

Wednesday, March 3, 2021– Christ’s Church Cathedral

“LOST IN WONDER, LOVE AND PRAISE”

A HYMN FESTIVAL TO CELEBRATE
THE COMMEMORATION OF JOHN AND CHARLES WESLEY

Priests and Evangelists, 1791, 1788



A hymn or song of praise reminds us of who God is and what we have been promised. And so, a hymn festival is an occasion centered on these hymns and songs of praise— songs sung in community gathering our prayer and praises into one.

Today’s hymn festival celebrates Charles Wesley, who, with his brother John, launched the Methodist revival in the eighteenth century Church of England. Brought up strict Anglicans, the two brothers both became priests with a demanding sense of purpose. In the year 1738, they each experienced “conversion of the heart” and went forth to help others know the same assurance of God’s love. Wherever they went their mission drew immense crowds, who often responded with uncontrollable fervour. But the Wesleys did more than preach to the crowds; they also developed a network of support-groups in order to sustain the revival. Hymn-singing became a prominent feature of these Methodist meetings, because the Wesleys understood the power of good hymns to teach sound doctrine and heartfelt religion. In time, much to the grief of the Wesley brothers, a large section of the Methodist movement separated from the Church of England, but the brothers’ work gave Anglicanism a new vitality.

Animators – Mark Russom, Dan Tatarnic and Michael Bloss
Organist – Michael Bloss

Words of Introduction

Organ Herzlich tut mich erfreuen Johannes Brahms

Prayer (*all respond at the bold text*)

Creator God,
because you make all that draws forth our praise
and the forms in which to express it,
we praise you.

Because you make artists of us all,
awakening courage to look again at what is taken for granted,
grace to share these insights with others,
vision to reveal the future already in being,
we praise you.

Because you form your Word among us,
and in your great work embrace all human experience,
even death itself, inspiring our resurrection song,
we praise you.
Yours is the glory.
Amen.

Commentary

Hymn – Christ, whose glory fills the skies)

Music: Melody from Werner's *Choralbuch*, Leipzig, 1815. RATISBON



Christ whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly light,
Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - ani - ed by thee;
Vi - sit then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of Right-eous - ness a - rise, tri-umph o'er the shades of night;
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer-cy's beams I see,
fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine, scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap-pear.
till they in-ward light im-part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis-play, shin-ing to the per-fect way.

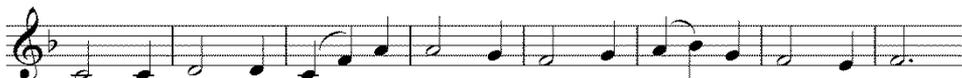
Commentary

Hymn – Love Divine, all Loves Excelling

Music: William Penfro Rowlands (1860-1937). BLAENWERN-



Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, Joy of heav'n to earth come down,
Come, al - migh - ty to de - li - ver, let us all thy life re - ceive,
Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less let us be;



fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
sud - den - ly re - turn, and ne - ver, ne - ver more thy tem - ples leave.
Let us see thy great sal - va - tion, per - fect - ly re - stored in thee,



Je - su, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure un - boun - ded love, thou art;
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,
changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heav'n we take our place,



vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
pray, and praise thee, with - out cea - sing, Glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Commentary

Hymn – O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Music: Thomas Haweis (1734-1820) adapt. Samuel Webbe. RICHMOND

O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my
Je - sus! the name that charms our fears, that
He speaks, and lis - tening to his voice, new
Hear him, ye deaf, ye voice - less ones, your
My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as -
dear Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my
bids our sor - rows cease; 'tis mu - sic in the
life the dead re - ceive, the mourn - ful bro - ken
loos - ened tongues em - ploy; ye blind be - hold your
sist - me to pro - claim, to spread through all the
God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace.
sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
Sav - iour come, and leap, ye lame for joy!
earth a - broad the hon - ours of thy name.

Commentary

Hymn O, He comes with clouds descending.

Music: Melody attrib. Thomas Olivers (1725-1799). HELMSLEY

Lo! he comes with clouds de - scen - ding, once for
Ev - ry eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
Now re - demp tion long ex - pect - ed, see in
Yea, a - men let all a - dore thee high on
our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
dread - ful ma - jes - ty all who set at
sol - emn pomp ap - pear all his saints on
thine e - ter - nal throne Sa - viour take the
saints a - ten - ding join to sing the glad re -
nought and sold him, pierced and nailed him to the
earth re - ject - ed thrill the trum - pet sound to
pow'r and glo - ry claim the king - dom for thine.
frain: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
tree, deep - ly griev - ing, deep - ly griev - ing,
hear: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia
own: O come quick - ly O come quick - ly
al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
deep - ly griev - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
al - le - lu - ia, See the day of God ap - pear.
O come quick - ly Al - le - lu - ia. Come, Lord, come.

Commentary

Hymn: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Music: John Stainer (1840-1901). CROSS OF JESUS



Come, thou long ex - pec - ted Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free; -
Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art; -
Born thy peo - ple to de - li - ver; born a child and yet a king;
By thy own e - ter - nal Spi - rit, rule in all our hearts a - lone:



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er; now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thy all suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glor - ious throne.

Commentary

Hymn: Jesus, Lover of My Soul.

Music: Joseph Parry (1841-1903). ABERYSTWYTH



Je - sus lov - er of my soul, let me to thy bo - som fly.
Oth - er re - fuge have I none; hang my help - less soul on thee.
Thou, O Christ art all I want; more than all in thee I find!
Plen - teous grace with thee is found, grace to co - ver all my sin;



while the near - er wa - ters roll, while the tem - pest still is high.
Leave, ah! leave me not a - lone; still sup - port and com - fort me.
Raise the fal - len cheer the faint, heal the sick and lead the blind.
let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and keep me pure with - in.



Hide me, O my Sa - viour hide, till the storm of life is past;
All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;
Just and ho - ly is thy name; I am all un - right eous - ness;
Thou of life the foun - tain art; free - ly let me take of thee;



safe in - to the ha - ven guide; O re - veive my soul at last.
cov - er my de - fence - less head with the sha - dow of thy wing.
false and full of sin I am; thou art full of truth and grace.
spring thou up with - in my heart; rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.

Collect for the Commemoration of John and Charles Wesley

Lord God, you inspired John and Charles Wesley to thirst after true righteousness, and endowed them with eloquence in speech and song that the hearts and voices of many might testify to the work of Christ. Grant us, we pray, the power of your Spirit, to kindle anew in hearts grown cold the ardent love of Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Prayer of Parting *(said by all)*

**God of majesty,
whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven:
Be with all your people who employ art and music for your praise,
that with joy we on earth may glimpse your beauty;
and bring us to the fulfillment of that hope of perfection
which will be ours as we stand before your unveiled glory.
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

A Concluding Prayer

Turn our hearts to you,
eternal God, and grant that,
seeking always the one thing necessary
and carrying out works of charity,
we may be dedicated to your worship.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit,
God forever and ever.

Amen.

The Dismissal (*all respond with the bold text*)

May the Lord bless us,
protect us from evil and bring us to everlasting life.

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord!
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ – O World I Must Leave Thee

Johannes Brahms

NEXT WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

A LENT SERVICE OF COMPLINE
MEMORIAL OF ROBERT MACHREY, FIRST PRIMATE OF CANADA

Officiant: The Dean; *Cantor:* Anne Kae

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