

Order of Service

Call to Worship

Minister: This day is holy to our Wise God!
Congregation: **We gather to listen for God's word, to discern God's will, to worship with God's people**

Minister: This day is holy to our joyful God!
Congregation: **We are members of Christ's body, Christ's family, Christ's church**


Minister: This day is holy to our Powerful God!
Congregation: **The Spirit of God is upon us, and we have been anointed to bring good news to all.**

Minister: This day is holy to our Sweet God!
Congregation: **May the words in our mouths and the thoughts in our hearts delight you, O God.**

Hymn 510 – Jesus calls us here to meet him (Lewis Folk Melody)

Call to Prayer

Prayers of Approach and Confession



Choir: Lord, have mer- cy. Christ, have mer- cy. Lord, have mer- cy.
Congregation: Lord, have mer- cy. Christ, have mer- cy. Lord, have mer- cy.

Talk to the Children

Hymn 522 – The church is wherever God's people are praising
(The Bard of Armagh)

Readings

Old Testament: Jonah 3: 1-5
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Anthem: O for the wings of a dove F.B. Mendelssohn (1809-47)

O for the wings, for the wings of a dove! Far away, far away would I rove! In the wilderness build me a nest, And remain there for ever at rest.

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Hymn 598 – Come, Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire (St Columba)

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

Hymn 187 – There's a wideness in God's mercy (All for Jesus)

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

In the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we pray for the churches and people of **Cyprus, Greece and Turkey**. In the Donside Christian Partnership of Churches Prayer Cycle, we pray for the congregation and community of St Mary's.

Minister: Lord in your mercy
Congregation: **Hear our prayer**

The Lord's Prayer

The Offering

The Lord bless you and keep you John Rutter (b.1945)

The Lord bless you and keep you, The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen

Prayer

Hymn 533 – Will you come and follow me (Kelvingrove)

Benediction

Music before the Service

Apparition de l'Eglise Eternelle

O.Messiaen (1908-1992)

Music after the Service

Processional

W.Mathias (1934-92)

Today's Music.

The Anthem makes up the final section of a work written by Mendelssohn in German in 1844 and called by its English translation - 'Hear my Prayer'. The work, which takes the form of a small cantata based on Psalm 102 with a text by Bartholomew, was written for his concerts in London, and was first performed there in 1845. This last section begins with a solo on the high upper voice. The entry of the chorus, though anticipated, is none the less a magical moment, which helps set the solo line in an enriched harmonic context. Through the work Mendelssohn's compositional facility is evident in the easy way in which everything sounds so natural.

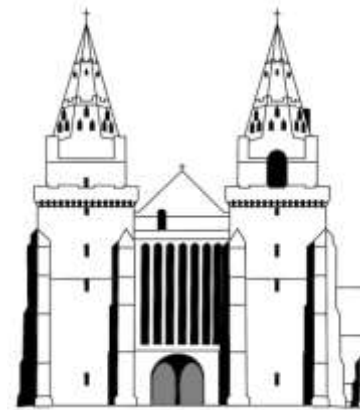
Music for the Offertory is by John Rutter who hardly needs any introduction to either choirs or congregations today. Born in 1945, he has written an enormous body of music for choirs all over the world. The text for today's anthem comes from the book of Numbers, chapter 6, verse 24. Though at first appearing to be in some sort of verse construction, the piece soon opens out into a thoroughly-composed work, in which the word setting is most sensitively carried out. There is a wonderfully complementary written organ part, offering support and complementing the voices to the voices, in a beautifully balanced composition.

Music before the Service is by the French composer Olivier Messiaen. Vision of the eternal Church is one of his early pieces, complete in itself, i.e. not a part of a larger composition. It was written in 1932, as the first composition since his appointment as the Organist Titulaire at the Church of La Sainte Trinité in central Paris— an appointment he was to hold until his death an astonishing 60 years later. It is an immense piece in several ways and is based on one reiterated rhythm – something which the composer saw as central to music. In his treatise Messiaen discussed the difference between rhythm and metre – the first giving life and the second crystallises and fixes it. The piece begins quietly, works up to an immense climax, and then subsides in an extended diminuendo. As the composer has written, the Church is 'appalling, awe-inspiring, mysterious, harrowing, glorious and sometimes terrifying'.

The recessional voluntary is by the twentieth century Welsh composer William Mathias, a child prodigy who started playing the piano at the age of three. After studying at Aberystwyth University, he progressed to the Royal Academy of music in London, taking composition lessons with Lennox Berkeley. He later returned to Wales to become head of the music department at Bangor University. One opera, three symphonies and concertos for piano (three), for violin, oboe, harpsichord, organ, clarinet and harp, as well as a significant corpus of chamber music, make up a very considerable portfolio of extended works. Perhaps his most lasting and best known legacy is in the field of church music, and his many anthems and organ compositions are widely performed. Processional dates from 1964 and is a highly characteristic work, drawing on medieval influences (with the opening parallel fifths reminiscent of organum), an attractive march-like theme, and a contrasting middle section. The use of the organ is highly idiomatic revealing the hand of a master craftsman.

(RBW January 2018)

If you would like a guided tour of the Cathedral, please feel free to get a cup of tea or coffee and then gather at the back of the church 10 minutes after the service ends.



St Machar's Cathedral Old Aberdeen

**11.00AM
Morning Worship
3rd Sunday after Epiphany**

Sunday 21st January 2018

Conducted by Reverend Mark Rodgers

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.

Evening Service

6.00pm

Tea and Coffee will be served after the evening service.

Everyone is very welcome.