

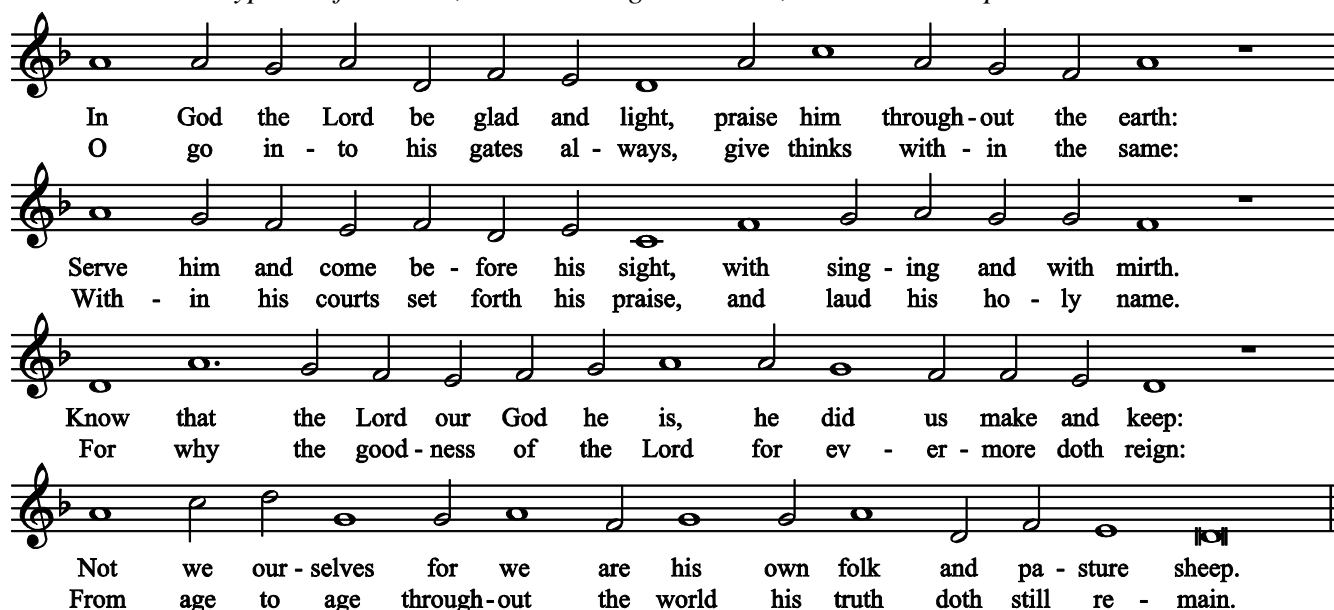
Cadeirlan Bangor Cathedral : Sunday, 12 February 2012

Choral Evensong sung by the Schola of St Teilo as in The Book of Common Prayer of Elizabeth I (1559)

Part of *The Experience of Worship in late medieval Cathedral and Parish Church* research project
School of Music, Bangor University

By authority of the Queen Elizabeth's injunctions (1559), it was permissible to sing texts other than those authorised in the Book of Common Prayer before and after the service.

*All remain seated to sing the metrical version of Psalm 100, published by John Day in 1562.
In the manner typical of the time, the clerk sings each line, and all then repeat it.*



In God the Lord be glad and light, praise him through-out the earth:
O go in - to his gates al - ways, give thanks with - in the same:

Serve him and come be - fore his sight, with sing - ing and with mirth.
With - in his courts set forth his praise, and laud his ho - ly name.

Know that the Lord our God he is, he did us make and keep:
For why the good - ness of the Lord for ev - er - more doth reign:

Not we our - selves for we are his own folk and pa - sture sheep.
From age to age through-out the world his truth doth still re - main.

During the metrical psalm the ministers enter: remain seated

Sentence and invitation to confession

Kneeling, all say the Confession, repeating each line after the priest

Absolution. *The priest alone then says the Lord's Prayer*

All remain kneeling while the choir sings the Preces (William Byrd)

All sit while the choir sings Psalm 114 and Psalm 55, vv 1-2, 4-7, 17 (William Byrd)

Remain seated for 'Glory be to the Father'

First lesson: Genesis 6 (text from The Great Bible, 1539)

All stand while the choir sings Magnificat (William Byrd, Pricke Semibriefe Service)

After Magnificat, all sit for the Second Lesson

Second lesson: Luke 17, vv 20-end (text from The Great Bible, 1539)

All stand while the choir sings Nunc dimittis (William Byrd, Pricke Semibriefe Service)

All remain standing to recite the Creed, repeating each phrase after the priest

All kneel devoutly

Lesser Litany, Lord's Prayer, Versicles and Responses (Thomas Tallis)

Collects for Sexagesima, peace, and protection from danger

The service of Evensong concludes with the three collects. What follows is sung under the authority of the Royal Injunctions (1559) 'for such as delight in music'. All sit, while the choir sings the early verse anthem by William Mundy, Ah helpless wretch (words adapted from William Hunnis)

Ah, helpless wretch, what shall I do? Or which way shall I turn or run?
The earth bewrays, the heavens record the wickedness that I have done.
Have mercy, Lord, for Christ thy Son.
Alas, where shall I succour find? both heaven and earth do me deny,
So that unto the heavens above I dare not once lift up mine eye,
For I have sinned so grievously.
If heaven and earth shall witness be against my sickly soul for sin,
Untimely birth (alas) for me a great deal better it had been
Than heaven to lose and hell to win.
Shall I despair? Thou God, forbid: I know that mercy more is thine
Than if the sins of all the world were knit and linked unto mine;
Wherefore my soul, do not repine.
Despise not then, most loving Lord, the form and image of thine face,
Which thou hast wrought and dearly brought with mercy, great goodness, and grace.
Accept therefore my humble complaints, and grant me rest among thy saints. Amen.

Metrical Psalm 150 (from Parker's metrical psalter, 1567, with original melody by Thomas Tallis)



1. O praise ye God of ex - cel - lence, In his res - pect of ho - li - ness: And
2. O praise ye him for ma je - sty, In trum - pets sound ef - fec - ti - vus: And
3. O praise ye him all boun - ti - ful, In cym - bals' sound out loud in state: And

praise ye his mag - ni - fi - cence, In fir - ma - ment of sta - ble - ness. O
praise ye his au - tho - ri - ty, In lute and harp me - lo - di - ous. O
praise ye him, so pi - ti - ful: In cym - bals' sound more mi - ti - gate. Let

praise ye him as Sa - vi - our, For his sweet acts he - ro - i - cal, And
praise ye him all sa - pi - ent, In tim - brel sweet with dance in choir: And
all with breath or life en - dued, Or what with sound is for - ti - fied: Praise

praise ye him as go - vern - or For his great power po - ten - ti - al.
praise ye him so pro - vi - dent In fid - dle strong, in re - cor - dere.
out the Lord in state re - newed, For grace and power to all ap - plied.

Organ fantasia: Orlando Gibbons, from *Parthenia*, 1612