

PARISH OF ESHER
Christ Church, Esher with St George's, West End

Evening Prayer

Eve of Philip and James, Apostles



*'Whoever serves me,
the Father will honour.'*

John 12.26b

Opening Organ Voluntary

Arrival of the Queen of Sheba

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

The Gathering

The Greeting

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

Candle 1

I will light a light in the name of the Maker,
who lit the world and breathed the breath of life for me.

Candle 2

I will light a light in the name of the Son
who saved the world and stretched out his hand to me.

Candle 3

I will light a light in the name of the Spirit,
who encompasses the world and blessed my soul with yearning.

We will light three lights for the Trinity of love:

God above us, God beside us, God beneath us;

the beginning, the end, the everlasting one.

Amen.

Hymn

Angel voices, ever singing

Angel-voices ever singing
round thy throne of light,
angel-harps for ever ringing,
rest not day nor night;
thousands only live to bless thee
and confess thee Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest
mortal eye can scan,
can it be that thou regardest
songs of sinful man?
Can we know that thou art near us,
and wilt hear us? Yea, we can.

Yea, we know that thou rejoicest
o'er each work of thine;
thou didst ears and hands and voices
in thy praise design;
craftsman's art and music's measure
for thy pleasure all combine.

In thy house, great God, we offer
of thine own to thee;
and for thine acceptance proffer
all unworthily
hearts and minds and hands and voices
in our choicest psalmody.

Honour, glory, might and merit
thine shall ever be,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
blessèd Trinity.
Of the best that thou hast given
earth and heaven render thee.

The Word of God

Isaiah 40.27-end

Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
'My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God'?
Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Psalms 25

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
- 2 **O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.**
- 3 Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
- 4 **Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.**
- 5 Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.

- 6 **Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.**
- 7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O Lord!
- 8 **Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**
- 9 He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.
- 10 **All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.**
- 11 For your name's sake, O Lord,
pardon my guilt, for it is great.
- 12 **Who are they that fear the Lord?
He will teach them the way that they should choose.**
- 13 They will abide in prosperity,
and their children shall possess the land.
- 14 **The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him,
and he makes his covenant known to them.**
- 15 My eyes are ever towards the Lord,
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.
- 16 **Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.**
- 17 Relieve the troubles of my heart,
and bring me out of my distress.
- 18 **Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.**
- 19 Consider how many are my foes,
and with what violent hatred they hate me.
- 20 **O guard my life, and deliver me;
do not let me be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.**
- 21 May integrity and uprightness preserve me,
for I wait for you.
- 22 **Redeem Israel, O God,
out of all its troubles.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;

**as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever.**

Amen.

John 12.20-26

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

Hymn

Lord of all power, I give you my will

Lord of all power, I give you my will,
in joyful obedience your tasks to fulfil.
Your bondage is freedom; your service is song,
and, held in your keeping, my weakness is strong.

Lord of all wisdom, I give you my mind,
rich truth that surpasses man's knowledge to find.
What eye has not seen and what ear has not heard
is taught by your Spirit and shines from your word.

Lord of all bounty, I give you my heart;
I praise and adore you for all you impart:
your love to inspire me, your counsel to guide,
your presence to cheer me, whatever betide.

Lord of all being, I give you my all;
if e'er I disown you, I stumble and fall;
but, sworn in glad service your word to obey,
I walk in your freedom to the end of the way.

Reflection

Anthem

Cantate Domino
Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni (1657-1743)

Prayers

Between each intercession we sing:

Through our lives and by our prayers,
your kingdom come.

Collect

Almighty Father,
whom truly to know is eternal life:
teach us to know your Son Jesus Christ
as the way, the truth, and the life;
that we may follow the steps
of your holy apostles Philip and James,
and walk steadfastly in the way that leads to your glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours, now and for ever.**

Amen.

Hymn

O praise ye the Lord

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth;
praise him who hath brought you his grace from above,
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.

O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,
and, sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.

O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured all ages along:
for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!
Amen, amen

The Dismissal

For all that God can do within us,
for all that God can do without us.

Thanks be to God.

For all in whom Christ lived before us,
For all in whom Christ lives beside us.

Thanks be to God.

For all the Spirit wants to bring us,
for where the Spirit wants to send us.

Thanks be to God.

Listen,
Christ has promised to be with us,
in the world as in our worship.

We go to serve him.

Amen.

Closing Organ Voluntary

Paeon

Philip Moore (b.1943)

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Evening Prayer Order of Service 1 May 2022

