

YALE INSTITUTE OF SACRED MUSIC

Lutheran Vespers

YALE CONSORT

JAMES O'DONNELL, CONDUCTOR

DECEMBER 3, 2024

5:30 PM

UNITED CHURCH

NEW HAVEN



Yale Consort is a professional vocal ensemble sponsored by the Yale Institute of Sacred Music. It is conducted by Professor James O'Donnell and provides high-quality choral music in partnership with Yale School of Music and Yale Divinity students through weekly term-time evening services in local parishes and chapels.

**For more information and to view all upcoming services,
please visit ism.yale.edu or use this QR code:**



For at least the last eighteen centuries, some formula for prayer at the end of the day has been part of the Christian tradition. We don't know precisely what the earliest Vespers looked like or sounded like, but certain themes have endured, including confession, gratitude, and light. While Vespers never quite became a significant part of Lutheran piety, that it is still kept at all in the Lutheran tradition may be thanks to one church: the Thomaskirche in Leipzig.

For twenty-seven years Johann Sebastian Bach served as the Kantor of the Thomaskirche, where most of his cantatas were composed—and though Bach's cantatas were generally performed at a Sunday morning liturgy, our service this evening imagines what can happen when we juxtapose the ancient tradition of Vespers with the cantatas of the principal musician of the city that helped it endure.

*-Timothy Weisman, Pastor
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, NYC*

**Please silence all mobile devices.
The use of photographic, recording, or electronic equipment
during the service is prohibited.**

Your courtesy is appreciated.

ORGAN PRELUDE

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

All stand when invited by the leader

SERVICE OF LIGHT

As the procession approaches the altar the following dialogue is sung:

The Spirit and the church cry out: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

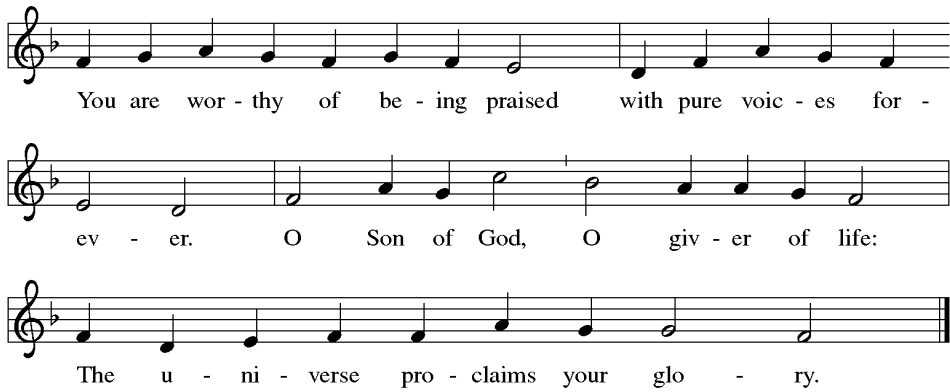
All those who await his appearance pray: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

The whole creation pleads: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

After the candle has been placed in position, all sing Phos Hilaron

Leader
Joy-ous light of glo - ry:

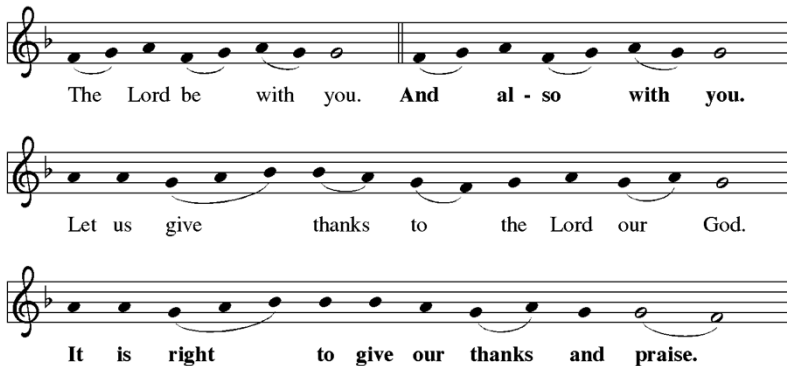
All
of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,
bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the
set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.
We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:



You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -
 ev - er. O Son of God, O giv - er of life:
 The u - ni - verse pro - claims your glo - ry.

*Words: Greek hymn, 3rd cent.; tr. Roger T. Petrich
 Music: Roger. T. Petrich (1938-2022)*

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT



The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being,
 and you set lights in the sky to govern night and day.
 In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night
 you led your people into freedom.
 Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may your Word be
 a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;
 For you are merciful, and you love your whole creation,
 and with all your creatures we give you glory,
 Through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 Now and forever. **Amen.**

All sit

PSALMODY

The Choir sings Psalm 100

Jauchzet dem Herren, alle Welt!
Dienet dem Herren mit Freuden;
kommt vor sein Angesicht mit Frohlocken.

Erkennet, daß der Herre Gott ist.
Er hat uns gemacht
und nicht wir selbst
zu seinem Volk
und zu Schafen seiner Weide.

Gehet zu seinen Toren ein mit Danken,
zu seinen Vorhöfen mit Loben.
Danket ihm, lobet seinen Namen.

Denn der Herr ist freundlich,
und seine Gnade währet ewig
und seine Wahrheit für und für.

Ehre sei dem Vater und dem Sohn
und auch dem heiligen Geiste,
wie es war im Anfang, jetzt und immerdar
und von Ewigkeit zu Ewigkeit.
Amen.

*Rejoice in the Lord, all the world!
Serve the Lord with joy;
Come before his presence with jubilation.*

*Know that the Lord is God.
He has made us into his people,
not we ourselves,
and into the sheep of his flock.*

*Go in through his gates with thanks
and into his courts with praise.
Thank him, praise his name.*

*For the Lord is our friend,
and his mercy lasts for all time
and his truth for ever and ever.*

*Honor be to the Father and the Son
and to the Holy Ghost
as it was in the beginning, now and for ever
and from eternity to eternity.
Amen.*

Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672), SWV36

All stand to sing the Office Hymn



1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
heart with joy is spring-ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



thrill-ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past.
grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun - d'ring might



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

Words: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608)
Music: Philipp Nicolai (Wachet auf)

READING

Revelation 22:12-14,16

V Word of God, Word of Life

R **Thanks be to God**

Brief silence is kept

HOMILY

Professor John Hare

Noah Porter Professor of Philosophical Theology, Yale University, emeritus.

CANTATA

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 61

Johann Sebastian Bach

1. Overture and chorus

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland,
Der Jungfrauen Kind erkannt!
Dass sich wundre alle Welt,
Gott solch' Geburt ihm bestellt.

*Now come, Savior of the gentiles,
recognized as the child of the Virgin!
So that all the world is amazed
God ordained such a birth for him.*

2. Recitative (tenor) Gene Stenger

Der Heiland ist gekommen,
Hat unser armes Fleisch
Und Blut an sich genommen
Und nimmet uns zu Blutsverwandten an.
O allerhöchstes Gut,
Was hast du nicht an uns getan?
Was tust du nicht
Noch täglich an den Deinen?
Du kömmt und lässt dein Licht
Mit vollem Segen scheinen.

*The savior has come;
Has taken on our wretched flesh
And blood upon himself;
And takes us on as blood relatives.
Oh Most-High possession,
What have you not done for us?
What do you not
Still daily do for your own [people]?
You come and let your light
Shine with full blessing [of the gospel]*

3. Aria (tenor)

Komm, Jesu, komm zu deiner Kirche
Und gib ein selig neues Jahr!
Befördre deines Namens Ehre,
Erhalte die gesunde Lehre
Und segne Kanzel und Altar!

*Come, Jesus, come to your church
And grant a blessed New Year.
Promote your name's honor,
Uphold the sound teaching [of your church],
And bless pulpit and altar.*

4. **Recitative (bass)** Paul Max Tipton

Siehe, ich stehe vor der Tür und klopfe an.
So jemand meine Stimme hören wird und die
Tür auftun, zu dem werde ich eingehen und
das Abendmahl mit ihm halten
und ehr mit mir

*Look, I stand before the door and knock.
If anyone ends up hearing my voice and opening
the door, I will go in, to him, and keep the Lord's
Supper with him,
and he with me*

5. **Aria (soprano)** Emily Donato

Öffne dich, mein ganzes Herze,
Jesus kömmt und ziehet ein.
Bin ich gleich nur Staub und Erde,
Will er mich doch nicht verschmähn,
Seine Lust an mir zu sehn,
Dass ich seine Wohnung werde.
O wie selig werd ich sein!

*Open yourself, my whole heart;
Jesus comes and enters.
Even though I am but dust and earth,
He will, nevertheless, not disdain me;
He will look upon his delight in me,
That I may become his dwelling-place.
O how blessed will I be!*

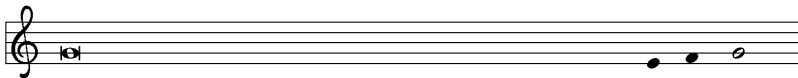
6. **Chorus**

Amen, amen!
Komm, du schöne Freudenkrone,
Bleib nicht lange!
Deiner wart ich mit Verlangen.

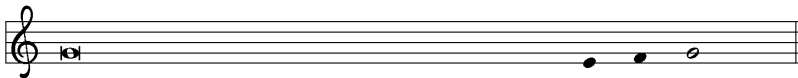
*Amen, amen!
Come, you beautiful crown of joy,
Tarry not long!
I wait for you with longing.*

Brief silence is kept

All stand



Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,



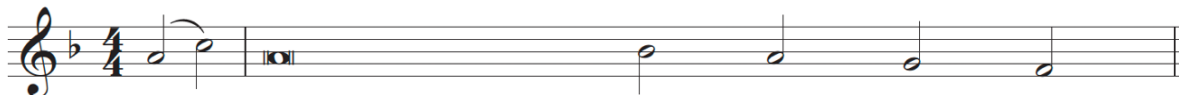
but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.

MAGNIFICAT (SONG OF MARY, LUKE 1:39-56)

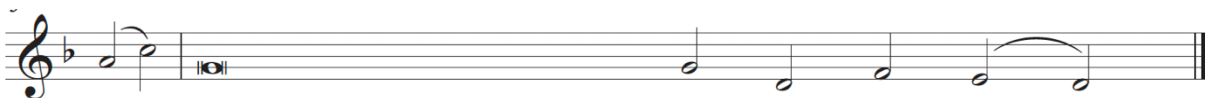
The Choir sings the Antiphon

Christ the Lord, our Savior, everlasting God and Mary's Son: We praise Thee evermore.

All sing the verses indicated, in alternation with the choir



1 My	soul doth	mag-	nify	the	Lord,
2 For	He hath regarded the low estate	of	His hand-	maid-	en:
3 For	He that is mighty hath	done	to me	great	things,
4 And	His mercy is on	them	that	fear	Him
5 He	hath showed	strength	with	His	arm;
6 He	hath put down the	might-	y from	their	seats,
7 He	hath filled the	hun-	gry with	good	things,
8 He	hath holpen His	serv-	ant Is-	ra-	el
9 as	He spake	to	our	fa-	thers,
Glo-	ry be to the Father,	and	to	the	Son,
as	it was in the beginning, both . . .	now	and	ev-	er,



1 and	my spirit hath rejoiced in	God,	my	Sav-	ior.
2 for,	behold, from henceforth	call	me	bles-	ed.
	all generations shall	ho-	ly	is His	name.
3 and	gen-	er-	a-	tion.
4 from	generation to	na-	tion	of their	hearts.
5 He	hath scattered the proud in the imagi-	them	of	low de-	gree.
6 and	exalted	emp-	ty	a-	way.
7 and	the rich He hath sent	of	His	mer-	cy,
8 in	remembrance	seed	for-	ev-	er.
9 to	Abraham, and to his	Ho-	ly	Spir-	it;
and	to the	ag-	es.	A-	men.
and	unto ages of				

Tonus Peregrinus
arr. James O'Donnell (b.1961)

The Choir sings the Antiphon

Christ the Lord, our Savior, everlasting God and Mary's Son: We praise Thee evermore. Amen

PRAYERS



☩ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For public servants, the government, and those who protect us; for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering, and for those who are in captivity, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all servants of the church, for this assembly, and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

A time of silence follows

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you, through Christ our Lord.



☩ To you, O Lord.

☩ O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We give thanks to you, heavenly father, through Jesus Christ your dear son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us. **Amen.**

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
 your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
 for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
 and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
 and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

All sit. The Choir sings the Motet

MOTET

Lasset uns frohlocken,
 es nahet der Heiland,
 den Gott uns verheissen.
 Der Name des Herrn sei gelobet in Ewigkeit.
 Halleluja!

*Let us rejoice!
 the redeemer is coming,
 whom the Lord has promised.
 The name of the Lord be praised for ever.
 Halleluja!*

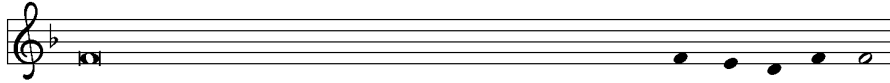
*'Im Advent' from Sechs Sprüche
 Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)*

All stand

BLESSING



Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



Almighty God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre-serve us.



A - men.

All sing the Hymn



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
3 Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child—from his throne, a vir - gin mild!
4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path - way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.
was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.
Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
out to van - quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

Words: attr. Ambrose of Milan (340-397); Martin Luther (1483-1546)

Music: J. Walter (1496-1570) (Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland)

All remain standing as the Choir and ministers depart

MUSIC AFTER THE SERVICE

Veni Redemptor gentium *from* Hymnus Adventus Domini

Samuel Scheidt (1587-1654)

All are invited to remain seated until the conclusion of the organ voluntary

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Yale Consort

James O'Donnell, conductor

Daniel Jacky, Martin Jean, organists

Elizabeth Bates

Maggie Lieberman

Emily Donato

Bridget Nixon

Helen Karloski

Megan Roth

Matthew Newhouse

Paul D'Arcy

Gene Stenger

Will Doreza

Jared Swope

Paul Max Tipton

Violin

Jimmy Drancsak

Lydia Becker

Alyssa Campbell

Kako Miura

Viola

Ryan Cheng

Dan McCarthy

Kyle Miller

Jessica Troy

Cello

Caroline Nicholas

Matt Zucker

Bass

Nicholas Kleinman

Nathan Elsbernd M.M. '25

Professor John Hare

Augie Segger, M.A.R. '25

Jeff Hazewinkel

Leader

Preacher

Server/Sacristan

Reader

The Yale Institute of Sacred Music is grateful to Senior Minister the Rev. Dr. Stephen G. Ray Jy., Caesar Storlazzi, organist, and the parish of United Church on the Green for their hospitality. We also thank the Rev. Tim Keyl, Director of Lutheran Studies at Yale Divinity School, for assistance with today's service.

Please join us for our final service of the term:

Dec 10 5:30pm Evensong – Christ Church Music of Guerrero, Rubbra, Victoria

Regular services will resume on Jan. 21, 2025, all services at 5:30pm.

For more information please visit the websites below,
or contact Clifton Massey, Program Manager at Clifton.Massey@Yale.edu

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