



# First Evensong of Saint Matthias

## Service of Light, Evensong, and Devotions

Sunday, May 13, 2018

### PRELUDE

SERVICE OF LIGHT *See booklet.*

### EVENSONG

Psalm 33: *Exultate, justi*



- 1 RE-JOICE in the Lord, you righ-teous; / **it is good for the just to sing prais-es.**
- 2 **Praise the Lord with the harp; / play to him upon the psal-te-ry and^lyre.**
- 3 Sing for him a new song; / sound a fanfare with all your skill up-on the trum-pet.
- 4 **For the word of the Lord is right, / and all his works are^sure.**
- 5 He loves righteousness and jus-tice; /  
the loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth.
- 6 **By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, /**  
**by the breath of his mouth all the heaven-ly^hosts.**
- 7 He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a wa-ter^skin /  
and stores up the depths of the sea.
- 8 **Let all the earth fear the Lord; /**  
**let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of^him.**
- 9 For he spoke, and it came to pass; / he commanded, and it stood fast.
- 10 **The Lord brings the will of the nations to naught; /**  
**he thwarts the designs of the peo-ples.**
- 11 But the Lord's will stands fast for ev-er, /  
and the designs of his heart from age to^age.
- 12 **Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! /**  
**happy the people he has cho-sen^to be his^own.**
- 13 The Lord looks down from hea-ven, / and beholds all the peo-ple in the^world.
- 14 **From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze / on all who dwell on the earth.**
- 15 He fashions all the hearts of them / and un-der^stands all their^works.

**16 There is no king that can be saved by a mighty ar-my; /**  
**a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.**  
 17 The horse is a vain hope for de-li-ver<sup>ance</sup>; / for all its strength it can-not<sup>save</sup>.  
**18 Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him, /**  
**on those who wait up-on his<sup>love</sup>.**  
 19 To pluck their lives from death, / and to feed them in time of fa-mine.  
**20 Our soul waits for the Lord; / he is our help and our shield.**  
 21 Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, / for in his holy Name we put our<sup>trust</sup>.  
**22 Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be up-on us, / as we have put our trust in<sup>you</sup>.**  
 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 ev-er. A-men.**

**First Lesson:** 1 Samuel 12.1-5

*Reader:* The first lesson is written in the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of the book of the prophet Samuel, beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse.

Samuel said to all Israel, “I have listened to you in all that you have said to me, and have set a king over you. See, it is the king who leads you now; I am old and grey, but my sons are with you. I have led you from my youth until this day. Here I am; testify against me before the Lord and before his anointed. Whose ox have I taken? Or whose donkey have I taken? Or whom have I defrauded? Whom have I oppressed? Or from whose hand have I taken a bribe to blind my eyes with it? Testify against me and I will restore it to you.” They said, “You have not defrauded us or oppressed us or taken anything from the hand of anyone.” He said to them, “The Lord is witness against you, and his anointed is witness this day, that you have not found anything in my hand.” And they said, “He is witness.”

*Reader:* Here ends the first lesson.

**Magnificat** *Sung by the choir. You are invited to stand, as able.*

*Thomas Morley*

*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.*  
*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.*

**Second Lesson:** Acts 20.17-35 *Please be seated.*

*Reader:* The second lesson is written in the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, beginning at the 17<sup>th</sup> verse.

From Miletus Paul sent a message to Ephesus, asking the elders of the church to meet him. When they came to him, he said to them: “You yourselves know how I lived among you the entire time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, serving the Lord with all humility and with tears, enduring the trials that came to me through the plots of the Jews. I did not shrink from doing anything helpful, proclaiming the message to you and teaching you publicly and from house to house, as I testified to both Jews and Greeks about repentance towards God and faith towards our Lord Jesus. And now, as a captive to the Spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and persecutions are waiting for me. But I do not count my life of any value to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the good news of God’s grace. And now I know that none of you, among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom, will ever see my face again. Therefore I declare to you this day that I am not responsible for the blood of any of you, for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God. Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after I have gone, savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Some even from your own group will come distorting the truth in order to entice the disciples to follow them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to warn everyone with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the message of his grace, a message that is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all who are sanctified. I coveted no one’s silver or gold or clothing. You know for yourselves that I worked with my own hands to support myself and my companions. In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ ”

*Reader:* Here ends the second lesson.

**Nunc dimittis** *Sung by the choir. You are invited to stand, as able.* *Thomas Morley*

*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.*

**Apostles’ Creed, Mutual salutation and Kyrie, Lord’s Prayer, Suffrages** *See booklet.*

## Collect of the Day

*Officiant* Almighty God, who, in the place of Judas,  
chose Matthias to be numbered with the twelve:  
preserve thy church, we pray, from false apostles,  
and by the ministry of faithful pastors and teachers  
keep us steadfast in thy truth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth  
with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

**Anthem:** *Blessed feasts of blessed martyrs (sung by the choir)*

*The Columbian Harmony, 1825*

*Blessed feasts of blessed martyrs, holy women, holy men,  
with our love and admiration, greet we your return again.  
Worthy deeds are theirs, and wonders, worthy of the name they bore;  
we, with joyful praise and singing, honor them for evermore.*

*Faith prevailing, hope unfailing, loving Christ with single heart,  
thus they, glorious and victorious bravely bore the martyr's part  
by contempt of every anguish, by unyielding battle done;  
victors at the last, they triumph with the host of angels one.*

*Therefore, all that reign in glory, strong and sure with Christ on high,  
join to ours your supplication when before him we draw nigh,  
praying that, this life completed, all its fleeting moments past,  
by his grace we may be worthy of eternal bliss at last.*

## Prayers and Thanksgivings

**Hymn 285:** *The eternal gifts of Christ the King*

AETERNA CHRISTI MUNERA

**Devotions** *See booklet.*

**Motet:** *Ave verum corpus (sung by the choir)*

*Alexandre Guilmant*

*Hail the true body, born of the Virgin Mary:  
you who truly suffered and were sacrificed on the cross for humanity's sake;  
from whose pierced flank flowed water and blood:  
be a foretaste for us in the trial of death.  
O sweet, O merciful, O Jesus, Son of Mary.*

**Officiant:** Mtr Maggie Helwig  
**Organist and choir director:** John Gardham