

LUMINARIA

A Ceremony of Light

TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2022

The wonder & mystery of Christmas sung by the
outstanding Girls' Choir of St Catharine's College



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Order of Luminaria

The congregation are asked to wait quietly before the service begins with the procession of the Dean of Chapel and the St Catharine's College Girls' Choir into the Main Court, singing:

1. O come, O come Emmanuel!
Redeem thy captive Israel
That into exile drear is gone,
Far from the face of God's dear Son.
*Gaude, gaude! Emmanuel
Nascetur pro te, Israel.*

2. O come, thou Branch of Jesse! Draw
The quarry from the lion's claw;
From the dread caverns of the grave,
From nether hell, thy people save.

3. O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright!
Pour on our souls thy healing light;
Dispel the long night's lingering gloom,
And pierce the shadows of the tomb.

4. O come, O come, Adonai,
Who in thy glorious majesty
From Sinai's mountain, clothed in awe,
Gavest thy folk the elder Law.

The Dean of Chapel prays:

Blessèd are you, Sovereign God, creator of light and darkness! As evening falls, you renew your promise to reveal among us the light of your presence. May your word be a lantern to our feet and a light upon our path, that we may behold your glory coming among us.

All respond:

Blessèd be God for ever!

The Luminaria fire is lit while the choir sings an ancient Christian hymn in the original Koine Greek from the 3rd or 4th century.

GREEK HYMN TO THE LIGHT

Phos Hilaron

Φῶς ἱλαρὸν ἀγίας δόξης
ἀθανάτου Πατρός, οὐρανοῦ,
ἀγίου, μάκαρος,
Ἰησοῦ Χριστέ,
ἐλθόντες ἐπὶ τὴν ἡλίου δύσιν,
ιδόντες φῶς ἔσπερινόν,
ὑμνοῦμεν Πατέρα,
Υἷόν, καὶ ἅγιον Πνεῦμα, Θεόν.
Ἄξιόν σε ἐν πᾶσι καιροῖς
ὑμνεῖσθαι φωναῖς αἰσίσαις,
Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ζωὴν ὁ διδούς·
διὸ ὁ κόσμος σε δοξάζει.

O Joyful Light of the holy glory
of the immortal, heavenly,
holy blessed Father,
O Jesus Christ.
Having come to the setting of the sun,
having beheld the evening light,
we hymn the Father,
Son, and Holy Spirit, God.
Meet it is at all times
to hymn Thee with reverend voices,
O Son of God, Giver of Life, wherefore the
whole world doth glorify Thee.



The Dean of Chapel prays:

As your word, O Lord, gives light to our path, may we behold the glory of your presence and so rejoice to sing your praise, now and forever.

Amen.

THE OPENING RESPONSES

The Dean

O Lord, open thou our lips

Choir

And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

The Dean

O God, make speed to save us.

Choir

O Lord, make haste to help us.

The Dean

Glorify 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.

The Dean

Praise ye the Lord.

Choir

The Lord's name be praised.

CHORAL PSALM

Lift thine eyes (from Elijah) Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Lift thine eyes to the mountain, whence cometh help.

My help cometh even from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

He hath said thy foot shall not be moved.

Thy keeper will never slumber.

Psalm 121:1-3

PRAYER FOR PEACE

The Dean of Chapel prays:

Almighty God, we pray that in the darkness of conflict and disagreement you will bring the light of your peace and reconciliation.

We give you thanks for the promise of peace given to us in your Son Jesus Christ and we pray that, through hope, we may be inspired to strive for its realisation.

Acknowledging our own wrongdoing and inadequacy, we pray for peace in our own lives and relationships and we pray for peace in our troubled world.

Amen.



THE GREAT SILENCE

A minute of silence is observed to pray for peace.

ANTHEM

Confitemini Domino quoniam bonus:
quoniam in saeculum misericordia eius.
Alleluia.

O give thanks unto the Lord for he is good: his mercy endureth for ever.
Alleluia.

THE READING

1 John 1: 5-7 & 4: 7-9

A reading from the first letter of John

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Adam lay ybounden

Matthew Larkin

Adam lay ybounden,
Bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long.
And all was for an apple,
An apple that he took,
As clerkës finden
Written in their book.
Ne had the apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne had never Our Lady
A-been heaven's queen.
Blessed be the time
That apple taken was.
Therefore we may singen
Deo gratias!



THE FINAL RESPONSES

The Dean

Vouchsafe, O Lord:

Choir

To keep us this night without sin

The Dean

O Lord, have mercy upon us:

Choir

Have mercy upon us

The Dean

O Lord, let thy mercy be upon us:

Choir

As our trust is in thee.

The Dean

Turn us again, thou Lord of hosts:

Choir

Show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole

The Dean

O Lord, hear our prayer:

Choir

And let our cry come unto thee.

The Dean

The Lord be with you:

Choir

And with thy spirit.

The Dean

Let us bless the Lord.

Choir

Thanks be to God.

The Dean

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

Choir

Amen.

The choir sings from the steps of the chapel one of the most ancient Christians hymns, from a 3rd Century fragment of papyrus discovered at Oxyrhynchus, Egypt

GREEK HYMN

... σιγάτω
μηδ'άστρα φαεσφορα λ..ε..θων
ποταμών ροθιων πασαι
ύμνούντων δ'ήμών ..ατερα χ'υιόν χ'άγιον
πνεύμα
πάσαι δυναάμεις έπιφωνούντων άμήν άμήν
κράτος άινοσ ...
δ..ήρι μονω παντων άγαθών άμήν άμήν

...Let it be silent

Let the luminous stars not shine,
Let the winds and all the noisy rivers die
down;
And as we hymn the Father, the Son and the
Holy Spirit,
Let all the powers add 'Amen Amen' Empire,
praise always, and glory to God, The sole
giver of good things, Amen Amen.

After a few moments, the congregation
depart in peace.



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Family of a patient who received Hospice at Home care Sept 22

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Thank you for joining us at the 2022 Luminaria! St Catharine's College is extremely grateful to Mills & Reeve for their generous sponsorship of this event. If you would like to donate to Arthur Rank Hospice, there are stewards with donation buckets around Main Court. Safe travels home, and Merry Christmas from everyone at St Catharine's College.

Stay in Touch

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