

# ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

## Choral Evensong

Musical worship has been offered at St George's Church since the start of the previous century, and this service continues that valuable tradition. Evensong follows the order of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1662), which itself draws on the ancient monastic traditions of prayer in the Christian Church.

In stillness and in song, the Church continues to offer a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, giving thanks for all that God has done for us in Christ; holding before God the needs of the world; and returning anew to God at the end of each day. Much of this service is sung by the choir. We invite the congregation to make the liturgy their own by responding in heart and mind to the worship offered to God in this service.

### Words to the music for the service

#### Introit - Litany to the Holy Spirit

In the hour of my distress,  
When temptations me oppress,  
And when I my sins confess,  
*Sweet Spirit, comfort me!*

When I lie within my bed,  
Sick in heart and sick in head,  
And with doubts discomfited,  
*Sweet Spirit, comfort me!*

When the house doth sigh and weep,  
And the world is drown'd in sleep,  
Yet mine eyes the watch do keep,  
*Sweet Spirit, comfort me!*

*Text: Robert Herrick (1591-1634)  
Music: Peter Hurford (b. 1930)*

#### Anthem - Cantique de Jean Racine

Verbe, égal au Très-Haut, notre unique espérance,  
Jour éternel de la terre et des cieux ;  
De la paisible nuit nous rompons le silence,  
Divin Sauveur, jette sur nous les yeux !

Répands sur nous le feu de ta grâce puissante,  
Que tout l'enfer fuie au son de ta voix ;  
Dissipe le sommeil d'une âme languissante,  
Qui la conduit à l'oubli de tes lois !

O Christ, sois favorable à ce peuple fidèle  
Pour te bénir maintenant rassemblé.  
Reçois les chants qu'il offre à ta gloire immortelle,  
Et de tes dons qu'il retourne comblé !

*O Word, equal of the Most High,  
Our sole hope, eternal day of earth and the heavens,  
We break the silence of the peaceful night.  
Divine Saviour, cast Thine eyes upon us!*

*Shed the light of Thy mighty grace upon us.  
Let all Hell flee at the sound of Thy voice.  
Dispel the slumber of a languishing soul  
That leads it to the forgetting of Thy laws!*

*O Christ, be favorable unto this faithful people  
Now gathered to bless Thee.  
Receive the hymns it offers unto Thine immortal glory  
And may it return laden with Thy gifts.*

*Text: Jean Racine (1639-1699)  
Music: Gabriel Fauré (1854-1924)*