ Church and would like to know more about joining this parish, please visit christchurchgreenwich.org/membership/

Serving Today

<i>Officiant & Preacher</i>	The Rev. Dr. Cheryl McFadden
<i>Director of Music</i>	Jamie Hitel
<i>Organist</i>	Jonathan Vaughn
<i>Choir</i>	Choir of Men & Boys