



TRINITY

EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL
A house of prayer for all people

Eve of The Feast of St. Matthew
September 20, 2026, 4 p.m.

Welcome: *Whether you are a first-time visitor or a long-time member, we are honored to worship with you today. If you are searching for a church home, we would love to tell you more about this congregation and to learn more about you. Fill out a visitor card found in the back of the pew in front of you, drop it in the offering plate, and we'll be in conversation with you this week. Above all, please know that this is your Cathedral, and all are welcome.*

Choral Evensong is a service of readings from the Bible and prayers for the evening, almost entirely led by the Trinity Choir on behalf of the congregation.

CHORAL EVENSONG

and

***The Installation of Officers for the Central Arkansas Chapter
of the American Guild of Organists***

THE PRELUDE

LA CATHÉDRALE ENGLOUTIE

Claude Debussy
(arr. Roques/MacKnight)

All stand.

THE OPENING SENTENCES FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

The Officiant says to the people

Dear friends in Christ, here in the presence of Almighty God, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, so that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling or standing

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. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus 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 Officiant alone stands and says

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

All stand.

THE PRECES *Sung by the Officiant and the choir*

Margaret Burk

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall shew 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 Ghost;

*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.

All sit.

PSALM 112 *Beatus vir*

Charles Villiers Stanford

Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD *
he hath great delight in his commandments.

*His seed shall be mighty upon earth *
the generation of the faithful shall be blessed.*

*Riches and plenteousness shall be in his house *
and his righteousness endureth for ever.*

*Unto the godly there ariseth up light in the darkness *
he is merciful, loving, and righteous.*

*A good man is merciful, and lendeth *
and will guide his words with discretion.*

*For he shall never be moved *
and the righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance.*

*He will not be afraid of any evil tidings *
for his heart standeth fast, and believeth in the LORD.*

*His heart is established, and will not shrink *
until he see his desire upon his enemies.*

*He hath dispersed abroad, and given to the poor *
and his righteousness remaineth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with
honour.*

*The ungodly shall see it, and it shall grieve him *
he shall gnash with his teeth, and consume away; the desire of the ungodly
shall perish.*

*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.*

THE FIRST LESSON

JOB 28:12-28

But where shall wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding? Mortals do not know the way to it, and it is not found in the land of the living. The deep says, "It is not in me", and the sea says, "It is not with me." It cannot be bought for gold, and silver cannot be weighed out as its price. It cannot be valued in the gold of Ophir, in precious onyx or sapphire. Gold and glass cannot equal it, nor can it be exchanged for jewels of fine gold. No mention shall be made of coral or of crystal; the price of wisdom is above pearls. The chrysolite of Ethiopia* cannot compare with it, nor can it be valued in pure gold.

'Where then does wisdom come from? And where is the place of understanding? It is hidden from the eyes of all living, and concealed from the birds of the air. Abaddon and Death say, "We have heard a rumour of it with our ears."

'God understands the way to it, and he knows its place. For he looks to the ends of the earth, and sees everything under the heavens. When he gave to the wind its weight, and apportioned out the waters by measure;

when he made a decree for the rain, and a way for the thunderbolt; then he saw it and declared it; he established it, and searched it out. And he said to humankind, “Truly, the fear of the LORD, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.”

All stand.

HYMN 231 BY ALL YOUR SAINTS STILL STRIVING *King's Lynn (v. 2: St. Matthew)*

Second Verse

We praise you, Lord, for Matthew,
Whose gospel words declare
That, worldly gain forsaking,
Your path of love we share.
From all unrighteous mammon,
O raise our eyes anew,
That we, whate'er our station,
May rise and follow you.

All sit.

MAGNIFICAT: THE SECOND SERVICE *sung by the choir*

Orlando Gibbons

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.

Soloists: Ashley McCoy, Anna Squire, Stephanie Smittle, Marilyn Oliver, Jackson Utz, Teddy Nguyen, Alan Rackley, & Josiah Wheeler

THE SECOND LESSON

MATTHEW 13:44-52

Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

NUNC DIMITTIS: THE SECOND SERVICE *sung by the choir*

Orlando Gibbons

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.

Soloists: Ashley McCoy, Anna Squire, Stephanie Smittle, & Jackson Utz

THE APOSTLES' CREED *said by all, standing*

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.

All stand or kneel.

The following are sung by the Officiant and the choir.

THE SALUTATION

Margaret Burk

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Margaret Burk

Choir 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.

SUFFRAGES AND COLLECTS

Margaret Burk

Officiant O Lord, shew 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.

The Collect of the Day

We thank thee, heavenly Father, for the witness of thine apostle and evangelist Matthew to the Gospel of thy Son our Savior; and we pray that, after his example, we may with ready wills and hearts obey the calling of our Lord to follow him; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and 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 Aid against 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 Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

All sit.

THE INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Officers to be installed come forward and stand before the Officiant.

Officiant The Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists presents for installation the following duly elected officers: Kathleen Turner, Jason Saugey, James Stanley, Jess Anthony, Robert Lindley, Katie Gunn, and Jamie Joheim.

You have been chosen by your colleagues to guide this Chapter during the coming year. This selection shows confidence in your wisdom, character, creativity, and leadership.

At the heart of the formation and continuing life of the American Guild of Organists is its mission: To enrich lives through organ and choral music. To achieve this, we: encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music; inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors; provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support; nurture future generations of organists; promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

As elected officials of the Central Arkansas Chapter, I ask you to keep the Mission of the American Guild of Organists in mind as you carry out the functions of your offices.

Officers, do you accept the challenges and responsibilities of the office to which you have been elected and agree to work with your fellow officers and members in an atmosphere of mutual respect, toward the common goals and continued health and growth of the Central Arkansas Chapter and the American Guild of Organists?

Officers **We do.**

Members, do you accept the responsibility to support these officers whom you have elected in the work they are about to undertake on your behalf?

All Members **We do.**

With these expressions of mutual respect and support, it is now my privilege to install you as the officers of the Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

All stand.

Officiant David commanded the chief of the Levites to appoint musicians who should play loudly on musical instruments, on harps and lyres and cymbals, to raise sounds of joy.

Let us pray.

Almighty, everlasting God, let our prayer in your sight be as incense, the lifting up of our hands as the evening sacrifice. Give us grace to behold you, present in your Word and Sacraments, and to recognize you in the lives of those around us. Stir up in us the flame of that love which burned in the heart of your Son as he bore his passion, and let it burn in us to eternal life and to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven, be ever present with your servants who seek through music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ANTHEM

O WHERE SHALL WISDOM BE FOUND?

William Boyce

*O where shall wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding?
Man knoweth not the price thereof; neither is it found in the land of the living.
The depth saith, It is not in me: and the sea saith, It is not with me.
It cannot be gotten for gold, neither shall silver be weighed for the price thereof.
No mention shall be made of coral, or of pearls:
for the price of wisdom is above rubies.
Whence then cometh wisdom? and where is the place of understanding?
Seeing it is hid from the eyes of all living.*

*God understandeth the way thereof, and He knoweth the place thereof.
For He looketh to the ends of the earth, And seeth under the whole heav'n;
To make the weight for the winds; and he weigheth the waters by measure.
When He made a decree for the rain, and a way for the lightning of the thunder:
Then did He see it, and declare it; He prepared it, yea, and searched it out.
And unto man He said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to
depart from evil is understanding.*

Text: Job 28: 12–15, 18, 20–21a, 23–28

Soloists: Tressa Tiner, Anna Squire, Stephanie Smittle, Jackson Utz, Josiah Wheeler

All stand.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Officiant and People

**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 men. 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 DISMISSAL

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE CONCLUDING SENTENCES FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

HYMN 596

JUDGE ETERNAL, THRONED IN SPLENDOR

*Komm, o komm,
du Geist der Lebens*

THE POSTLUDE III. ALLEGRO FROM DREI TONSTÜCKE, OP. 22

Niels Gade

Notes on the notes: Debussy's *La cathédrale engloutie* (or “sunken cathedral”) is originally a prelude for piano. This piece is based on an ancient Breton myth in which a cathedral, submerged underwater off the coast of the Island of Ys, rises up from the sea on clear mornings when the water is transparent. In this piece, Debussy evokes the sound of priests chanting, bells chiming, and the organ playing.

This piece highlights one of the Trinity organ's most unusual features: sostenutos. The sostenutos on the organ will hold a key or chord down for the performer even after he or she has released it (like on the piano, but without the natural decay of a piano). The key or chord is only released when a new one is played or the feature is disabled.

This evening's canticles and anthems are in the verse style, a distinctly English style of choral composition that alternates between “verses” for soloists and the full choir. These types of pieces are ideally suited for Trinity's continuo organ.

Boyce's *O where shall wisdom be found?* is a large scale verse anthem for solo quintet and chorus and takes its text from today's Old Testament lesson. Boyce belonged to an unfortunate generation of English composers who were overshadowed by George Frideric Handel (who was German but made England his home). This anthem, arguably Boyce's sacred masterpiece, shows how unjustified this is.

PARTICIPATING THIS EVENING

Officiant The Rev. Thomas Alexander, *Associate Rector*

Lector

Music Dr. Colin MacKnight, *Director of Music*

Katie Gunn, *Associate Director of Music*

Trinity Cathedral Choir

Weekly Lunchtime Organ Recitals

Wednesdays, 12:15 p.m.

30-minute lunchtime organ recitals take place every Wednesday at 12:15 pm beginning September 16. Come enjoy some wonderful music during your lunch break!

Choral Evensong with Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 4 at 4 p.m.

The annual Blessing of the Animals will take place during the choral evensong service on Sunday October 5 at 4 p.m. Pets are welcome to join the congregation in the Cathedral for this service.

A reception with pet friendly treats will follow.

Trinitas Ensemble Fall Concert: The American Soundscape

Saturday, October 17 at 7 pm

First Presbyterian Church 800 Scott St, Little Rock, AR 72201

In honor of the country's 250th birthday, The Trinitas Ensemble, Arkansas's only fully professional choir, will present a program of music by American composers. Tickets cost \$15 and are free for people ages 17 and under. For tickets, visit bit.ly/trinitas2.

All Souls' Day Requiem by John Rutter (with chamber orchestra)

Sunday, November 1, 2026 at 4 pm

In commemoration of All Souls' Day, the Trinity Choir and members of the Arkansas Symphony will perform John Rutter's Requiem with chamber orchestra. Rutter's Requiem is an Anglican perspective on the typical Requiem. Rutter sets most of the Latin Requiem text, but also inserts English settings of Psalm 130 (Out of the deep), Psalm 23 (The Lord is my shepherd), and other biblical verses. A festive reception will follow.

