

LUMINARIA

A Ceremony of Light
Tuesday 17 December 2024

Sung by the Girls' Choir of St Catharine's College



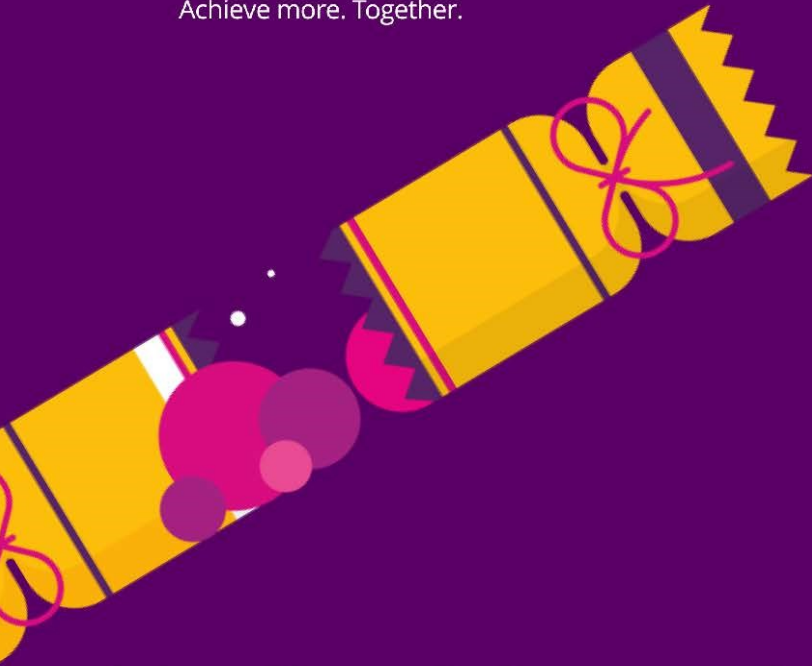
St Catharine's College
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Order of Luminaria

The congregation are asked to wait quietly before the service begins with the procession of the Chaplain and the St Catharine's College Girls' Choir into the Main Court, singing:

1. O come, O come Emmanuel!
Redeem thy captive Israel
That into exile drear is gone,
Far from the face of God's dear Son.
*Gaude, gaude! Emmanuel
Nascetur pro te, Israel.*
2. O come, thou Branch of Jesse! Draw
The quarry from the lion's claw;
From the dread caverns of the grave,
From nether hell, thy people save.
3. O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright!
Pour on our souls thy healing light;
Dispel the long night's lingering gloom,
And pierce the shadows of the tomb.
4. O come, O come, Adonai,
Who in thy glorious majesty
From Sinai's mountain, clothed in awe,
Gavest thy folk the elder Law.

The Chaplain prays:

Blessèd are you, Sovereign God, creator of light and darkness! As evening falls, you renew your promise to reveal among us the light of your presence. May your word be a lantern to our feet and a light upon our path, that we may behold your glory coming among us.

All respond:

Blessèd be God for ever!

The Luminaria fire is lit while the choir sings an ancient Christian hymn in the original Koine Greek from the 3rd or 4th century.

GREEK HYMN TO THE LIGHT

Phos Hilaron

Φῶς ἱλαρὸν ἁγίας δόξης
ἀθανάτου Πατρός, οὐρανόυ,
ἁγίου, μάκαρος,
Ἰησοῦ Χριστέ,
ἐλθόντες ἐπὶ τὴν ἡλίου δύσιν,
ιδόντες φῶς ἔσπερινόν,
ὑμνοῦμεν Πατέρα,
Υἱόν, καὶ ἅγιον Πνεῦμα, Θεόν.
Ἄξιόν σε ἐν πᾶσι καιροῖς
ὑμνεῖσθαι φωναῖς αἰσίσαις,
Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ζωὴν ὁ διδούς·
διὸ ὁ κόσμος σε δοξάζει.

O Joyful Light of the holy glory
of the immortal, heavenly,
holy blessed Father,
O Jesus Christ.
Having come to the setting of the sun,
having beheld the evening light,
we hymn the Father,
Son, and Holy Spirit, God.
Meet it is at all times
to hymn Thee with reverend voices,
O Son of God, Giver of Life, wherefore the
whole world doth glorify Thee.



The Chaplain prays:

As your word, O Lord, gives light to our path, may we behold the glory of your presence and so rejoice to sing your praise, now and forever.

Amen.

THE OPENING RESPONSES

The Chaplain

O Lord, open thou our lips

Choir

And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

The Chaplain

O God, make speed to save us.

Choir

O Lord, make haste to help us.

The Chaplain

Glorify 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.

The Chaplain

Praise ye the Lord.

Choir

The Lord's name be praised.

CHORAL PSALM

Lift thine eyes from Elijah Felix Mendessohn (1809-1847)

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help.

Thy help cometh from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved.
Thy Keeper will never slumber.

based on Psalm 121

PRAYER FOR PEACE

The Chaplain prays:

Almighty God, we pray that in the darkness of conflict and disagreement you will bring the light of your peace and reconciliation. We give you thanks for the promise of peace given to us in your Son Jesus Christ and we pray that, through hope, we may be inspired to strive for its realisation. Acknowledging our own wrongdoing and inadequacy, we pray for peace in our own lives and relationships and we pray for peace in our troubled world.
Amen.

THE GREAT SILENCE

A minute of silence is observed to pray for peace.



MAGNIFICAT *Sexti Toni*

Andrew Reid

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 showed 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.

Glorify 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 READING

1 John 1: 5-7 & 4: 7-9

A reading from the first letter of John:

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another. Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Ave Maria

Rebecca Clarke (1886-1979)

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum: benedicta tu in mulieribus et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.

Sancta Maria, Regina caeli, dulcis et pia, O Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus, ut cum electis te videamus.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Queen of heaven, gentle and merciful, O Mother of God, pray for us sinners, so that with the saints we may see thee.



THE FINAL RESPONSES

The Chaplain

Vouchsafe, O Lord:

Choir

To keep us this night without sin

The Chaplain

O Lord, have mercy upon us:

Choir

Have mercy upon us

The Chaplain

O Lord, let thy mercy be upon us:

Choir

As our trust is in thee.

The Chaplain

Turn us again, thou Lord of hosts:

Choir

Show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole

The Chaplain

O Lord, hear our prayer:

Choir

And let our cry come unto thee.

The Chaplain

The Lord be with you:

Choir

And with thy spirit.

The Chaplain

Let us bless the Lord.

Choir

Thanks be to God.

The Chaplain

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

Choir

Amen.

The choir sings from the steps of the chapel one of the most ancient Christians hymns, from a 3rd Century fragment of papyrus discovered at Oxyrhynchus, Egypt

GREEK HYMN

... σιγάτω
μηδ'άστρα φαεσφορα λ..ε..θων
ποταμών ροθιων πασαι
ύμνούτων δ'ήμών ..ατερα χ'υιόν χ'άγιον
πνεύμα
πάσαι δυναάμεις έπιφωνούντων άμήν
άμήν κράτος άινος ...
δ..ήρι μονω παντων άγαθών άμήν άμήν

...Let it be silent

Let the luminous stars not shine,
Let the winds and all the noisy rivers die
down;

And as we hymn the Father, the Son and the
Holy Spirit,

Let all the powers add 'Amen Amen' Empire,
praise always, and glory to God, The sole
giver of good things, Amen Amen.

**After a few moments, the congregation
departs in peace.**

Cambridge Acorn Project has been supporting local children and their families affected by trauma and abuse for the last decade.

Trauma can steal opportunities from children. We tackle this by providing long term support including therapy, clubs and activities, and support to make homes safer.

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Thank you for joining us at the 2024 Luminaria! St Catharine's College is extremely grateful to Mills & Reeve for their generous sponsorship of this event. If you would like to donate to the Cambridge Acorn Project, there are stewards with donation buckets around Main Court. Safe travels home, and Merry Christmas from everyone at St Catharine's College.

Stay in Touch

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