



Dean of Chapel
The Revd Prof Michael Banner

Director of Music
Steven Grahl

Chaplains
The Revd Anne Strauss
The Revd Sophie Young

Organ Scholars
Augustine Cox
Thomas Simpson

CHORAL EVENSONG

Sunday 17 May 2026

The Sunday after Ascension Day

ORGAN MUSIC BEFORE EVENSONG

Edward Higginbottom (Oxford)

Suite du cinquième ton (Nivers)

i. Plein Jeu

ii. Basse

iii. Dialogue de Voix humaine et Cornet

iv. Duo

Grand Dialogue (Marchand)

L'égyptienne (Rameau)

Les tendres plaintes (Rameau)

Le rappel des oiseaux (Rameau)

Les cyclopes (Rameau)

*Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong
sung by The Choir of Trinity College Cambridge.*

*Please ensure that all electronic devices,
including cameras, are switched off.*

*Services from Trinity College Chapel are video
webcast live and available to watch again. You
may be identifiable as in attendance at the service.*

The congregation stands as the choir and clergy enter the Chapel.

HYMN

NEH 128 (ii)

GONFALON ROYAL

**Eternal Monarch, King most high,
whose blood hath brought redemption
nigh,
by whom the death of Death was wrought,
and conquering grace's battle fought:**

**Ascending to the throne of might,
and seated at the Father's right,
all power in heaven is Jesu's own,
that here his manhood had not known.**

**Yea, angels tremble when they see
how changed is our humanity;
for flesh hath purged what flesh had
stained,
and God, the flesh of God, hath reigned.**

**Be thou our joy and strong defence,
who art our future recompense:
so shall the light that springs from thee
be ours through all eternity.**

**O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
all praise to thee let earth accord,
who art, while endless ages run,
with Father and with Spirit one. Amen.**

Words: c. 5th C. Latin, trans. John Mason Neale (1818–66)

Music: Percy Buck (1871–1947)

CCLI Licence No: 808452

The minister reads

Dearly beloved brethren, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places, to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy.

And although we ought, at all times, humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul.

Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart, and humble voice, unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying after me;

All say, kneeling

Almighty and most merciful Father;
**We have erred, and strayed from thy ways
like lost sheep.**

**We have followed too much the devices
and desires of our own hearts.**

We have offended against thy holy laws.

**We have left undone those things
which we ought to have done;**

**and we have done those things
which we ought not to have done;**

and there is no health in us.

**But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
miserable offenders.**

**Spare thou them, O God,
which confess their faults.**

**Restore thou them that are penitent;
according to thy promises declared
unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord.**

**And grant, O most merciful Father,
for his sake;**

**that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous,
and sober life,**

to the glory of thy holy name.

Amen.

The minister then says the ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live; and hath given power, and commandment to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins: He pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel.

Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him, which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

RESPONSES

Rose

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.

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.

The congregation sits for PSALM 89: 1-9

My song shall be alway of the loving-kindness of the Lord : with my mouth will I ever be shewing thy truth from one generation to another.

For I have said, Mercy shall be set up for ever : thy truth shalt thou stablish in the heavens.

I have made a covenant with my chosen : I have sworn unto David my servant;

Thy seed will I stablish for ever : and set up thy throne from one generation to another.

O Lord, the very heavens shall praise thy wondrous works : and thy truth in the congregation of the saints.

For who is he among the clouds : that shall be compared unto the Lord?

And what is he among the gods : that shall be like unto the Lord?

God is very greatly to be feared in the council of the saints : and to be had in reverence of all them that are round about him.

O Lord God of hosts, who is like unto thee : thy truth, most mighty Lord, is on every side.

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.

Music: George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848–1934)

The FIRST LESSON is read

A reading from the second Book of Kings.

And it came to pass, when the Lord would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; for the Lord hath sent me to Bethel. And Elisha said unto him, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Bethel. And the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Lord will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace. And Elijah said unto him, Elisha, tarry here, I pray thee; for the Lord hath sent me to Jericho. And he said, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they came to Jericho. And the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Lord will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he answered, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace. And Elijah said unto him, Tarry, I pray thee, here; for the

Lord hath sent me to Jordan. And he said, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And they two went on. And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood to view afar off: and they two stood by Jordan. And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry ground. And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so. And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces. He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan; And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the Lord God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over. And when the sons of the prophets which were to view at Jericho saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him.

All stand for the **MAGNIFICAT**

Gloucester Service

Howells

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 shewed 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. 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 sit for the **SECOND LESSON**

A reading from the Gospel according to St Luke.

Jesus said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

Luke 24: 44–end

All stand for the **NUNC DIMITTIS**

Gloucester Service

Howells

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.

All turn East and say **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

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 Catholick Church;
the Communion of Saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the Resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

All kneel

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

RESPONSES

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

O Lord, save the King.
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

O God the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven: We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless; but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. 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 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.

All sit for the ANTHEM

Cœlos ascendit hodie (1890)

Cœlos ascendit hodie Jesus Christus Rex gloriæ.
Sedet ad Patris dexteram, gubernat cœlum et
terram.

Iam finem habent Omnia Patris Davidis carmina;
iam Dominus cum Domino sedet in Dei solio
in hoc triumpho maximo.

Benedicamus Domino, laudatur Sancta Trinitas,
Deo dicamus gratias. Alleluia! Amen.

*Today Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, has
ascended into the heavens.*

*He sits at the right hand of the Father, ruling
heaven and earth.*

*Now are fulfilled all the songs of our forefather
David; the Lord sits with his Lord, upon the royal
throne of God in this his greatest triumph.*

*Let us bless the Lord; let the Holy Trinity be
praised; let us give thanks to the Lord. Alleluia!
Amen.*

Words: Anonymous, from the Cowley Carol Book
Music: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

THE ADDRESS

Visions of God: The Ascension

The Revd Alison Kennedy
Chaplain of Anglia Ruskin University

Top picture: Reidersche Tafel, c.400, ivory,
Milan or Rome (now in Munich)

Bottom picture: Tiberius Psalter, London,
British Library, Cotton, MS Tiberius C. VI, fol.15r



**The head that once was crowned with
thorns
is crowned with glory now:
a royal diadem adorns
the mighty victor's brow.**

**The highest place that heaven affords
is his, is his by right,
the King of kings and Lord of lords,
and heaven's eternal light;**

**The joy of all who dwell above,
the joy of all below,
to whom he manifests his love,
and grants his name to know.**

**To them the cross, with all its shame,
with all its grace is given:
their name an everlasting name,
their joy the joy of heaven.**

**They suffer with their Lord below,
they reign with him above,
their profit and their joy to know
the mystery of his love.**

**The cross he bore is life and health,
though shame and death to him;
his people's hope, his people's wealth,
their everlasting theme.**

Words: Thomas Kelly (1769–1854)
Music: Jeremiah Clarke (c. 1673–1707)

THE BLESSING

*All remain standing as the choir and clergy recess
Please remain quiet until the end of the
organ voluntary*

VOLUNTARY

Carillon de Westminster

Vierne

SPECIAL SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tuesday 19 May

6.30 pm • Joint Evensong at St John's Chapel

The College Choir will sing at St John's this Tuesday.

NEXT SUNDAY'S PREACHER

Professor David Ford, Regius Professor of Divinity Emeritus, will speak on Pentecost as part of our series on 'Visions of God.'

www.trinitycollegechapel.com

CHAPLAINS' EVENTS

For details of all events and activities, please see the Chaplains' weekly email, and follow us on Facebook (Trinity College Chapel, Cambridge) and Instagram (@trincollchapel).

THIS TERM'S CHARITIES

Romsey Mill is a local charity committed to overcoming disadvantage, challenging injustice and promoting social inclusion with young people, children and families. Each year they work with over 2,000 individuals and families from Cambridge city and across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, developing skills and enabling progress towards training, work and positive involvement in the community.

www.romseymill.org

Christians Against Poverty partners with over a thousand churches across the UK to provide practical and emotional support to people struggling with debt. CAP provides tailored money coaching and life skills groups, and advocates on behalf of clients to help them become debt free. They also provide emergency aid for those living in immediate food or fuel poverty. www.capuk.org



Scan here using your smartphone to make a donation to this term's charities or visit the link below:

www.trin.cam.ac.uk/chapelcharities