



PALMER MEMORIAL
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
————— HOUSTON, TEXAS —————

*Bringing the peace of Jesus
to the whole world*

CHORAL EVENSONG

4:00 PM | OCTOBER 5, 2025

6221 MAIN STREET | HOUSTON, TEXAS 77030 | 713.529.6196
PALMERCHURCH.ORG

Welcome to Palmer!



We are a community of Christians worshiping in the Episcopal tradition, which has its roots in the practices of the ancient Church. We are a congregation that values not only eternal answers but also important questions. You are surrounded by the love of Jesus here today. Scan the QR code to the left or visit palmerchurch.org/connect to fill out a welcome card or prayer request.

Those who have brought with them an offering are invited to place it in the offering plate located in the narthex of the church. Others are invited to make their financial contributions online at palmerchurch.org/give or by using this QR code.



Throughout the history of Anglican Christianity, the daily recitation of Morning and Evening Prayer has played an essential role in the worship tradition of both cathedral and parish churches. The service of Evensong is the choral version of Evening Prayer, developed from the service found in the Book of Common Prayer. Choral Evensong has been sung regularly since the sixteenth century. The present form consists of sung verses and responses, a sung psalm and canticles, choral anthems, congregational hymns, prayers, and scripture.

During this liturgy, we seek to offer beauty in song to God, the giver of all beauty and goodness. The congregation is invited to participate in the singing of the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the hymn, and in the responses to the readings, and to join, in prayerful silence, the other portions of the service that are led by the priest and the choir.

Prelude: Rhapsody in D-flat, Op. 17, No. 1

Herbert Howells (1892 – 1983)

Yuri McCoy, *Guest Organist*

Introit: *O almighty God*

George Barcroft (1886 – 1948)

O Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth;
Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and grant us thy peace all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*All stand for the procession. After the choir and ministers of the liturgy have taken their places, the
Officiant invites the people to be seated.*

Processional: Choral

Joseph Jongen (1873 – 1953)

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

All stand. Choir and clergy sing.

The Preces

Katherine Burk Webb (b. 1990)

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips;

Choir And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant 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.

Officiant Praise ye the Lord.

Choir The Lord's name be praised.

Except the Lord build the house:
their labour is but lost that build it.
Except the Lord keep the city:
the watchman waketh but in vain.
It is but lost labour that ye haste to rise up early, and so late take rest,
and eat the bread of carefulness:
for so he giveth his beloved sleep.
Lo, children and the fruit of the womb:
are an heritage and gift that cometh of the Lord.
Like as the arrows in the hand of the giant:
even so are the young children.
Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them:
they shall not be ashamed, when they shall speak with their enemies in the gate.
*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 LESSONS

Please be seated.

First Reading

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Reader A reading from the Prophet of Habakkuk.

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you 'Violence!' and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrong doing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous—therefore judgement comes forth perverted.

I will stand at my watch-post, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand at “Glory be to the Father . . .”

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his hand-maiden. 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 rememb’ring 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.*

Please be seated.

Second Reading

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Reader A reading from the Second Letter to Timothy.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,
To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand at "Glory be to the Father . . ."

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 APOSTLES' CREED

Remain standing, sung by all in unison.

Officiant I believe in God,

People 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 catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

All remain standing. Choir and clergy sing, with the Lord's Prayer sung by all in unison.

The Responses

Katherine Burk Webb

Officiant The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

Choir Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant Our Father,

People who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Suffrages

Katherine Burk Webb

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
Choir And grant us thy salvation.
Officiant O Lord, save the State.
Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.
Officiant O Lord, save thy people.
Choir And bless thine inheritance.
Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
Officiant O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collects

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise thee in that City of which he is the light; and where he liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know thee as thou art revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of thy love. **Amen.**

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake. **Amen.**

Please be seated

Greeting from the Rector

Anthem: *Behold, O God our defender*

Herbert Howells

Behold, O God, our defender, and look upon the face of thine Anointed.
For one day in thy courts is better than a thousand.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Those who are able may kneel.

Officiant Let us pray.

People Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all people.
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Remain kneeling.

Officiant Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee, and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

All stand.

Hymn "Now evening comes"

Keiser

1 Now eve - ning comes to close the day, and
2 In - to your hands, e - ter - nal Friend, we
3 In wak - ing, lift our thoughts a - bove, in
4 To Fath - er, Son, and Spir - it—praise, all

soon the si - lent hours shall ban - ish all our
give our - selves a - gain, and to your watch - ful
sleep - ing guard us still, that we may rise to
mor - tal praise be given, till sleep at last shall

fears a - way, and sleep re - new our powers.
care com - mend all those in grief or pain.
know your love and prove your per - fect will.
end our days and we shall wake in heaven!

Words: Michael Perry (b. 1942)

Music: David Ashley White (b. 1944)

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Officiant

The Rev'd Neil Alan Willard

Director of Music

Dr. Brady Knapp

Guest Organist

Yuri McCoy

Composer-in-Residence

David Ashley White

Crucifer

Victor Lamas

Acolytes

David Madrigal

David Palma

MEMBERS OF THE ADULT CHOIR

Becky Armenta
Alan Austin
Alison Bieser
John Bilane
Catherine Beebe
Steven Breyfogle
Ashley Brooks
Laura Campbell
Noemy Cervantes
Janet Covington
William Dopp
Paige Edwards

Brendan Emig
Camille Emig
Cynthia Everett
Trey Fitzgerald
David Furney
Nidia Guevara-Nolasco
Sarah Hardin
Johnna Kincaid
Tho Le
Christine Manca
Alice Masquelette
Eric Murillo

Mike Murphy
David Paxton
Patrick Perez
Mariana Rodriguez
Carol Streatfeild
Ryan Stickney
Elizabeth Tait
Jessica Thrift
Jordan Twadell
Eleanor Viebig
Dick Viebig
Emily Wolf