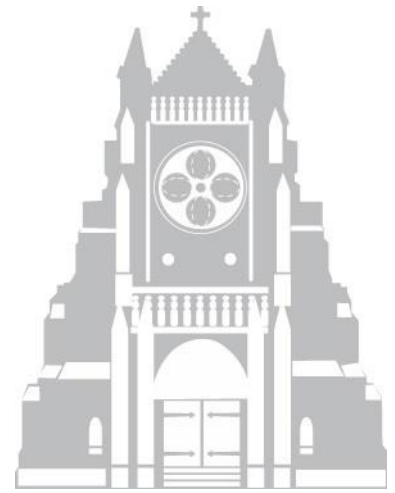


THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL

Detroit, Michigan

The Very Reverend Joseph Caldwell Alsay
Dean of the Cathedral

The Right Reverend Dr. Bonnie A. Perry
Bishop of the Diocese of Michigan



March 15, 2026

The Fourth Sunday in Lent: Laetare
Cathedral Evensong, 4:00 p.m.

Welcome! Our vision is to be an extraordinary spiritual gathering place where people of all backgrounds and ages are welcome to question and learn, pray, worship and serve; being loved by God in ways that change and improve their lives and the lives of others.

*Please silence all electronic devices.
This service is also being streamed on our YouTube channel.*

Concerning the service

Evensong is an offering in song to God, the giver of all beauty and goodness. Based on services held daily in the medieval Church, Evensong as arranged in the Book of Common Prayer of the Anglican Church has been sung regularly since the sixteenth century, with only a few breaks (during the Commonwealth in the seventeenth century). This atmospheric and deeply personal form of worship appeals to persons of many faiths and has been adopted as an American tradition in many parishes and cathedrals of the Episcopal Church

Following the Invitatory, we sing (at times) a setting of the ancient *Phos hilaron*, a hymn originally sung in Greek at the lighting of the lamps at the time of Evening Prayer. This is followed by the singing of the appointed psalm. A lesson, usually from the Old Testament (except of Saints days and in Easter season) is read and we then sing the first of the traditional Evening Canticles, *Magnificat*, the song of the Blessed Virgin Mary when the promises of the Old Testament came true (Luke 1). A lesson from the New Testament proclaims the good news of Jesus Christ, and this is followed by the *Nunc Dimittis*, the song of the aged Simeon when he had seen our Lord in the Temple at Jerusalem (Luke 2). *Nunc Dimittis* is a particularly appropriate text at the end of one's day.

All then say the Apostles' Creed, an expression of faith of those who, generation by generation in the Christian Church, respond to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, crucified and alive. Prayers are then sung and said, ending with the Collects which collect our thoughts.

The timeless and simple liturgy of Evensong readily embraces musical expressions from many centuries. Here in the Cathedral, Evensong is offered weekly at 4:00 p.m., September through May. On the first and third Sundays of the month, Cathedral Evensong (the service offered this afternoon) is sung by the congregation. On the second and fourth Sundays of the month, Choral Evensong is sung by one of the Cathedral choirs.

At the bell, please stand as you are able. The procession enters the Cathedral and the Officiant then begins with
The Opening Sentences

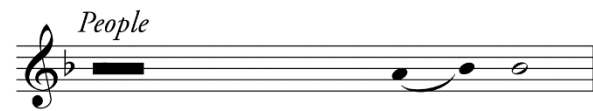
Let my prayer be set forth in thy sight as the incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.
Psalm 141:2

I will bless the Lord, who giveth me counsel; my heart teacheth me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalm 16:7,8*

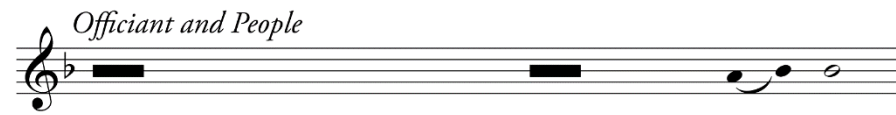
The Invitatory



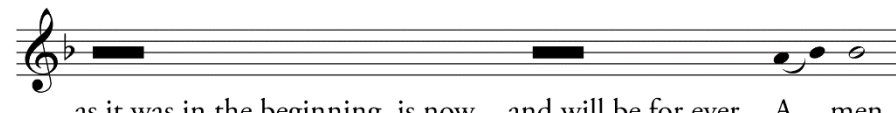
O God, make speed to save us.



O Lord, make haste to help us.



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spi - rit:



as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A - men.

All sing the following refrain as indicated.

Phos hilon

André Gouzes (1943-2024)

O ra - diant Light, e - ter - - - nal

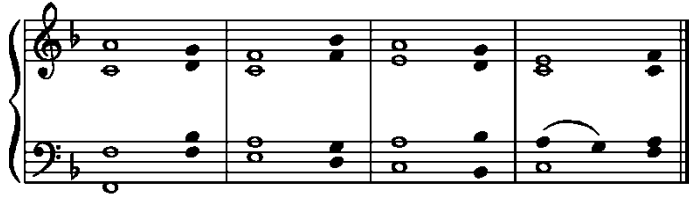
joy of the Fa - ther, O ho - ly and bless - ed Je - sus Christ!

Now at the setting of the sun, our eyes behold the fading light,
 We praise the Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit of God. **Refrain**

Worthy are you at all time to be praised by the song of all the saints,
 Son of God who gave us Life, let the world sing forth your praise. **Refrain**

All then sing

Psalm 19:7-8, 11-14 *Caeli ennarant*



7 The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the / soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the / innocent.

8 The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the / heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the / eyes.

11 By them also is your servant en-/ lightened, *
and in keeping them there is great re-/ ward.

12 Who can tell how often he of-/ fends? *
cleanse me from my secret / faults.

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion / over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great of-/ fense.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your / sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my re-/deemer.

Please stand as you are able.

Glory to the Father, and to the / Son, * and to the Holy / Spirit:
As it was in the beginning, is / now, * and will be for ever. A-/ men.

Please be seated.

The First Lesson *Genesis 48:8-22*

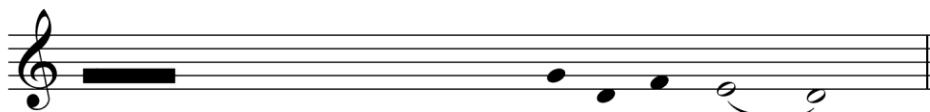
Please stand as you are able and sing

Magnificat

Tonus Peregrinus



1. My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Sav - ior;



for he has looked with favor on his low - ly ser - vant.



2. From this day all generations will call me bless - ed; the Almighty has done great things for me,



and ho - ly is his Name. 3. He has mercy on those who fear him

in every gen - er - a - tion. 4. He has shown the strength of his arm,

he has scattered the proud in their con - ceit. 5. He has cast down the might - y

from their thrones, and has lifted up the low - ly. 6. He has filled the hun - gry

with good things, and the rich he has sent a - way emp - ty. 7. He has come to the help of

his ser - vant Is - ra - el, for he has remembered his promise of mer - cy.

8. The promise he made to our fa - thers, to Abraham and his children for ev - er.

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit;

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for ev - er. A - men.

Please be seated.

The Second Lesson *John 6:27-40*

Please stand as you are able and sing

Nunc dimittis

plainchant

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has been ful - filled.

My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:

a light to re-veal you to the na-tions and the glo-ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,

as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev - er. A - - men.

Remaining standing, all say together
The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the Virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

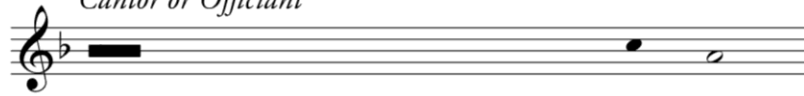
Officiant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People
 Our Father, who 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.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Suffrages

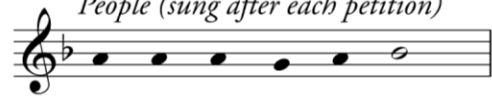
Cantor or Officiant



A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a dotted quarter note on G4, and a half note on A4.

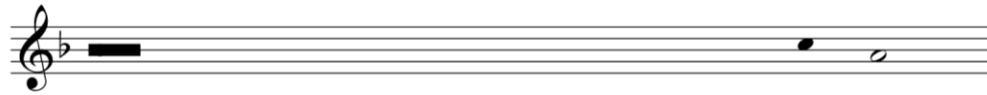
That this evening may be holy, good, and peace - ful,

People (sung after each petition)



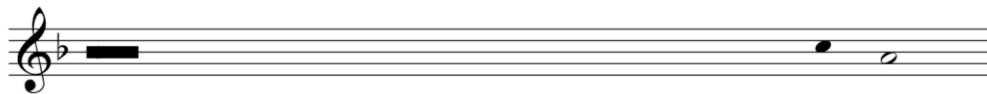
A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a dotted quarter note on G4, followed by quarter notes on A4, B4, C5, and a half note on D5.

We en-treat you, O Lord.



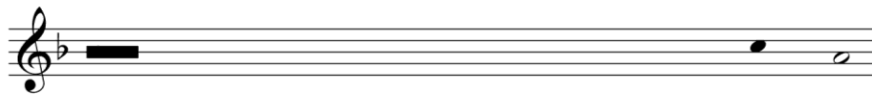
A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a dotted quarter note on G4, and a half note on A4.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and good - will,



A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a dotted quarter note on G4, and a half note on A4.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and of - fen - ses,



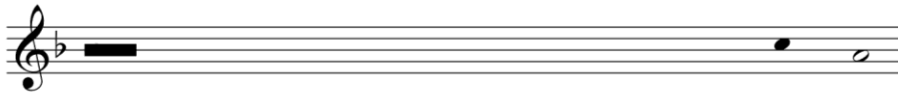
A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a dotted quarter note on G4, and a half note on A4.

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,



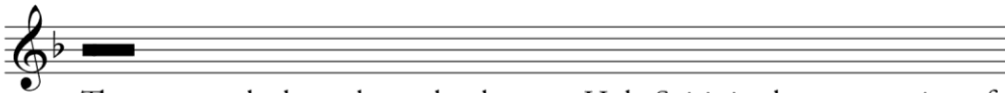
A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a dotted quarter note on G4, and a half note on A4.

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear,



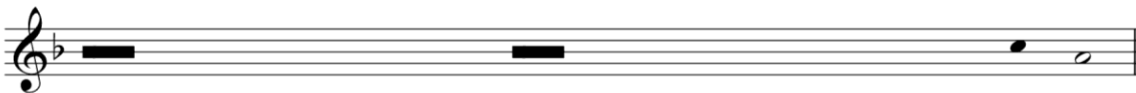
A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a dotted quarter note on G4, and a half note on A4.

and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,



A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a dotted quarter note on G4, and a half note on A4.

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of



A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a dotted quarter note on G4, a whole rest, and a half note on A4.

[_____ and] all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

The Officiant sings or says

The Collects

The Collect of the Day

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Collect for Peace

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. *Amen.*

A Collect for Mission

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. *Amen.*

All sing

Hymn 24

The day thou gavest

St. Clement

Please be seated.

The Homily

The Very Reverend Joseph C. Alsay

Please kneel for

Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgivings

Please stand. All say together


A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God,

you have given us grace at this time with one accord
to make our common supplication to you;
and you have promised through your well-beloved Son
that when two or three are gathered together in his Name
you will be in the midst of them:

Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us;
granting us in this world knowledge of your truth,
and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Cantor or Officiant



Let us bless the Lord.____

The musical notation consists of a single staff in G-clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), Bb4-A4 (half), G4 (half).

People



Thanks be to God.____

The musical notation consists of a single staff in G-clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), Bb4-A4 (half), G4 (half).

The Officiant then concludes with

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.** 2 Corinthians 13:14

or this

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Romans 15:13

or this

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** Ephesians 3:20,21

Please stand as the procession leaves the Cathedral.

In this afternoon's liturgy

Officiant

Dean Alsay

Cantors

John O'Brien and Chad Johnson

Lector and Acolyte

Paula Styer

Technology

Alan Cooper

Organist

Canon Jeremy David Tarrant

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