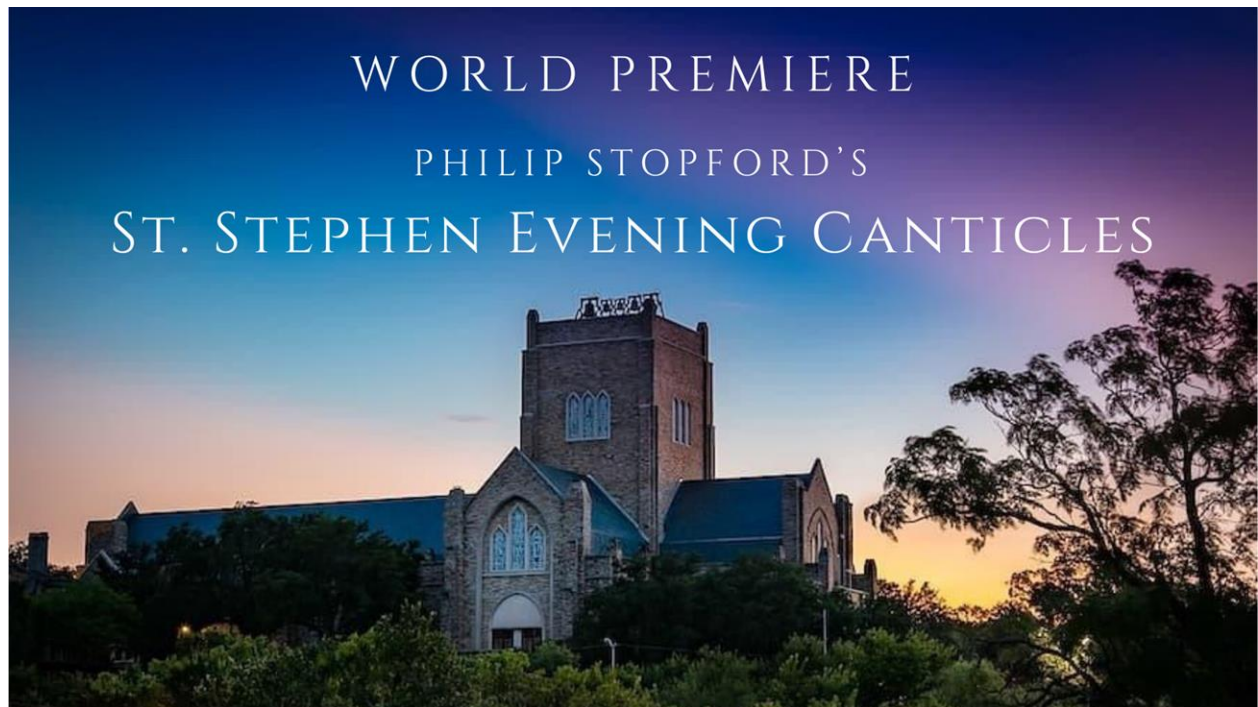


CHORAL EVENSONG

May 16, 2021



St. Stephen Presbyterian Church
Fort Worth, Texas

St. Stephen Presbyterian Church

CHORAL EVENSONG

May 16, 2021 | 6:00 p.m.

† — *please stand, if able*

Hymns will be sung by the choir alone.

PRELUDE RECITAL: *Trois Danses* (1939)

Jehan Alain (1911–1940)

Joies (Joys)

Deuils (Mourning)

Luttes (Struggles)

PEAL OF THE TOWER BELLS

INTROIT: *Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Lord* (1973)

Robert Kreutz (1922–1996)

Alleluia. Give thanks to the Lord, invoke God's name; make known among the nations his deeds. Alleluia.

OPENING SENTENCES

Leader Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening
All **and the day is almost over.**
Leader God reveals deep and mysterious things,
All **and knows what is hidden in darkness.**
Leader God is surrounded by light.
All **To you, O God, we give thanks and praise.**

† HYMN: *O praise ye the Lord!*

LAUDATE DOMINUM

† PRECES

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

Leader O Lord, open thou our lips.
Choir And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
Leader O God, make speed to save us.
Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.
Leader 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.
Leader Praise ye the Lord.
Choir The Lord's Name be praised.

PSALM 46

Adapted from Martin Luther

¹God is our refuge and strength:
a very present help in trouble.
²Therefore we will not fear though the earth be moved:
and though the mountains are shaken in the midst of the sea;
³Though the waters rage and foam:
and though the mountains quake at the rising of the sea.
⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God:
the holy dwelling-place of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of her therefore she shall not be moved:
 God will help her and at break of day.
⁶The nations make uproar and the kingdoms are shaken:
 but God has lifted his voice and the earth shall tremble.
⁷The Lord of hosts is with us:
 the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
⁸Come then and see what the Lord has done:
 what destruction he has brought upon the earth.
⁹He makes wars to cease in all the world:
 He breaks the bow and shatters the spear and burns the chariots in the fire.
¹⁰Be still and know that I am God:
 I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted upon the earth.'
¹¹The Lord of hosts is with us:
 the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
 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.

FIRST LESSON

Ecclesiasticus 43

¹The pride of the height, the clear firmament, the beauty of heaven, with his glorious show;
²the sun when it appeareth, declaring at his rising a marvelous instrument, the work of the most High.
⁶He made the moon also to serve in her season for a declaration of times, and a sign of the world.
⁷From the moon is the sign of feasts, a light that decreaseth in her perfection.
⁸The month is called after her name, increasing wonderfully in her changing, being an instrument
 of the armies above, shining in the firmament of heaven;
⁹the beauty of heaven, the glory of the stars, an ornament giving light in the highest places of the Lord.
¹⁰At the commandment of the Holy One they will stand in their order, and never faint in their watches.
²⁷We may speak much, and yet come short: wherefore in sum, he is all.
²⁸How shall we be able to magnify him? For he is great above all his works.
²⁹The Lord is terrible and very great, and marvelous is his power.
³⁰When ye glorify the Lord, exalt him as much as ye can; for even yet will he far exceed: and when ye exalt
 him, put forth all your strength, and be not weary; for ye can never go far enough.
³¹Who hath seen him, that he might tell us? And who can magnify him as he is?
³²There are yet hid greater things than these be, for we have seen but a few of his works.
³³For the Lord hath made all things; and to the godly hath he given wisdom.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.
 All **Thanks be to God.**

Magnificat from St. Stephen Evening Canticles (2021)

Philip W. J. Stopford (b. 1977)

Commissioned by St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, Fort Worth, Texas,
 in memory of Peter Mark Scott.

*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 forever.
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

John 14

- ¹⁴Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.
²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?
³And if I come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also."

¹⁵If you love me, you will keep my commandments.
¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever.
¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.
¹⁸I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you.
¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live."

²⁵I have said these things to you while I am still with you.
²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.
²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

Leader This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, O Christ.

Nunc dimittis from St. Stephen Evening Canticles

Philip W. J. Stopford

*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.*

† APOSTLE'S CREED

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. *(congregation may be seated)*

RESPONSES (*kneeling or bowing down*)

Craig Phillips

Leader The Lord be with you.
Choir And with thy spirit.
Leader Let us pray.
Choir Lord, have mercy upon us.
 Christ, have mercy upon us.
 Lord, Have mercy upon us.

Choir 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 them that trespass against us.
 And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Leader O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
Choir And grant us thy salvation.
Leader O Lord, save the State.
Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Leader Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.
Leader O Lord, save thy people.
Choir And bless thine inheritance.
Leader Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
Leader O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Choir And take not thy holy Spirit from us.

COLLECTS

For racial peace

Leader God our Father: you led our forbearers to this land, and, out of conflict, created in us a love of peace and liberty. We have failed you by neglecting rights and restricting freedoms. Forgive pride that overlooks national wrong, or justifies injustice. Forgive divisions created by prejudice or greed. Have mercy, God, on the heart of this land. Make us compassionate, fair, and helpful to each other. Raise up in us a right patriotism, that sees and seeks this nation's good; through Jesus Christ the Lord,
Choir Amen.

In times of social change

Leader All things are new in your grace, Lord God; and old things pass away. Break our hold on familiar things that you discard, and gives us forward-looking courage to reach toward wiser ways. Lead us beyond ourselves to the new life promised in Jesus Christ, who is first and last, the beginning and the end,
Choir Amen.

For healing

Leader By your power, great God, our Lord Jesus healed the sick and gave new hope to hopeless people. Though we cannot command or possess your power, we pray for those who want to be healed, especially those we name before you. Close wounds, cure sickness, and make broken people whole again, so they may live to rejoice in

your love. Help us to welcome every healing as a sign that, though death is against us, you are for us, and have promised renewed and risen life in Jesus Christ the Lord,
Choir Amen.

ANTHEM: *My Song in the Night* (2009)

Mack Wilberg (1955)

*O Jesus, my Savior, my song in the night, Come to us with Thy tender love, my soul's delight,
Unto Thee O Lord in affliction I call, My comfort by day and my song in the night.*

*O why should I wander an alien from Thee, Or Cry in the desert Thy face to see,
My comfort and joy, my soul's delight, O Jesus my Savior, my song in the night.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*kneeling or bowing down*)

Leader Let my prayer rise before you as incense, O Lord,
All **the lifting of my hands as an evening sacrifice.**
Prayer continues...

† **HYMN:** *The Mighty God with Power Speaks*

KINGSFOLD

† **BENEDICTION**

Please be seated for the Closing Voluntary.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY: *Pièces de Fantaisie, Suite IV, Opus 55*
V. Les cloches de Hinckley (1927)

Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

PEAL OF THE TOWER BELLS

The Rev. Dr. Frederick Field Ritsch, III, *Pastor*
The Rev. Dr. Warner Bailey, *Parish Associate*
Jordan Smith, *Organist & Director of Music Ministries*
Joshua Boyd, *Guest Organist*

THE CHOIR

SOPRANO
Grace Griffin
Peggy Harwood
Abby Hurd
Elizabeth McGee

ALTO
Gloria Estes
Wendy Larmour

TENOR
Nathan Geganaga
Janson Guillen
Mary Jane Harbison

BASS
Jacob Brown
Dan Fergus
Lee Mallard

