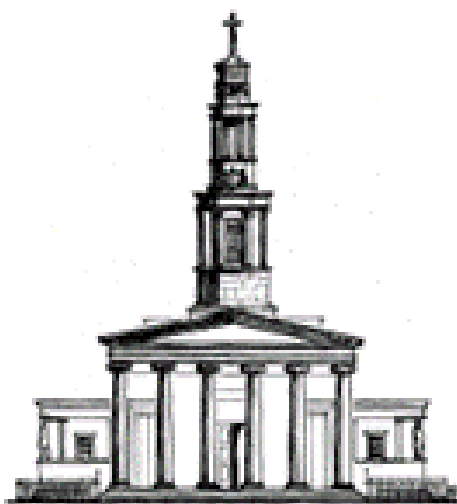


St Pancras Church

Sunday, 23 March 2025, 2pm



A Service of Evening Prayer
including valedictory thanks to
Dr. Christopher Batchelor

Welcome to St Pancras Church for this special service of evensong. This afternoon we commemorate and celebrate the long and faithful service that Dr. Christopher Batchelor has given to St Pancras Church as director of music and organist. We celebrate and give thanks too, for Christopher's musical leadership. For over 37 years, Christopher has dedicated himself to the musical life of this church and the wider area and the worship of congregations here has been enriched by Christopher's skill, energy and devotion. It is wonderful and fitting that several musical elements of this service, including the choral setting for the preces and responses, have been composed by Christopher during his time at St Pancras Church.

Music before the service:

Sounding heaven and earth

Cecilia McDowall

The Order for Evensong

(Please remain seated as the choir and clergy process through the nave.)

Introit: Locus Iste

Howard Skempton

(Sung by the choir)

Minister: O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir: And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Minister: O God, make speed to save us.

Choir: O Lord, make haste to help us.

(Please stand)

Minister: 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.

Minister: Praise ye the Lord.

Choir: The Lord's Name be praised.

Hymn: Christ shall be our sure foundation

(Please stand)

- 1 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and corner-stone,
Chosen of the Lord, and precious,
Binding all the church in one,
Holy Zion's help for ever,
And her confidence alone.**
- 2 To this temple, where we call thee,
Come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
With thy wonted loving-kindness
Hear thy servants as they pray;
And thy fullest benediction
Shed within its walls alway.**
- 3 Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
What they ask of thee to gain,
What they gain from thee for ever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in thy glory
Evermore with thee to reign.**

**4 Laud and honour to the Father,
Laud and honour to the Son,
Laud and honour to the Spirit,
Ever Three, and ever One,
Consubstantial, co-eternal,
While unending ages run.**

Latin 7th century; Tr. J. M. Neale (1818-1866)
Tune: Westminster Abbey, adapted from Purcell

Psalm 24 v.1-8 *chant by Christopher Batchelor*
(*Sung by the choir, please be seated.*)

The earth is the Lord's and all that therein is:
the compass of the world and they that dwell therein.

For he hath founded it upon the seas:
and prepared it upon the floods.

Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord:
or who shall rise up in his holy place?

Even he that hath clean hands and a pure heart:
and that hath not lift up his mind unto vanity, nor sworn to
deceive his neighbour.

He shall receive the blessing from the Lord:
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

This is the generation of them that seek him:
even of them that seek thy face O Jacob.

Lift up your heads O ye gates, and be ye lifted up ye
everlasting doors:
and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is the King of glory:

it is the Lord strong and mighty, even the Lord mighty in battle.

(Please stand)

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.

Hymn: O Trinity of Blessed Light

- 1 O Trinity of blessed light,
O unity of princely might,
the fiery sun now goes his way;
shed thou within our hearts thy ray.**
- 2 To thee our morning son of praise,
to thee our evening prayer we raise;
thy glory suppliant we adore
for ever and for evermore.**
- 3 All laud to God the Father be;
all praise, eternal Son, to thee;
all glory, as is ever meet,
to God the holy Paraclete.**

Saint Ambrose (340-397), Tr. John M Neale (1818-1866)

Tune: Holborn by Christopher Batchelor

(Please be seated)

Now the Spirit of the Lord had departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord tormented him.

Saul's attendants said to him, "See, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. Let our lord command his servants here to search for someone who can play the lyre. He will play when the evil spirit from God comes on you, and you will feel better."

So Saul said to his attendants, "Find someone who plays well and bring him to me."

One of the servants answered, "I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem who knows how to play the lyre. He is a brave man and a warrior. He speaks well and is a fine-looking man. And the Lord is with him."

Then Saul sent messengers to Jesse and said, "Send me your son David, who is with the sheep." So Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine and a young goat and sent them with his son David to Saul.

David came to Saul and entered his service. Saul liked him very much, and David became one of his armour-bearers.

Then Saul sent word to Jesse, saying, "Allow David to remain in my service, for I am pleased with him."

Whenever the spirit from God came on Saul, David would take up his lyre and play. Then relief would come to Saul; he would feel better, and the evil spirit would leave him.

Here ends the first lesson.

Magnificat

Kerry Andrews

(Sung by the choir. Please stand.)

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 for ever.

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

Colossians 3:12-17

(Please be seated.)

Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Here ends the second lesson.

Nunc Dimittis

Philip Moore

(Sung by the choir. Please stand.)

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.

The Apostle's Creed

(Please stand)

**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 Catholick Church;
The Communion of Saints;
The Forgiveness of sins;
The Resurrection of the body,
And the Life everlasting.
Amen.**

Minister: The Lord be with you.

Choir: And with thy spirit.

Minister: Let us pray.

(Please sit or kneel)

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, which art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy Name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done,

in 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.

Minister: O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Choir: And grant us thy salvation.

Minister: O Lord, save the King.

Choir: And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Minister: Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

Choir: And make thy chosen people joyful.

Minister: O Lord, save thy people.

Choir: And bless thine inheritance.

Minister: Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Choir: Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.

Minister: O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Choir: And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose most dear Son
went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all
just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace
which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set
to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being
defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in
rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our
Saviour.
Amen.

Evening Collect

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Anthem Faire is the Heaven

William Harris

Sermon and Words of Thanks

Revd. Paul Hawkins, Former Vicar, St Pancras Church

Hymn Love Divine, All Love Excelling
(Please stand)

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven to earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.**

- 2 Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast,
Let us all in thee inherit,
Let us find that second rest;
Take away our power of sinning,
Alpha and Omega be,
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty**

**3 Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy grace receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.**

**4 Finish then thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation,
Perfectly restored in thee:
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!**

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)
Tune: Blaenwern by William Rowlands

The Blessing

(Please remain standing)

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted; honour everyone;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the blessing of Almighty God
the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Minister: The Lord be with you

All: and with thy spirit.

Minister: Let us bless the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Please remain standing as the ministers process through the nave to the west door.

Music after the service:

Sacred and Hallowed Fire

Cecilia McDowall

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You are invited to stay for refreshments at the back of the church.

Christopher Batchelor

Christopher was an organ scholar of Hertford College, Oxford, during which time he was taught by James Dalton. After graduating he moved to Cambridge where, under the supervision of Peter le Huray, he pursued research into 17th century English church music, being awarded both an MPhil and a PhD. During this time he held positions at both Downing and Gonville & Caius Colleges.



Christopher moved to London in 1988, succeeding Christopher Bowers-Broadbent as Director of Music and Organist of St Pancras Parish Church. He has taught at a number of institutions, including University College School and the Royal Military School of Music where he was Professor of Orchestration and Arranging.

Following the re-establishment of the London College of Music in 2006, Christopher became head of the institution, working with many well-known colleagues and establishing a modern conservatoire. His contributions to education and contemporary church music have been acknowledged by the award of an Hon. FLCM.

Alongside his performing experience, he has a long-standing practical interest in the organ. Christopher is a professional member of the Institute of British Organ Building and he was Managing Director of Harrison & Harrison Organ Builders until July 2017; his legacy has been described as “unprecedented”. He continues his association with the organ as an advisor/consultant.

During his early days at what was variously called TVU and LCM, Christopher could see clearly that there were serious gaps in the church music repertoire and, with Francis Pott, Antony Pitts, Judith Weir, Judith Bingham and Diana Burrell, he set about finding those

who wanted to contribute towards filling those gaps. Christopher founded The London Festival of Contemporary Church Music in 2002.

Many members of the St Pancras Church PCC commissioned new works, several on a number of occasions, and this modest body of colleagues funded a unique amalgam of contemporary church music. Not every one was a winner, but folk took risks, and the eleven day LFCCM annual event was unique and, through its Call for Scores, built up a tremendous range. The LFCCM was much admired by the BBC, and for seventeen years, the LFCCM led the way in respect of contemporary church choral music and was seen by many as the foremost body for new church music commissioning. Christopher remained artistic director of LFCCM until 2021.

Christopher, after your long, creative, energetic, distinguished and dedicated service here at St Pancras Church, all of us at St Pancras Church express our heartfelt thanks. We wish you every blessing for the future. Thank you.