

# Choral Evensong Book of Common Prayer

Introit He is risen Whitlock

He is risen, he is risen, Tell it with a joyful voice; He has burst His three days' prison; Let the whole wide earth rejoice.

Death is conquered, We are free Christ has won the victory. Come ye sad and fearful-hearted, With glad smile and radiant brow.

Lent's long shadows have departed All His woes are over now And the passion that He bore Sin and pain can vex no more.

Come, with high and holy hymning, Chant our Lord's triumphant lay; Not one darksome cloud is dimming yonder glorious morning ray,

Breaking o'er the purple East, Brighter far our Easter feast

C. F. Alexander (1818-1895)

## Preces Radcliffe

O Lord, open thou our lips: And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us:

O Lord, make haste to help us.

continued...

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.

## Psalmody Psalm 28 Goss/Bairstow

- Unto thee will I cry O Lord my strength: think no scorn of me, lest if thou make as though thou hearest not, I become like them that go down in to the pit.
- 2 Hear the voice of my humble petitions when I cry un-to thee when I hold up my hands towards the mercy-seat of thy holy temple.
- O pluck me not away, neither destroy me with the ungodly and wicked doers: which speak friendly to their neighbours, but imagine mischief in their hearts.
- 4 Reward them according to their deeds: and according to the wickedness of their own inventions.
- 5 Recompense them after the work of · their hands: pay them that they have deserved.
- 6 For they regard not in their mind the works of the Lord, nor the operation of his hands: therefore shall he break them down and not build them up.
- 7 Praised be the Lord: for he hath heard the voice of my humble petitions.
- The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart hath trusted in him and I am helped: therefore my heart danceth for joy, and in my song will I | praise him.
- 9 The Lord is my strength: and he is the wholesome defence of his Anointed:

O save thy people, and give thy blessing unto thine inheritance: feed them and set them up 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.

Please sit

## Old Testament Reading Exodus 19

At the third new moon after the Israelites had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day, they came into the wilderness of Sinai. They had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.' So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. The people all answered as one: 'Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do.' Moses reported the words of the people to the Lord. Then the Lord said to Moses, 'I am going to come to you in a dense cloud, in order that the people may hear when I speak with you and so trust you ever after.' When Moses had told the words of the people to the Lord, the Lord said to Moses: 'Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow. Have them wash their clothes and prepare for the third day, because on the third day the Lord will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. You shall set limits for the people all around, saying, "Be careful not to go up the mountain or to touch the edge of it. Any who touch the mountain shall be put to death. No

hand shall touch them, but they shall be stoned or shot with arrows; whether animal or human being, they shall not live." When the trum pet sounds a long blast, they may go up on the mountain.' So Moses went down from the mountain to the people. He consecrated the people, and they washed their clothes. And he said to the people, 'Prepare for the third day; do not go near a woman.' On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, as well as a thick cloud on the mountain, and a blast of a trumpet so loud that all the people who were in the camp trembled. Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God. They took their stand at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke, because the Lord had descended upon it in fire; the smoke went up like the smoke of a kiln, while the whole mountain shook violently. As the blast of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses would speak and God would answer him in thunder. When the Lord descended upon Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain, the Lord summoned Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up. Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Go down and warn the people not to break through to the Lord to look; otherwise many of them will perish. Even the priests who approach the Lord must consecrate themselves or the Lord will break out against them.' Moses said to the Lord, 'The people are not permitted to come up to Mount Sinai; for you yourself warned us, saying, "Set limits around the mountain and keep it holy." 'The Lord said to him, 'Go down, and come up bringing Aaron with you; but do not let either the priests or the people break through to come up to the Lord; otherwise he will break out against them.' So Moses went down to the people and told them.

Please stand.

## Office Hymn

Now is eternal life, If risen with Christ we stand, In him to life reborn, And holden in his hand; No more we fear death's ancient dread, In Christ arisen from the dead.

- 2 Man long in bondage lay,
  Brooding o'er life's brief span;
  Was it, O God, for nought,
  For nought, thou madest man?
  Thou art our hope, our vital breath;
  Shall hope undying in death?
- And God, the living God,
  Stooped down to man's estate;
  By death destroying death,
  Christ opened wide life's gate.
  He lives, who died; he reigns on high;
  Who lives in him shall never die.
- 4 Unfathomed love divine,
  Reign thou within my heart;
  From thee nor depth nor height,
  Nor life nor death can part;
  My life is hid in God with thee,
  Now and through all eternity.

Canon George Wallace Briggs (1875-1959)

Please remain standing.

## Magnificat Noble in B minor

My soul doth magnify the Lord:
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour,
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,

continued...

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.

Please sit.

## New Testament Reading Luke 1. 1-25

Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed. In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.' Zechariah said to the angel, 'How will I know that this is so? For I am an old

man, and my wife is getting on in years.' The angel replied, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.' Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he went to his home. After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, 'This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favourably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.'

Please stand.

### Nunc Dimittis Noble in B minor

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.

Please remain standing.

# The Apostles' Creed

#### 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 Responses

The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

## The Lord's Prayer

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.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us. And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen.

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

Merciful God, who raised up your servant Alphege to be a pastor of your people and gave him grace to suffer for justice and true religion: grant that we who celebrate his martyrdom may know the power of the risen Christ in our hearts and share his peace in lives offered to your service; 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 Collect of 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 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.

#### Anthem Ye choirs of new Jerusalem Stanford

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem Your sweetest notes employ, The Paschal victory to hymn In strains of holy joy.

For Judah's Lion burst his chains Crushing the serpent's head; And cries aloud through death's domains To wake the imprisoned dead.

Devouring depths of hell their prey At his command restore; His ransomed hosts pursue their way Where Jesus goes before.

Triumphant in His glory now
To Him all power is given;
To Him in one communion bow
All saints in earth and heaven.

While we his soldiers praise our King, His mercy we implore, Within his palace bright to bring And keep us evermore.

All glory to the Father be, All glory to the Son, All glory, Holy Ghost, to thee, While endless ages run. Alleluia! Amen.

Bishop Fulbert of Chartres (c960-1028) English: Robert Campbell Please remain seated or kneel.

## The Prayers of Intercession

After each petition, one of these responses may be used.

Lord, in thy mercy, Lord, hear us.

All hear our prayer. Lord, graciously hear us.

These prayers may conclude with the Grace.

All 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.

**Notices** 

Please stand.

## Offertory Hymn

- 1 Alleluia, Alleluia!
  hearts to heaven and voices raise;
  sing to God a hymn of gladness,
  sing to God a hymn of praise:
  he who on the Cross a victim
  for the world's salvation bled,
  Jesus Christ the King of glory,
  now is risen from the dead
- 2 Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits of the holy harvest field, which will all its full abundance at his second coming yield; then the golden ears of harvest will their heads before him wave, ripened by his glorious sunshine, from the furrows of the grave.

- 3 Christ is risen, we are risen; shed upon us heavenly grace, rain and dew, and gleams of glory from the brightness of thy face; that we, with our hearts in heaven, here on earth may fruitful be, and by angel-hands be gathered, and be ever, Lord, with thee.
- 4 Alleluia, Alleluia, glory be to God on high; Alleluia to the Saviour, who has gained the victory; Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity; Alleluia, Alleluia, to the Triune Majesty.

Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885)

The Blessing

**Organ Voluntary** 

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