

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 22, 2026

The Feast of the Annunciation (observed)

Choral Evensong, 4:00 p.m.

with the Cathedral Choir

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 livestreamed on our Facebook page and YouTube channel.



CONCERNING THE SERVICE

Choral 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. 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. In this service most of the music is sung by the Choir, and the Congregation participates by listening to and meditating on the praises, prayers and petitions offered. All join the Choir in singing the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the hymns.

After the introduction to the service (the Hymn or Introit, and the Preces), the Choir sings the appointed psalm(s). A lesson usually from the Old Testament (except of Saints days and in Easter season) follows. The Choir then sings 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 sing 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 sung by the Choir, ending with the Collects which collect our thoughts.

The timeless and simple liturgy of Evensong readily embraces musical expressions from many centuries. In Choral Evensong, the Choir's responses are drawn earlier versions of the Book of Common Prayer, which remains the standard form of text for almost all musical settings of this liturgy owing to the unique beauty of its cadences and imagery.

Evensong is offered each Sunday at 4:00 p.m., September through May. Cathedral Evensong with hymns and canticles sung by the congregation is offered on the first and third Sundays of the month, and Choral Evensong, sung by the Choir is offered on the Second and fourth Sundays of the month. There are occasional exceptions to this pattern.

CHORAL EVENSONG

Organ

Psalm Prelude, set 1, no. 2

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

At the bell, please stand. All then sing

Hymn at the Procession



1 Vir - gin - born, we bow be - fore thee: bless - ed was the
2 Bless - ed she by all cre - a - tion, who brought forth the
womb that bore thee;— Ma - ry, Mo - ther meek and mild,—
world's sal - va - tion, and bless - ed they, for - ev - er blest, who
bless - ed was she in her Child. Bless - ed was the
love thee most and serve thee best. Vir - gin - born we
breast that fed thee; bless - ed was the hand that led thee;
bow be - fore thee; bless - ed was the womb that bore thee;
bless - ed was the par - ent's eye that
Ma - ry, Moth - er meek and mild, _____
watched thy slum - bering in - fan - cy.
bless - ed was she in her Child.

Words Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

Music Psalm 86, Claude Goudimel (1514-1572)

The Officiant continues.

The Opening Sentences

GRACE be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*

O send out thy light and thy truth, that they may lead me, and bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy dwelling.

Psalm 43:3

The Congregation remains standing and the Choir sings

The Preces

Paul Spicer (b. 1952)

- V O Lord, open thou our lips:
R And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.
V O God, make speed to save us:
R 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.

V Praise ye the Lord.
R The Lord's Name be praised.

The Choir continues with
Psalm 40:5-10

Expectans, expectavi

Anglican chant: William Crotch
(1775-1847)

GREAT things are they that you have done, O LORD my God! how great your wonders and your plans for us! *
there is none who can be compared with you.

- 6 Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! * but they are more than I can count.
7 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure * (you have given me ears to hear you);
8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, * and so I said, "Behold, I come.
9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: * 'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep in my heart.'"
10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; * behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O LORD, you know.

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 be seated.

The First Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-14

THE Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel."

The Choir then sings

Magnificat

Collegium regale, Herbert Howells

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.

Please stand as you are able.

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 be seated.

The Second Lesson

Saint Luke 1:26-38

IN the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Choir then sings

Nunc dimittis

plainchant, mode 7

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.

Please stand as you are able.

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.

All sing together on one note

The Apostles' Creed

IBELIEVE 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
The Lesser Litany

Spicer

V The Lord be with you.
R And with thy spirit.
V Let us pray.
R Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

All sing on one note
The Lord's Prayer

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. Amen.

The Choir sings
The Responses

Spicer

V O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;
R And grant us thy salvation.
V O Lord, save the State;
R And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
V Endue thy ministers with righteousness;
R And make thy chosen people joyful.
V O Lord, save thy people;
R And bless thine inheritance.
V Give peace in our time, O Lord;
R Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
V O God, make clean our hearts within us;
R And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collects

The Collect of the Day

WE beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts, that we who have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought unto the glory of his resurrection; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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 all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

A Collect for Mission

KEEP watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine 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 thy love's sake. *Amen.*

All sing

Hymn 656

Blessed are the pure in heart

Franconia

The Homily

The Very Reverend Joseph C. Alsay

The Choir sings

Anthem

Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)

AVE Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum: benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui. Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus nunc et hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of womb. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Please stand as you are able. All say together

The General Thanksgiving

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of all mercies,
Awe thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving kindness
to us and to all whom thou hast made.
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Officiant says

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.* 2 Corinthians 13:14

The Choir sings
The Final Responses

Edward Naylor (1867-1934)

V The Lord be with you.
R And with thy spirit.
V The Lord give us his peace.
R And life eternal. Amen.

Please remain standing as the Procession leaves the Cathedral.

Organ Fugue on the Magnificat, BWV 733

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

IN THIS EVENING'S LITURGY

Officiant and Homilist

The Very Reverend Joseph C. Alsay

Lector

Ms. Erin McClellan

Acolyte

Mr. Matthew O'Brien

Technology

Ms. Florence Williams

The Cathedral Choir is under the direction of Canon Jeremy David Tarrant, Organist and Choirmaster. They are joined today by guest organist, Mr. Glenn Miller.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Week and Easter Services

A complete list of services Palm Sunday through Easter Day is included in your bulletin this afternoon.

The Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross is offered each Friday in Lent at 12:10 p.m.

Easter Egg Hunt – candy donations requested

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Easter Day (April 5). *We ask you to donate individually wrapped candy or non-food items for this event.* Please place any donations in the marked container in the Gallery by Sunday, March 29. We are thankful for your support and donations to make this Easter Egg Hunt Possible. Please contact Carmen Piggins at cpiggins@edomi.org with any questions.

Easter Flowers

Easter flower donation forms are available on the table in the Gallery. Please note the deadline for submission of thanksgivings and memorials for the Easter bulletins, and thank you for your help in adorning the Cathedral for Easter services.

E-mail Scams

How to Spot Scam Emails: A Basic Guide is now available on the main page of the Cathedral's website (detroitcathedral.org) for your reference. This short guide offers helpful tips for recognizing phishing emails and

protecting your personal information. We encourage all congregation members to review it and stay informed. *Hard copies are available on the bulletin board in the Gallery.* If you have any questions, please contact info@detroitcathedral.org or speak directly with our Parish Coordinator, Erin McClellan.

Be a Coffee Hour Host

We invite you to consider helping with Cathedral hospitality by signing-up to host a coffee hour after an 11:00 a.m. Sunday service. For more information see the bulletin board in the Gallery.

Weekday services in the Cathedral

Weekday services in the Cathedral have been restored. A brief service of Holy Eucharist is offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:10 p.m. in Grace Chapel.

Personnel Update

Associate Organist and Communications Coordinator, Edward Poston, is stepping down from his position on the staff effective March 31. We wish Mr. Poston the best in his transition to a new post. Dean Alsay and Canon Tarrant are currently exploring a candidate to succeed Mr. Poston, with the goal of having a new person in this vital role before the end of the current choir season.



Diverse people Daily relevance Inspiring space

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HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT THE CATHEDRAL



March 29, The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

- 7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer in Nativity Chapel
8:15 a.m. The Liturgy of the Palms, the Passion, and Holy Eucharist
11:00 a.m. *The Liturgy of the Palms, Choral Eucharist, and Sung Passion
with the Cathedral Choir

Please note that Evensong will not be offered this day.

March 30, Monday in Holy Week

- 7:00 p.m. A Prayer Service for Anxious Times
This service will take place across our diocese and across the church. We know that Holy Week does not rush past sorrow, grief, or despair. We enter this time of prayer with tenderness towards ourselves and one another, and with confidence in the mercy of Christ, who walks this path with us.

March 31, Tuesday in Holy Week

Bishop Perry and Bishop Kreiss will celebrant two, joint Chrism Masses. We invite clergy and lay to attend either one.

Chrism Mass & Clergy Renewal of Vows

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Detroit, 11:00 a.m.

Holy Faith Church, Saline, 7:00 p.m.

April 2, Maundy Thursday

- 12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist in Nativity Chapel
7:00 p.m. Choral Eucharist with Foot Washing
with the Cathedral Choir
A prayer vigil follows the service until 12 Midnight.

April 3, Good Friday

- 12:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy
with the Schola Cantorum
2:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross
7:00 p.m. Tenebrae – A Service of Shadows

April 4, Easter Eve

- 8:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter | Bishop Perry, Celebrant; Dean Alsay, Preacher
Holy Baptism, Confirmation, and Reception
with the Cathedral Singers

April 5, Easter Day

- 7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Nativity Chapel | Dean Alsay, Celebrant and Preacher
8:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Nativity Chapel | Dean Alsay, Celebrant and Preacher
9:45 a.m. Easter Brunch
10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt
11:00 a.m. Holy Baptism and Festal Choral Eucharist | Dean Alsay, Celebrant; Bishop Perry, Preacher
with the Cathedral Choir and St. Paul's Brass

Please note that Evensong is not offered on Easter Day.



APRIL 5, 2026
EASTER DAY

EASTER
BRUNCH
9:45 A.M.

EASTER EGG
HUNT
10:00 A.M.

**THE CATHEDRAL
CHURCH OF ST. PAUL
4800 WOODWARD AVE.
DETROIT, MI 48201**