



*The service is led by Revd Richard Hibbert, Vicar of Holy Trinity. We will be following the Evensong order of service booklet that you will have been given on arrival. This insert contains details of the music being played and sung. We are delighted to be joined by His Majestys Sagbutts and Cornetts and The Binchois Consort (dir. Andrew Kirkman) for this special service celebrating the musical history of Medieval and Tudor Coventry at Medieval 'Midsummer', which coincided with The Nativity of John the Baptist. Our service is not a recreation of a particular point in time but rather a selection of the different types of devotional music which would have been heard between the mid 15<sup>th</sup> and mid 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, from plainchant in Latin to music composed for the new vernacular liturgy of the Church of England. Please see the notes at the end of this insert for further details. The choral music is sung by The Choir of Holy Trinity Church, Coventry unless otherwise stated.*

## **The First Evening Prayer of The Nativity of John the Baptist**

**ProceSSIONAL**    *Te Deum laudamus (We praise thee, O God) – chant from the Sarum Rite with 3-part faburden verses*

*Verses of the Te Deum (an early Christian hymn of praise) are chanted in procession by The Binchois Consort and The Choir of Holy Trinity Church, alternating with instrumental verses.*

**Introit**            *Ave regina caelorum – Leonel Power (d. 1445), sung by The Binchois Consort*

Ave regina caelorum,  
Ave domina angelorum,  
Salve radix sancta  
Ex qua mundo lux est orta:  
Ave gloriosa, super omnes speciosa,  
Vale, valde decora,  
Et pro nobis semper Christum exora.

*Hail, Queen of Heaven,  
Hail, Lady of Angels,  
O sacred root from which the light of  
the world came forth,  
Hail, glorious one, lovely above all:  
Fare you well, most beautiful maiden,  
And ever pray for us to Christ.*

*Words: Marian Antiphon, c. 12<sup>th</sup> century*



**Hymn 51** O Trinity, most blessed light

**Preces and Responses** Thomas Tallis (c.1505 – 1585)

**Psalm 71** (sung by the choir to plainchant, 3<sup>rd</sup> tone, 2<sup>nd</sup> ending)

- 1 In Thee, O Lord, have I put my trust, let me never be put to confusion:  
but rid me and deliver me in thy righteousness, incline thine ear unto me, and  
save me.
- 2 Be thou my stronghold, whereunto I may alway resort: thou hast promised to  
help me, for thou art my house of defence and my castle.
- 3 Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the ungodly: out of the hand of the  
unrighteous and cruel man.
- 4 For thou, O Lord God, art the thing that I long for: thou art my hope, even  
from my youth.
- 5 Through thee have I been holden up ever since I was born:  
thou art he that took me out of my mother's womb; my praise shall be  
always of thee.
- 6 I am become as it were a monster unto many: but my sure trust is in thee.
- 7 O let my mouth be filled with thy praise: that I may sing of thy glory and  
honour all the day long.
- 8 Cast me not away in the time of age: forsake me not when my strength  
faileth me.
- 9 For mine enemies speak against me, and they that lay wait for my soul take  
their counsel together, saying: God hath forsaken him; persecute him, and  
take him, for there is none to deliver him.
- 10 Go not far from me, O God: my God, haste thee to help me.
- 11 Let them be confounded and perish that are against my soul: let them be  
covered with shame and dishonour that seek to do me evil.
- 12 As for me, I will patiently abide alway: and will praise thee more and more.
- 13 My mouth shall daily speak of thy righteousness and salvation: for I know no  
end thereof.
- 14 I will go forth in the strength of the Lord God: and will make mention of thy  
righteousness only.
- 15 Thou, O God, hast taught me from my youth up until now: therefore will I  
tell of thy wondrous works.
- 16 Forsake me not, O God, in mine old age, when I am gray-headed: until I

have shewed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to all them  
that are yet for to come.

- 17 Thy righteousness, O God, is very high: and great things are they that thou  
hast done; O God, who is like unto thee?
- 18 O what great troubles and adversities hast thou shewed me, and yet didst  
thou turn and refresh me: yea, and broughtest me from the deep of the  
earth again.
- 19 Thou hast brought me to great honour: and comforted me on every side.
- 20 Therefore will I praise thee and thy faithfulness, O God, playing upon an  
instrument of musick: unto thee will I sing upon the harp, O thou Holy One  
of Israel.
- 21 My lips will be fain when I sing unto thee: and so will my soul whom thou  
hast delivered.
- 22 My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long:  
for they are confounded and brought unto shame that seek to do me evil.  
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.

**First Lesson** Judges 13. 2-7, 24-end (page 256 of Old Testament)

**Canticles** The Second Service – John Sheppard (c.1515 – 1558)

**Second Lesson** Luke 1. 5-25 (page 1025 of New Testament)

**Anthem** Omnes gentes, plaudite manibus – Christopher Tye (c.1505 – 1573)

Omnes gentes, plaudite manibus; jubilate Deo in voce exultationis:  
quoniam Dominus excelsus, terribilis, rex magnus super omnem terram.  
Subjecit populos nobis, et gentes sub pedibus nostris.  
Elegit nobis haereditatem suam; speciem Jacob quam dilexit.  
Ascendit Deus in júbilo, et Dominus in voce tubae.  
Psallite Deo nostro, psallite; psallite regi nostro, psallite;  
quoniam rex omnis terrae Deus, psallite sapienter.  
Regnavit Deus super gentes; Deus sedet super sedem sanctam suam.  
Principes populorum congregati sunt cum Deo Abraham,  
quoniam dii fortes terrae vehementer elevati sunt.



*O clap your hands together, all ye people: O sing unto God with the voice of melody.*

*For the Lord is high, and to be feared: he is the great King upon all the earth. He shall subdue the people under us: and the nations under our feet. He shall choose out an heritage for us: even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved. God is gone up with a merry noise: and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet. O sing praises, sing praises unto our God: O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.*

*For God is the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.*

*God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon his holy seat. The princes of the people are joined unto the people of the God of Abraham: for God, which is very high exalted, doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.*

*Words: Psalm 47*

#### **Hymn 6** Before the ending of the day

#### **Post-service instrumental music**

O Baptista vates Christi ('O Baptist, Prophet of Christ') - *Hugh Aston (c.1485 – 1558)*

Te Deum versets for organ - *John Redford (d. 1547)*

O lux beata trinitas ('O Trinity of blessed light') - *Robert Fayrfax (1464 – 1521)*

#### **Musicians:**

#### **His Majestys Sagbutts and Cornetts:**

Jamie Savan – cornett and slide trumpet

Helen Roberts – cornett

Ian Harrison – shawms

David Yacus – slide trumpet and sackbut

William Lyons – shawm and dulcian

#### **The Binchois Consort:**

David Allsopp

Dominic Bland

Tom Lilburn

Nick Madden

George Pooley

Matthew Vine

Director: Andrew Kirkman

The Choir of Holy Trinity Church, Coventry

David Baxter, Tim Campain - Organists

Alexander Norman - Director of Music

#### **The music in this evening's service:**

The Choir of Holy Trinity Church are joined this evening by members of His Majestys Sagbutts and Cornetts and the Binchois Consort for another special Evensong service. We will be celebrating the history of devotional music in the city of Coventry in association with the *Aural Histories: Coventry 1451-1642* project based at Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. The team of researchers involved have been investigating how and where musical performances took place during church services at Holy Trinity (and at St Michael's Parish Church, as it then was) during the earlier part of the project's scope, and, in collaboration with Director of Music Alex Norman, have chosen a selection of music for this evening's service that might be unfamiliar, even to regular attendees. The music dates from the late 15<sup>th</sup>- to mid-16<sup>th</sup> centuries, a turbulent and often violent period in English history during which the Church of England as we know it today came into being. Some of the music was written for the Catholic church, by Catholic composers, and some was written for the earliest Prayer Book services under the Protestant King Edward VI in the 1550s. Some of the composers from whom we will hear, such as Thomas Tallis, who lived from 1505 - 1585, composed devotional music under four monarchs, responding to the different demands of the prevailing national faith as the century progressed. We hope you enjoy hearing such a diverse range of sacred music in the service, and that you get a flavour of some of the ways composers wrote for the Christian church during this fascinating time.

You will also hear instruments contributing to the musical performance. Payment records suggest that Coventry's civic wind band, the city waits, played alongside the singing men and boys of Bablake Church in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century, and our performance of the Te Deum, and of Tye's *Omnes gentes* give an idea of how this might have sounded. At the end of the service, the instruments will play part of a piece by Coventry composer Hugh Aston, who was likely to have



been employed at St Michael's Church in the 1510s. The piece is entitled *O Baptista vates Christi* (O Baptist, Prophet of Christ), honouring Saint John the Baptist whose feast day falls tomorrow, on June 24<sup>th</sup>, or Midsummer's Day (in the Medieval period). The organ used in this service is a digitally sampled version of a reconstructed Tudor organ made by Goetze and Gwynne, which is in turn based on the specifications of an organ commissioned for Holy Trinity Church in 1527.

Directly after the service, Professor Christian Frost, architectural historian for the *Aural Histories* project, will give a short talk (c. 20 mins) in the nave about the architectural aspects of the project, and will show some images from our 3D reconstructions of how Holy Trinity may have looked during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. You are warmly invited to stay for this.

And finally, if you are interested in hearing more from the Binchois Consort and His Majesty's Sagbutts and Cornetts, there is a free 1-hour concert taking place at St Mary's Guildhall at 7pm this evening where you will be able to hear performances of the famous Coventry Caput Mass, partially preserved in the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, and more music from Hugh Aston, amongst others, in the beautiful medieval surroundings of the Guildhall.

*Helen Roberts, Jamie Savan*

#### Find out more:

Aural Histories: <https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/1754748/2062061>

His Majestys Sagbutts and Cornetts: <https://www.hmsc.co.uk/>

The Binchois Consort: <https://www.binchoisconsort.com/>

Holy Trinity Church, Coventry: <https://www.holytrinitycoventry.org.uk/>

#### Services at Holy Trinity

##### Sundays:

09:30am Informal Worship (*livestreamed via our YouTube channel*)

11.15am Holy Communion (*livestreamed via our YouTube channel*)

5:00pm Choral Evensong (*livestreamed via our YouTube channel*)

7.00pm Sundays at Seven informal worship

##### Wednesdays:

Midday Holy Communion Service

#### Church opening times:

Wednesday – Saturday, 11am – 3pm (some Tuesdays, 12pm – 3pm)

On Sundays we are usually open from 9am until around 8pm



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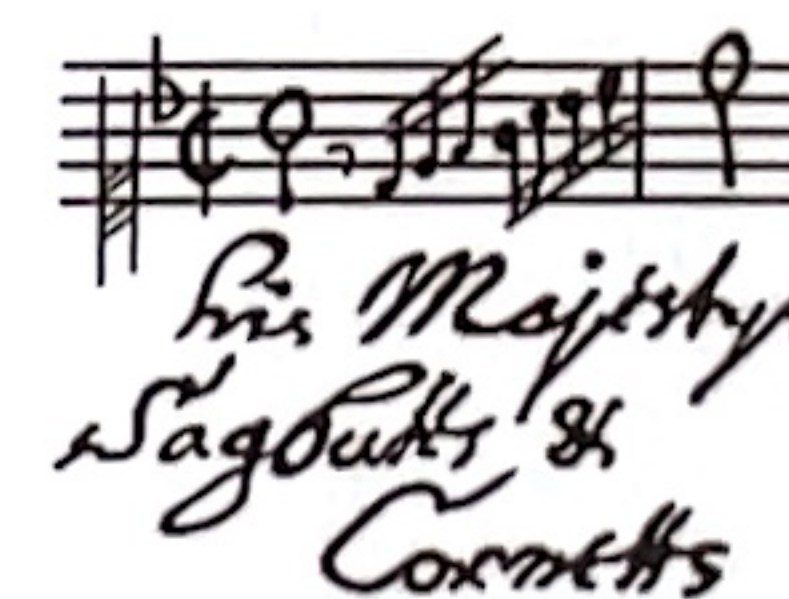
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Holy Trinity Church Coventry