Choral Evensong

The Feast of All Saints'

November 1, 2026
5 PM

A Guide to Choral Evensong

Evensong is a tiny fragment of something else; it is part of the worship that Christian people offer to God every hour of the day and night, in every part of the world.

When you come to Evensong here, it is as if you were dropping in on a conversation already in progress—a conversation between God and his people which began long before you were born and will continue long after your death. So, do not be surprised or disturbed if there are some things which you do not understand right away. For a brief moment, you step into the continual stream of worship which is being offered today and which will be offered to the end of time. You are one with those who worship here on earth and in heaven.

Evensong is drawn almost entirely from the Bible. Its primary purpose is to proclaim the wonderful works of God in history and in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Its secondary purpose is to evoke from the worshipper a response of praise, penitence, prayer and obedience.

Much of the English of the service is the language spoken and written by our ancestors more than four hundred years ago. It may sound old-fashioned, but its meaning is not out of date.

While the choir will pray most of the responses and canticles on your behalf, you are invited to participate heartily in singing the hymns.

If you would like to make an offering, you will find offering plates at the back of the church.

Before the service, an oboe and organ voluntary helps us to prepare for worship.

A Guide to this Afternoon's Composers

Opening Voluntary, Preces & Responses, and Magnificat & Nunc dimittis

Craig Phillips (born 1961) is an American composer, organist, and church musician known for his contributions to contemporary sacred music. His extensive catalog includes solo organ works, chamber music, hymn arrangements, and choral compositions for liturgical use. Phillips's music combines a strong understanding of the Anglican and Episcopal musical traditions with expressive harmonies, lyrical melodies, and an appreciation for the distinctive colors of the organ and human voice. His compositions are performed in churches and concert venues throughout the United States.

"Night Song" for Oboe and Organ (or Harpsichord) is a reflective chamber work marked with mystery. The oboe and organ engage in musical dialogue, creating an intimate, contemplative atmosphere. The piece gradually builds toward a central climax before returning to the peaceful character of its opening. "Preces and Responses" reflects Phillips's connection to the Anglican and Episcopal traditions of daily prayer. The Preces and Responses are the short versicles and answers exchanged between the officiant and congregation or choir during services such as Morning and Evening Prayer. Phillips's approach to sacred choral music emphasizes expressive harmony, clarity of text, and the musical shaping of liturgical language. "Magnificat and Nunc dimittis in G Major" sets the two biblical canticles traditionally sung during Evening Prayer. The "Magnificat," Mary's song of praise from the Gospel of Luke, expresses rejoicing in God's promises, while the "Nunc dimittis," Simeon's song, offers a quieter reflection on fulfillment, peace, and salvation.

Introit

Stephen Paulus (1949–2014) was a prominent American composer celebrated for his lyrical melodies, expressive harmonies, and significant contributions to contemporary choral and operatic music. His music is admired for its accessibility, emotional depth, and ability to communicate profound spiritual themes. Among his best-known compositions are "The Road Home" and "Pilgrims' Hymn."

"Pilgrims' Hymn" is one of Paulus's most beloved choral compositions, originally written as the concluding chorus of his one-act church opera *The Three Hermits*. The text is a prayer of trust in God's unceasing love, grace, and presence. Its opening assures us that God hears our prayers even before we find the words to express them. The music features a flowing, memorable melody, gentle harmonic shifts, and a reverent simplicity that gradually builds into a deeply moving expression of faith. The final *Amen* brings the work to a peaceful, contemplative close. "Pilgrims' Hymn" has become a staple of the contemporary choral repertoire, performed by choirs around the world. Its emotional resonance has also made it particularly meaningful at memorial services, including those of Presidents Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan. The work's enduring appeal lies in its ability to convey profound spiritual reassurance without musical

extravagance: it offers a quiet yet powerful reminder of God's enduring love and the comfort of prayer.

Anthem

Paul Halley (born 1952) is a Canadian-born composer, organist, conductor, and choral musician known for his contributions to sacred choral music. He served as Director of Music at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City and has composed and arranged numerous works for choir and instruments. His music often combines the rich harmonic language of the Anglican choral tradition with expressive melodies and imaginative organ writing.

Paul Halley's "Jesu, the Very Thought of Thee" is a lyrical hymn anthem for SATB choir and organ, arranged in 1994 for Noel Edison and the Elora Festival Singers. The work sets Gordon Slater's beautiful melody, *St. Botolph*, to the beloved devotional text translated by Edward Caswall from a twelfth-century Latin hymn traditionally attributed to St. Bernard of Clairvaux.

Halley transforms the familiar hymn tune into a richly expressive choral work through lush harmonies, a flowing organ accompaniment, and an added descant that heightens the music's emotional intensity. Rather than simply presenting the hymn as a straightforward congregational setting, he develops it into an extended meditation on the love of Christ. The result is both intimate and expansive, balancing reverence with moments of soaring beauty.

Final Voluntary

Louis Vierne (1870–1937) was a celebrated French organist and composer who served as organist of Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris from 1900 until his death. Nearly blind from childhood, Vierne overcame significant challenges to become one of the leading figures of the French Romantic organ tradition. His music is admired for its rich harmonies, expressive melodies, dramatic contrasts, and brilliant exploitation of the pipe organ's tonal resources. His major works include six organ symphonies and numerous pieces that remain cornerstones of the organ repertoire.

"Carillon de Westminster" (Westminster Chimes) is the celebrated finale of Vierne's *24 Pièces de Fantaisie*, Suite No. 3, Op. 54, composed in 1926–1927. Inspired by the famous Westminster chimes of London's Palace of Westminster, the piece transforms the familiar four-note clock melody into an exhilarating organ showpiece. The chimes emerge from a repeating musical motif that grows in intensity and complexity, supported by increasingly elaborate counterpoint and brilliant passagework. The work builds toward a triumphant conclusion, showcasing the organ's capacity for both delicate bell-like sounds and overwhelming grandeur. "Carillon de Westminster" exemplifies Vierne's remarkable ability to combine a recognizable melody with sophisticated musical development and virtuosic writing. It remains one of the most popular and frequently performed works in the French organ repertoire, beloved by audiences and organists alike.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Seated VOLUNTARY Night Song CRAIG PHILLIPS
Elizabeth Sullivan, oboe

Please stand as the ministers enter during the singing of the Introit.

Stand INTROIT Pilgrim's Hymn STEPHEN PAULUS

Even before we call on Your name To ask You, O God.
When we seek for the words to glorify You, You hear our prayer;
Unceasing love, O unceasing love, Surpassing all we know.

Glory to the Father, And to the Son, And to the Holy Spirit.

Even with darkness sealing us in, We breathe Your name,
And through all the days that follow so fast, We trust in You;
Endless Your grace, O endless Your grace, Beyond all mortal dream.

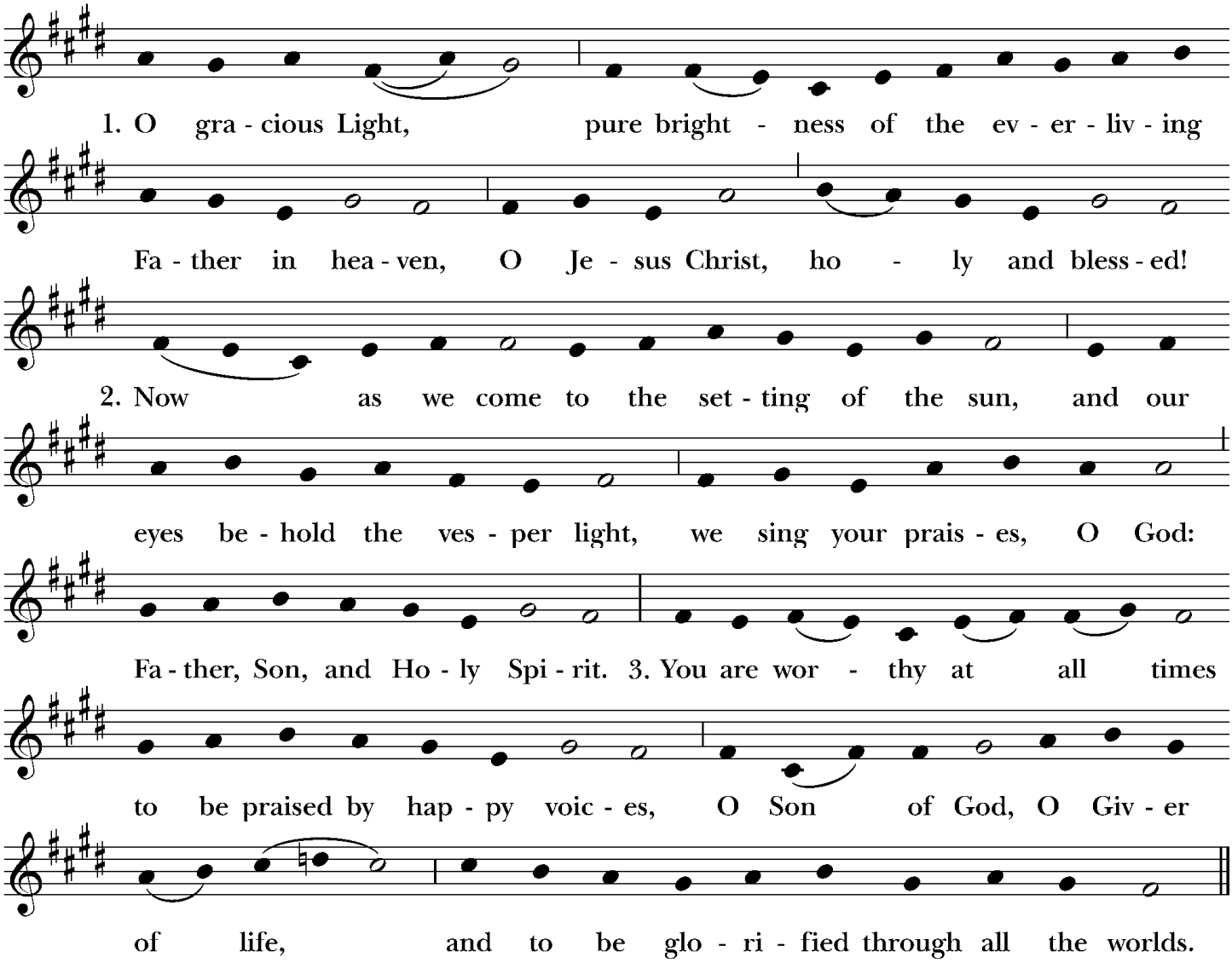
Both now and for ever, And unto ages and ages, Amen. - *Michael Dennis Browne*

Stand THE PRECES AND RESPONSES CRAIG PHILLIPS

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.
Officiant	Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit
Choir	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.

Stand HYMN Phos hilaron HYMNAL 1982—S 59

The office candles are lit during the singing of this hymn. This is one of the Church's most ancient hymns, sung as lights were lit in secret within the ancient catacombs by the first followers of Christ.



Sit PSALM 34:1-10, 22 BCP P. 627

The words to the Psalms may be found in the Book of Common Prayer. The Psalms were sung in the Jewish Temple and are used in the Christian Church as a meditation on the various experiences of life understood in the light of the Christian faith.

Sit THE FIRST READING REVELATION 7:9-17

After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sit/Kneel MAGNIFICAT, Luke 1:46-55 CRAIG PHILLIPS

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, 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,
and he promised to our forefathers, he promised to Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Sit THE SECOND READING MATTHEW 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sit/Kneel NUNC DIMITTIS CRAIG PHILLIPS

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 to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Stand THE APOSTLES' CREED BCP P. 66

The Apostles' Creed, which is our baptismal creed, is intoned by all.

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 catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Kneel VERSICLES AND RESPONSES CRAIG PHILLIPS

Officiant The Lord be with you.
Choir And with thy spirit.
Officiant Let us pray.
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 who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Kneel V. O Lord, show 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.

Kneel COLLECTS

Officiant O Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant us grace so to follow thy blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys which thou hast prepared for those who unfeignedly love thee; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting.

Choir Amen.

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.

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.

Sit ANTHEM Jesu, the very thought of thee PAUL HALLEY

Jesu, the very thought of thee With sweetness fills the breast;
But sweeter far thy face to see, And in thy presence rest.

No voice can sing, no heart can frame, Nor can the memory find
A sweeter sound than Jesus' name, The savior of mankind.

O hope of every contrite heart, O joy of all the meek,
To those who ask how kind thou art, How good to those who seek.

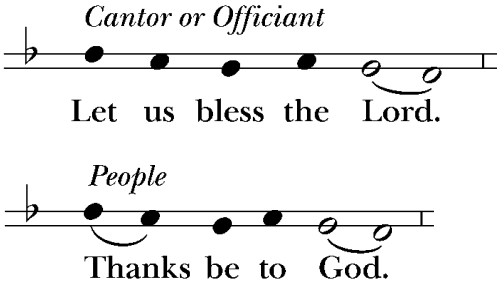
But what to those who find? Ah! this Nor tongue nor pen can show;
The love of Jesus, what it is None but his loved ones know.

Jesu, our only joy be thou As thou our prize wilt be;
In thee be all our glory now, And through eternity. Amen.
– 12 c. Latin, trans. Edward Caswall

Stand THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING *Said by all*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all people.
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 ourselves 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.

Stand CONCLUDING VERSICLE AND RESPONSE S 65



Standing, the people sing the hymn on the following page.

Stand HYMN The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended *St. Clement* THE HYMNAL 1982 - 24

The people remain standing as the ministers leave while the closing Voluntary is played. Please be seated and enjoy the Voluntary.

Sit VOLUNTARY Carillon de Westminster LOUIS VIERNE

Following the voluntary, please move to the Welcome Center to complete today's All Saints' Day celebration with a reception.

This All Saints' Sunday, we remember and pray for those who have entered the Resurrection since last year's All Saints' Day.

Names of those buried from this parish:

Carol Bentley
Bill Biggerstaff
Gigi Guthrie
Caroline Jangaba
Gwen King
Henry Riley
Ronald Sigrist

Names of those submitted by parishioners:

David Lee Preddy
Herman Eugene Preddy
Kristen Elizabeth Martin
Craig Canada
Audrey Gladin
Barbara Harris Whitfield
Cruz Lemson
Beatrice Elmen
Denim Mauro
David Mauro
Larry Pollick
Rick Hartless
Olivia "Libby" Keith
James (Jim) A. Huggins Sr.
Kathy Lindsey
Dr. Ed Tyson
Prebble Hendrickson
Tom Grady
Helen Craig
Butch and Janet Tuck
Clarence "Rod" Armstrong
Albert B. Stavitsky
Nancy Berg
Rachel Crisp
Mary Jane Morrison
Bonnie Plank
Donna Smith
Jennifer Wilson
Charles Koches
Alan Vaskas
Margaret Aspinwall
David Clark
George Marsh
John Lynn
Tommy McFall
Gary Moore
Ben Goode
Shannon Wilson
Mr. & Mrs. Cliford Tuck
Donna Sessum
Helen Bost Craig
Charles Burgess
Suzie Jobes
Rock Kershaw

ALL SAINTS'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Reverend Mary Elizabeth Reese
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Chuck Collier, *Sr. Warden, Finance*
Andrea Holdren, *Jr. Warden, Stewardship*
Guy Antonides, *LCDC, Parish Life*
Rebecca Bahn, *Pastoral Care*
Randy Brantley, *Worship*
Kaleb Davis, *Outreach*
Melissa Goodwin, *Newcomers*
Ragan Kearns, *Communications*
Gary Kovar, *Building & Grounds*
Kathy Thompson, *Parish Life*
Mary Beth Ward-Bowman, *Adult Christian Formation*
Julie Wagner, *Youth Christian Formation*

REPORTING TO THE VESTRY

Victor Clark, Treasurer
Kim Gordick, Vestry Clerk

For announcements and information, scan the QR code to view All Saints' *Weekly Word.*

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All Saints' WiFi password: JesusLovesYou