Opening Improvisation

Opening Sentences

The Invitatory and Psalter

The Preces and Responses

Office Hymn 442, “IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY”

Solemn Evensong (sung Evening Prayer, Rite I beginning on page 61 of The Book of Common Prayer) is one of the jewels of the Anglican tradition. Most of the service is sung, often by the choir alone.

Opening Improvisation

Patrick A. Scott

The Invitatory and Psalter

music: Ben Outen, 2005

The Preces and Responses

V. O God, make speed to save us:
R. O lord, make hast to help us.
V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

Office Hymn 442, “IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY”

music : Tomter, Bruce Neswick (b. 1956); desc. Neswick
text: John Bowring (1792-1872)
The Gradual: Psalm 98:1-4

1 Sing to the Lord a new song, *  
   for he has done marvelous things.
2 With his right hand and his holy arm *  
   has he won for himself the victory.
3 The Lord has made known his victory; *  
   his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *  
   and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

The First Lesson

6:14-18

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen

The Magnificat

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. 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, forever. 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 Second Lesson

12:31-36a

Jesus said, “Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, “We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” Jesus said to them, “The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.”

The Nunc Dimittis

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
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 catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

The Preces and Responses

V. The Lord be with you.
R. And with thy spirit
Our Father, 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. Amen
V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us:
R. And grant us thy salvation.
V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness:
R. And make thy chosen people joyful.
V. Give peace O Lord in all the world
R. For only in thee can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under they care.
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let thy way be known upon earth.
R. Thy saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten.
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God.
R. And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.
The Collects

The Collect of the Day
Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

A Collect for Aid against Perils
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 Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

A 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 our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Anthem at the Offering
music: Jacques Clement (Clemens non Papa) (ca. 1510 - ca.1555), Adoramus te
text: Antiphon for Good Friday

Adoramus te, Christe, et benedicimus tibi, quia per sanctam crucem tuam redemisti mundum.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we bless Thee, who by Thy Holy Cross hast redeemed the world.

The General Thanksgiving
Officiant and People say
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 men. 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
Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication 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
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.
The Closing Hymn 473, “LIFT HIGH THE CROSS”

music: Crucifer, Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947); desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)
text: George William Kitchin (1827-1912); alt. Michael Robert Newbolt (1874-1956)

Voluntary: “IMPROVISATION ON CRUCIFER”

The Rev. Ollie V. Rencher, Officiant
Dr. Patrick A. Scott, Director of Music & Organist
Debbie Smith, Assistant Organist-Choirmaster
Elizabeth Hornor, Shelby Seese, Isabel Wittman,
Andrew Carroll, Daniel Massey, Charles McGowan, & André Moore, Choir

[Music notation for Lift High the Cross, the love of Christ proclaim]

[Music notation for Voluntary: Improvisation on Crucifer]