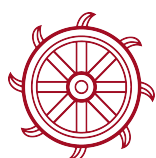


LUMINARIA

A Ceremony of Light

TUESDAY 12 DECEMBER 2023

Sung by the Girls' Choir of St Catharine's College



St Catharine's College
Cambridge

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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 ἰλαρὸν 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

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.

The Dean

Praise ye the Lord.

Choir

The Lord's name be praised.

CHORAL PSALM

Joy to the world

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:

Let earth receive her King!

Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,

And heav'n and nature sing!

Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns:

Let men their songs employ,

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,

And makes the nations prove

The glories of his righteousness

And wonders of his love.

based on Psalm 98

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

Here is the little door

Katharine Parton

Here is the little door, lift up the latch, oh lift!
We need not wonder more but enter with our gift;
Our gift of finest gold,
Gold that was never bought nor sold,
Myrrh to be strewn about his bed;
Incense in clouds above his head;
All for the Child who stirs not in his sleep.
But holy slumber holds with ass and sheep.

Bend low about his bed, for each he has a gift;
See how his eyes awake, lift up your hands, O lift!
For gold, he gives a keen-edged sword
(Defend with it Thy little Lord!),
For incense, smoke of battle red.
Myrrh for the honoured happy dead;
Gifts for his children terrible and sweet,
Touched by such tiny hands and oh such tiny feet.

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

Gaudete

trad. Pia Cantiones (1582)

Gaudete! gaudete! Christus est natus
Ex Maria Virgine: gaudete!

Tempus adest gratiae,
Hoc quod optabamus;
Carmina laetitiae
Devote reddamus.

Deus homo factus est,
Natura mirante;
Mundus renovatus est
A Christo regnante.

Ergo nostra concio
Psallat iam in lustro;
Benedicat Domino:
Salus Regi nostro.

*Rejoice! rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin
Mary; rejoice!*

*God is made mad, while nature wonders;
the world is renewed by Christ the King.*

*The time of grace has come for which we
have prayed; let us devoutly sing songs of
joy.*

*Therefore let our assembly sing praises now
at this time of purification; let it bless the
Lord: greetings to our King.*



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 έπιφνούντων 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 2023 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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