

Wednesday, February 3, 2021– Christ`s Church Cathedral  
A SERVICE OF EVENING PRAYER AND  
MEMORIAL OF ANSKAR, BISHOP OF SWEDEN

*Officiant:* The Dean

*Cantor:* John Janisse; *Organ:* Michael Bloss.

*Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. In this time of social distancing and while the cathedral is closed, may these opportunities for online worship draw us together in a unity of faith.*

*Today we remember Anskar, a ninth-century missionary who strove to bring the gospel of Christ to the people of Denmark and Sweden. Anskar began his labours in the year 826, when the emperor of the Franks asked him to open a mission in southern Denmark. Even with the backing of the local king, his successes were modest. Nevertheless, after a couple of years in Denmark, he decided to cross the Baltic and launch a mission among the Swedes. When he returned he found that the Pope had appointed him archbishop of Hamburg, with jurisdiction over all the missions in Scandinavia. From the moment of his appointment until his death over thirty years later, Anskar experienced very little except disappointment and frustration. Unable to find enough staff, his mission to Sweden soon withered. A rebellion in Denmark overthrew the king who had supported him, and the rebels quickly smothered the young Danish church. In the year 845 Hamburg itself was burned to the ground by Viking raiders, and he moved his missionary base to Bremen, which nearly suffered the same fate several times over. He laboured to end the Baltic slave-trade, and though he redeemed countless thousands from bondage, Viking slavers continued to operate with impunity. Despite all these setbacks Anskar persevered in his mission, and whenever one opportunity was cut off, he sought another avenue for spreading the gospel. His persistence had one small return in 854, when a new king in southern Denmark allowed him to re-open his mission and begin rebuilding the Danish church. He died on this date eleven years later. The Church honours Anskar as the Apostle of Scandinavia because his tenacious efforts in the face of disaster and discouragement were like the seed mentioned in the gospel itself. They were a small beginning which eventually bore a rich harvest two centuries later, when Christianity at last found a home among the children of the Vikings.*

## Words of Welcome

**Sentence** – The Lord has become my stronghold, and my God the rock of my trust.

*Psalms 94.22*

## Gathering Music – Ubi Caritas

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.  
Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.  
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.  
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.*

*Where charity and love are, God is there.  
Christ's love has gathered us into one.  
Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.  
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.  
And may we love each other with a sincere heart.)*

## Introductory responses

Officiant All

Light and peace in Christ Jesus our hope Thanks be to God

Officiant All

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Blessed be God for ever.

Officiant All

Holy, immortal one have mercy up on us.

Blessed are you, Lord our God, our eternal Father and David's king.  
You have made our gladness greater and increased our joy  
by sending to dwell among us the Wonderful Counsellor, the Prince of Peace.  
Born of Mary, proclaimed to the shepherds,  
and acknowledged to the ends of the earth,  
your unconquered Sun of righteousness  
destroys our darkness and establishes us in freedom.  
All glory in the highest be to you,  
through Christ, the Son of your favour,  
in the anointing love of his Spirit,  
this night and for ever and ever.

All

A - - - - - men.

## Chant – Calm me Lord (sung twice)

**TEXT:** David Adam (b. 1936)

**MUSIC:** Margaret Rizza (b. 1929)

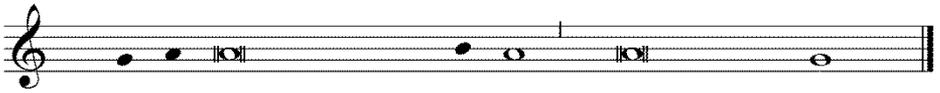


Calm me, Lord, as you calmed the storm; still me, Lord,  
keep me from harm. Let all the tu - mult with - in me  
cease; en - fold me, Lord, en - fold me in your peace.

*The psalms are prayers that Jesus used and cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another. Sung by all.*

## Psalm 119: 73-96

Part 10 – *Manus tuae fecerunt me*

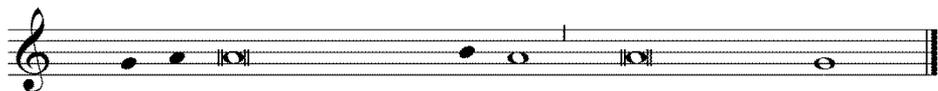


Your hands have made me and **fash**-ioned me\*  
give me understanding, that I may learn your **com-mandments**.

Those who fear you will be glad when they **see** me,\*  
because I trust in your **word**.

I know O God, that your judgements **are** right\*  
and that in faithfulness you have **af-licted** me.

Let your loving kindness be my **com**-fort\*  
as you have promised to your **servant**



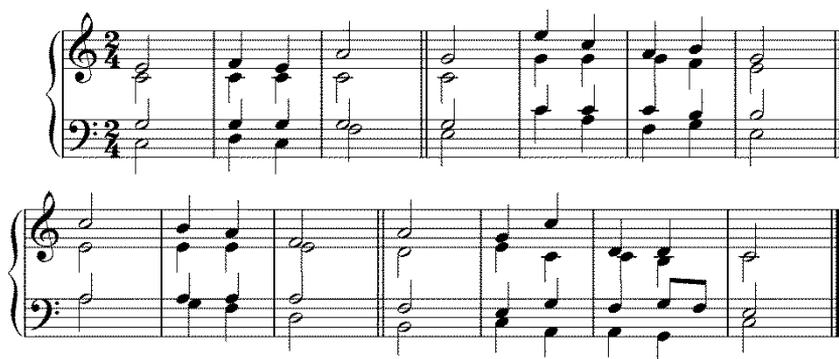
Let your compassion come to me, that **I** may live,\*  
for your law is my de-**light**.

Let the arrogant be put to shame, for they wrong **me** with lies;\*  
but I will meditate on your com-**mandments**.

Let those who fear you **turn** to me,\*  
and also those who know your de-**crees**

Let my heart be sound **in** your statutes,\*  
that I may not be put to **shame**.

Part 11 – *Defecit anima mea.*



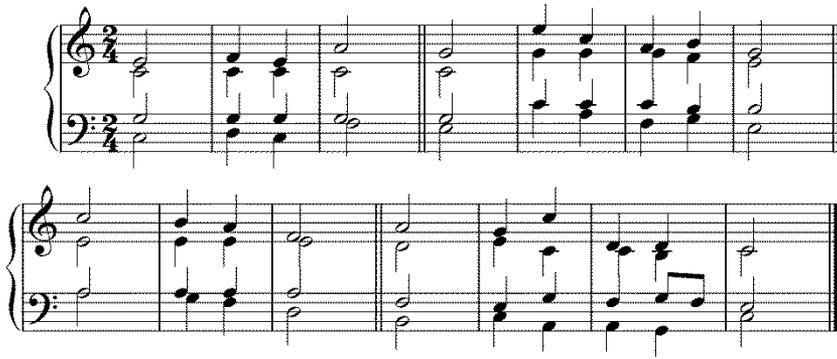
My soul has longed for / your sal / vation;\*  
I have / put my ● hope / in your / word.

My eyes have failed from watching / for your / promise,\*  
and I say, “When / will you / comfort / me?”

I have become like a leather flask / in the / smoke,\*  
but I have / not for- / gotten ● your / statutes.

How much longer / must I / wait?\*

when will you give judgement against / those who / perse- ● cute / me?



The proud have dug / pits for / me;\*  
they / do not / keep your / law.

All your com- / mandments • are / true;\*  
help me, for they / perse- / cuted me • with / lies.

They had almost made an end of / me on / earth,\*  
but I have not for- / saken / your com- / mandments.

In your loving kind- / ness re- / vive me,\*  
that I may / keep the • de- / crees of • your / mouth.

### Part 12 – *In aeternum, Domine*



O God, your word is ev-**er**-lasting;\*  
it stands firm in **the** heavens.

Your faithfulness remains from one generation to **a**-nother;\*  
you established the earth, and it **a**-bides.

By your decree these continue to **this** day,\*  
for all things are **your** servants.

If my delight had not been in **your** law,\*  
I should have perished in my **af**-fliction.



## Word (Mark 8: 11-26)

The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, asking him for a sign from heaven, to test him. And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, “Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will be given to this generation.” And he left them, and getting into the boat again, he went across to the other side.

Now the disciples had forgotten to bring any bread; and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. And he cautioned them, saying, “Watch out—beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and the yeast of Herod.” They said to one another, “It is because we have no bread.” And becoming aware of it, Jesus said to them, “Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? Do you have eyes, and fail to see? Do you have ears, and fail to hear? And do you not remember? When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?” They said to him, “Twelve.” “And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?” And they said to him, “Seven.” Then he said to them, “Do you not yet understand?”

They came to Bethsaida. Some people brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village; and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, “Can you see anything?” And the man looked up and said, “I can see people, but they look like trees, walking.” Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he looked intently and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. Then he sent him away to his home, saying, “Do not even go into the village.”

## Musical Meditation – *Lied (from pièces en style libre)*

*Louis Vierne*

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## Affirmation of Faith

Hear, O Israel,  
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Love the Lord your God  
with all your heart,  
with all your soul,  
with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.

This is the first and the great commandment.

The second is like it:

Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

# The Song of Mary

*(sung by all)*



My soul proclaims the greatness of the **Lord**;  
My spirit rejoices in **God** my saviour

For you Lord have looked with **favour**  
on your **lowly** servant.

From this day all generations will call me **blest**  
You, the Almighty, have done great things for me and holy **is** your name

You have mercy on those who **fear** you:  
From generation to **generation**.

You have shown strength with your **arm**  
And scattered the proud in **their** conceit.

Casting down the mighty from their **thrones**  
And lifting **up** the lowly.

You have filled the hungry with good **things**  
And sent the rich **away empty**.

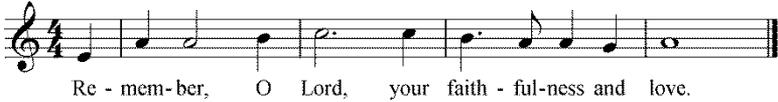
You have come to the aid of your servant **Israel**  
To remember the **promise** of mercy

The promise you made to our **forebears**  
To Abraham, Sarah, and their **children** for ever.

Glory 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.

## The Litany

**Refrain** (*All sing the **Refrain** after the introduction and between each intercession.*)



God of the one vineyard, call us to abide in your love in all we do and say.  
Holy One, hear and have mercy.

### Refrain

Teach us to love others as you have loved us.  
Holy One, hear and have mercy.

### Refrain

Merciful God, show us in Christ that we are one in you.  
Holy One, hear and have mercy.

### Refrain

God who gathers, knit us together as one vine in your Son Jesus.  
Holy One, hear and have mercy.

### Refrain

Send love to the world so that believers of all faiths may be able to listen to each other and live in peace.  
Holy One, hear and have mercy.

### Refrain

## Collect

*The collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that “collects” or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.*

Almighty God, you sent forth your servant Anskar and became his stronghold against despair when prejudice was deaf to his preaching and violence overthrew his labours.

Sustain your Church in days of discouragement, that we may ever trust you to preserve and bring to perfect fruition what your own right hand has planted; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

Confident in hope, let us gather our prayers and praises into one, and pray as our Saviour taught us,

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## Hymn – Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

TEXT: George Herbert (1595-1633)

MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). THE CALL



Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a  
Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a  
Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a  
way as gives us breath, such a truth as ends all  
light as shows a feast, such a feast as mends in  
joy as none can move, such a love as none can  
strife, such a life as kill - - - eth death.  
length, such a strength as makes his guest.  
part, such a heart as joys in love.

## The Dismissal

Be one, so that the world may believe! Abide in his love, go into the world and bear the fruits of this love.

**May the God of hope fill us with all joy and all peace in faith, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Organ** – *Allegro* from Sonata No. 1

Alexandre Guilmant

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NEXT WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10  
EVENING PRAYER  
FERIA

*Officiant:* Rev. Dr. Dan Tatarnic; *Cantor:* Richard Cunningham

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