

The Church of the Holy Trinity

Rittenhouse Square

Choral Evensong

Agatha of Sicily, Martyr, c. 251

6:00 pm



Where everyone can find a place

February 5, 2025

Welcome! We are glad you are with us today.

Our Vivid Vision

This was created in 2022 in collaboration with the Rectors, Wardens & Vestry and is intended to describe where we will be in 3 years.

The church is bursting with life. Outside the building, people are talking, resting, and enjoying the weather. Inside, people are coming and going – staff and volunteers connecting and welcoming. Families, students, working professionals, retirees and neighbors mingle with each other, finding resources they need: safety and support, education, and creative outlets. Visitors and members alike find a place to make a difference and share their gifts with each other. The smell of delicious food wafts through the air as the chefs prepare the community meal for the day. Visitors from all over the world are marveling at the beautiful interior of the sanctuary. Worshipers are laughing, singing, praising, and just enjoying being together. The delicate sounds of violin mingle with the robust organ and the echoes of voices. We are more than just a place on the Square. We are an integral part of the neighborhood.

Core Values

Inclusion/Welcome

We believe that no one should feel left out or alone. We embrace our differences and respect each person within our community. This allows everyone to bring their unique and authentic gifts to further the mission of the church.

Innovation

We are not afraid of trying new things or changing when necessary. If things do not work out, we are open to re-evaluate, learn from our mistakes, and try again.

Collaboration

We listen to and support one another, working and evolving together. We build upon each other's strengths and lift up each other's gifts.

Community Mindedness

Church is not an individual endeavor, but a community experience. We believe that we cannot each succeed or be whole, unless everyone finds success and wholeness.

Culture

Joyful

We are hopeful, optimistic, and have fun together. Being part of this community gives us joy, and our joy spreads to others and makes us want to share joy with them.

Fearless

We are innovative, purposeful and adaptable. We believe that with God all things are possible and that with prayer and connection to God we will always have enough. We are not afraid of trying new things or of failing. We learn from our mistakes. We reach out to others drawing them in, not waiting for them to find us.

Embracing

We love others, because God loves us. This means that we are accepting, welcoming, open, genuine, and empathetic. We speak the truth in love.

Engaged

Our connection to this organization is full of energy. We give without expectation of return. We continuously learn about the community and our neighbors and adapt our connections as needed. We all contribute our time, money and skills to make our community better.

ABOUT EVENSONG

Evensong is a sung evening service in the Anglican tradition, defined in its current usage during the Reformation. The word 'Evensong' was first documented as 'oefen-sang' c. 1000 to describe Vespers, the seventh of the eight daily offices practiced in Roman Catholic monasteries, which traditionally occurs at sunset or around 6pm. The modern Evensong service was created by Thomas Cranmer, the author of the first Book of Common Prayer in 1549. Cranmer combined the two monastic evening services of Vespers (Evening Prayer) and Compline (Night Prayer) into one liturgy, using both the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* canticles as the heart of the service

Choral Evensong has been practiced in cathedrals, collegiate chapels, and parish churches for 450 years and is constructed from texts that are from the Bible or the Book of Common Prayer. Readings from the Old and New Testaments along with Psalms, Canticles, Hymns, and ancient prayers are woven together into a peaceful meditation as the choir and clergy exchange a sung dialogue of prayer.



PRELUDE

Andante (Choeur de Voix humaines)
Op.122 No. 7

Louis J.A. Lefèbure-Wély
(1817-1870)

INTROIT

O Nata Lux

Thomas Tallis
(1505-1585)

<i>O nata lux de lumine</i>	<i>O Light born of Light</i>
<i>Jesu redemptor saeculi</i>	<i>Jesus, redeemer of the world</i>
<i>Dignare clemens supplicum</i>	<i>With loving-kindness deign to receive</i>
<i>Laudes precesque sumere</i>	<i>Suppliant praise and prayer</i>
<i>Qui carne quondam contegi</i>	<i>Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh</i>
<i>Dignatus es pro perditis</i>	<i>For the sake of the lost</i>
<i>Nos membra confer effici</i>	<i>Grant us to be members</i>
<i>Tui beati corporis</i>	<i>Of thy blessed body</i>

The People rise in body or in spirit at the entrance of the choir and clergy.

WELCOME AND OPENING SENTENCES

I will give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.
Isaiah 49:6b

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." *John 8:12*

THE INVITATORY & PSALTER

PRECES

Philip Radcliffe
(1905-1986)

Officiant O Lord, ✠ open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

Choir 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.

Officiant Praise ye the Lord.

Choir The Lord's name be praised.

OFFICE HYMN 35

Mighty Savior



1 Christ, might - y Sa - vior, Light of all cre - a - tion, you make the
2 Now comes the day's end as the sun is set-ting; mir - ror of
3 There - fore we come now eve - ning rites to of - fer, joy - ful - ly
4 Give heed, we pray you, to our sup - pli - ca - tion: that you may
5 Though bo - dies slum - ber, hearts shall keep their vi - gil, for ev - er



1 day - time ra - dant with the sun - light and to the night give
2 day - break, pledge of re - sur - rec - tion; while in the hea - vens
3 chant - ing ho - ly hymns to praise you, with all cre - a - tion
4 grant us par - don for of - fens - es, strength for our weak hearts,
5 rest - ing in the peace of Je - sus, in light or dark - ness



1 glit - ter - ing a - dorn - ment, stars _____ in the hea - vens.
2 choirs of stars ap - pear - ing hal - low the night - fall.
3 join - ing hearts and voic - es sing - ing your glo - ry.
4 rest for ach - ing bo - dies, sooth - ing the wear - y.
5 wor - ship - ing our Sa - vior now _____ and for ev - er.

Please be seated for the Psalm.

- 1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? *
the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, *
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.
- 3 Though an army should encamp against me, *
yet my heart shall not be afraid;
- 4 And though war should rise up against me, *
yet will I put my trust in him.
- 5 One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;
- 6 To behold the fair beauty of the Lord *
and to seek him in his temple.
- 7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.
- 8 Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies round about me.
- 9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to the Lord.
- 10 Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.
- 11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, Lord, will I seek.
- 12 Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
- 13 You have been my helper; cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- 14 Though my father and my mother forsake me, *
the Lord will sustain me.
- 15 Show me your way, O Lord; *
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.
- 16 Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, *
for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak malice.
- 17 What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the Lord *
in the land of the living!
- 18 O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure; be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; *
wait patiently for the Lord.

All rise in body or in spirit for the Gloria Patri.

Glory be 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. Amen.

Please be seated for the readings.

THE LESSONS

READING Exodus 23:1-9

Margaret Dowling

Lector A reading from Exodus.

You shall not spread a false report. You shall not join hands with the wicked to act as a malicious witness. You shall not follow a majority in wrongdoing; when you bear witness in a lawsuit, you shall not side with the majority so as to pervert justice; nor shall you be partial to the poor in a lawsuit.

When you come upon your enemy's ox or donkey going astray, you shall bring it back.

When you see the donkey of one who hates you lying under its burden and you would hold back from setting it free, you must help to set it free.

You shall not pervert the justice due to your poor in their lawsuits. Keep far from a false charge, and do not kill the innocent or those in the right, for I will not acquit the guilty. You shall take no bribe, for a bribe blinds the officials, and subverts the cause of those who are in the right.

You shall not oppress a resident alien; you know the heart of an alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise in body or in spirit.

CANTICLE *Magnificat*

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Canticles in B-flat

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.
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.

Officiant A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Officiant The Word of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise in body or in spirit.

CANTICLE *Nunc Dimittis*

Stanford

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

Following the Canticle, all remain standing and chant the Creed together on a single note.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Officiant I believe in God,

All 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 PRAYERS

SALUTATION & LESSER LITANY

Radcliffe

Officiant The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

All may kneel or sit.

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

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 that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

SUFFRAGES

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Officiant O Lord, save the State.

Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.

Officiant O Lord, save thy people.

Choir And bless thine inheritance.

Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Officiant O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Then follows three Collects.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant Almighty and everlasting God, who didst strengthen thy martyr Agatha with constancy and courage: Grant us for the love of thee to make no peace with oppression, to fear no adversity, and to have no tolerance for those who wouldst use their power to abuse or exploit; Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Choir Amen.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

Officiant 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.

Choir Amen.

COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST PERILS

Officiant 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 Savior Jesus Christ.

Choir Amen.

Please be seated.

THE HOMILY

ANTHEM

Abide with me

arr. Moses Hogan
(1957-2003)

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide;
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

O Thou who changest not, abide with me.
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me. Amen.

Following the anthem, please kneel or remain seated for the Prayers.

PRAYERS

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Officiant Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

All we **thine unworthy servants**
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and all thou hast created.
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.

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Officiant Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting.

All **Amen.**

Please rise in body or in spirit.

DIMISSAL

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

GRACE

Officiant The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore.

All **Amen.**

1 The day thou gav - est, Lord, is end - ed, the dark - ness
 2 We thank thee that thy Church, un - sleep - ing while earth rolls
 3 As o'er each con - ti - nent and is - land the dawn leads
 4 So be it, Lord; thy throne shall nev - er, like earth's proud

falls at thy be - hest; to thee our morn - ing hymns a -
 on - ward in - to light, through all the world her watch is
 on an - oth - er day, the voice of prayer is nev - er
 em - pires, pass a - way; thy king - dom stands, and grows for

scend - ed, thy praise shall sanc - ti - fy our rest.
 keep - ing, and rests not now by day or night.
 si - lent, nor dies the strain of praise a - way.
 ev - er, till all thy crea - tures own thy sway.

*Following the hymn, please remain standing as the clergy and choir depart.
 You are invited to be seated for the Postlude.*

POSTLUDE

Evening Song

David Hurd
 (b. 1950)

*A recital by organist Daniel Carroll, second-year student at the Curtis Institute of Music,
 follows this service, beginning at 7:00 p.m.*

PARTICIPANTS THIS EVENING

Officiants

The Rev. Rachel Wenner Gardner, The Rev. Sarah Hedgis-Kligerman

Preacher

The Rev. Rachel Wenner Gardner

Lectors

Margaret Dowling, Marianne Lipson

Musicians

Derrick Thompson, Charles Johnson, Benjamin Leiby, the choirs of Holy Trinity and St. Peter's

Flowers

Gail Caruso

Acolytes

Marshall McMain

Mark your calendars....



LENTEN MUSIC MEDITATIONS

Wednesdays, 12:15-12:45

March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9

CHORAL EVENSONG

Palestrina 500 with organist Salvatore Pronesti

Wednesday, April 2nd

6:00pm

MÖLLER OPUS 8128 - DEDICATORY RECITAL

Alan Morrison, *Organist*

Saturday, April 12th

3:00pm



Church of the Holy Trinity Staff

The Rev. Rachel Wenner Gardner, *Rector*

The Rev. John Gardner, *Rector*

Robbin McCarthy, *Deacon-in-Training*

Benjamin Leiby, *Interim Organist-Choirmaster*

Robyn Schnieders, *Director of Admin & Operations*

Inaara Shiraz, *Director of Development & Communications*

Karen Majer, *Rentals & House Manager*

Demetrius Swinson, *Assistant to the Dir of Operations*

Therese Tiger, Molly Hebert-Wilson, *Reception*

Nabayah Parker, *Child Care Worker*

Boyden & Connor Gardner, *Streaming Services*

Dr. Stephen Framil, *Musician-in-Residence*

Dr. John French, *Organist-Choirmaster emeritus*

Church of the Holy Trinity, Vestry

Brian Conroy, Phillip Duffy, Alyssa Force, Monica Heuer, Margaret Hughes, Simson Hui, Susan Leidy, Martha Lipscomb, Greg Maughan, James Otwell, Ali Shott, & Emily Stromberg

**THE CHURCH OF
THE HOLY TRINITY**
RITTENHOUSE SQUARE

