

A Vigil of Prayer and Music for Ukraine



Welcome to the Cathedral

We gather this evening to hold in our hearts the people of Ukraine who are suffering under the onslaught of war, and to offer to God, however we may understand God, our sorrow, our fear, our anger, and our anguish at what has befallen the Ukrainian people and nation.

Many of us have felt so powerless in this past week. But when we can pray, we are never without a means of responding; and when music can be offered, we are never without a means of protest, or a window to the sacred.

In late February, one of the rabbis of Kyiv asked Christians to pray Psalm 31 with their Jewish neighbors. We take that suggestion to heart this evening, and will recite together the words of this ancient text, interspersed with music.

We give thanks this evening to Rachel Koblyakov, who approached the cathedral with a desire to make an offering of music to support the people of Ukraine. A Julliard-trained violinist resident in Paris, Rachel was also first violinist in the Ukho New Music Ensemble of Kyiv from 2016 to 2019. It is at her initative and invitation that we have our musicians this evening, and we are grateful to all of them for their offering.

We will be collecting hygiene supplies to send to the refugee camps in Poland and elswhere in Eastern Europe, where more than a million refugees fleeing war have now arrived. If you have brought some with you this evening, please leave them in the designated space in the back of the cathedral. We will be collecting these goods until March 14, when they will be collected and sent forward.



Participating in the service:

Officiants The Right Reverend Mark D. W. Edington Bishop in Charge

The Reverend Canon Nathaniel Katz

Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity, Paris

Musicians Rachel Koblyakov violin

Andrei Malakoff *viola* Dima Tsypkin *cello* Orlando Bass *piano*

Readers France Plough Seder French

The Venerable Walter J. Baer German

The Reverend Austin Rios

Saint Paul's Within the Walls, Rome Italian

The Reverend Dr. Francisco Alberca

Congregacion Latinoamericana, Rome Spanish

Thoma Lipartiani, Mission of Saint Nino, Tbilisi Georgian

Cover: Icon of Saint George the Dragon-slayer, Galicia (Western Ukraine) 15th c.

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Voluntary: Selections from "Preludes" for piano solo Ihor Shamo (1925-1982)

Ihor Shamo (1925-1982) was a prominent Ukrainian composer and pianist. Aside from his symphonic, operatic, instrumental and vocal music, his prolific output includes many film scores, music for the theatre, and popular songs. The song Kuebe Miŭ is sometimes considered Kyiv's unofficial anthem.

Words of Welcome and Opening Prayer

Almighty God, the source of all truth and all peace; Kindle in the hearts of all people, we pray, the true love of peace, And guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom Those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; That in tranquillity your truth may go forth in the world Until the earth be filled with the knowledge of your love. Amen.

Music: Piano Quartet in E-flat Major, opus 47 Robert Schumann (1810–1856)
Andante Cantabile

Composed in 1842, the Piano Quartet (op. 47) constitutes Schumann's first major chamber music piece. The slow movement has often been described as one of the magical Schumann moments in which the entire universe seems to hold its breath.

Psalm 31, vv. 1-8 read in unison

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge;
do not let me ever be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me.
Incline your ear to me;
rescue me speedily.
Be a rock of refuge for me,
a strong fortress to save me.

You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me, take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.

Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

You hate those who pay regard to worthless idols, but I trust in the Lord.

I will exult and rejoice in your steadfast love, because you have seen my affliction; you have taken heed of my adversities, and have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy; you have set my feet in a broad place.

A prayer for protection in danger

Almighty and merciful God,

In your goodness keep us, and those whom we lift up to you this night,

From all things that may hurt us;

That we, being ready both in mind and body,

May accomplish with free hearts

those things that belong to your purpose. Amen.

Music: EREBUS for violin solo, opus 9

Illia Bondarenko (b. 2001)

Illia Bondarenko, a young Ukranian violinist of versatile styles—his recordings (many on YouTube) range from jazz and tango to classical violin music—is also a prolific composer. A work by his composition professor, Hanna Havrylets, will also be heard tonight. EREBUS (Kingdom of the Dead) is dedicated to the victims of Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Chernobyl, and Fukushima.

Psalm 31, vv. 9-16 read in unison

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; my eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also.
For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away.

I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me. I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. For I hear the whispering of many—terror all around!—as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, 'You are my God.' My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

A prayer for peacemakers

O Prince of Peace,

You have revealed to us the vision of one world

Where all live together as children of one father;

We thank you for those who, following in your footsteps

Have drawn our hearts to an understanding of common needs,

And have challenged us to live generously.

Confirm in us our purpose to obey your will,

That our world may become the kingdom of your righteousness,

Now and forever. Amen.

Music: Sotto Voce for viola and piano

Hanna Havrylets (1958–2022)

Ukrainian composer Hanna Havrylets was one of the foremost composition teachers at the Kyiv Tchaikovsky Academy of Music. Her compositions include choral and symphonic works, several solo pieces, and chamber music for various instrumentations, including a saxophone quartet.

She passed away in Kyiv on February 27th of this year, during the Russian bombardments.

Psalm 31, vv. 17-24 read in unison

Do not let me be put to shame, O Lord, for I call on you; let the wicked be put to shame; let them go dumbfounded to Sheol. Let the lying lips be stilled that speak insolently against the righteous with pride and contempt.

O how abundant is your goodness that you have laid up for those who fear you, and accomplished for those who take refuge in you, in the sight of everyone!

In the shelter of your presence you hide them from human plots;
you hold them safe under your shelter from contentious tongues.

Blessed be the Lord,
for he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to me
when I was beset as a city under siege.
I had said in my alarm,
'I am driven far from your sight.'
But you heard my supplications
when I cried out to you for help.

Continued over

Love the Lord, all you his saints.

The Lord preserves the faithful,
but abundantly repays the one who acts haughtily.
Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
all you who wait for the Lord.

A prayer for refugees

Almighty and merciful God, whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own; look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger, homeless and hungry.

Bless those who work to bring them relief; inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts; and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace. *Amen*.

A Reading from scripture: John 13:34-35

Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.

Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Jésus dit: « Je vous donne un commandement nouveau : aimez-vous les uns les autres. Comme je vous ai aimés, aimez-vous les uns les autres.

A ceci, tous vous reconnaîtront pour mes disciples : à l'amour que vous aurez les uns pour les autres. »

Jesus sprach, "Ein neues Gebot gebe ich euch, dass ihr euch untereinander liebt, wie ich euch geliebt habe, damit auch ihr einander lieb habt. Daran wird jedermann erkennen, dass ihr meine Jünger seid, wenn ihr Liebe untereinander habt."

Gesù disse: Un nuovo comandamento do a voi, che vi amiate l'un l'altro, che vi amiate anche voi l'un l'altro, come io vi ho amati. Da questo conosceranno tutti, che siete miei discepoli, se avrete amore l'uno per l'altro.

Jésus dijo: Un mandamiento nuevo os doy: Que os améis unos á otros: como os he amado, que también os améis los unos á los otros. En esto conocerán todos que sois mis discípulos, si tuviereis amor los unos con los otros.

ეუბნება იესო: "ახალ მცნებას გაძლევთ თქვენ: გიყვარდეთ ერთმანეთი. როგორც მე შეგიყვარეთ თქვენ, თქვენც ისე გიყვარდეთ ერთმანეთი. ჩემი მოწაფეები რომ ხართ, ამით გაიგებენ ყველანი, თუ ერთმანეთის სიყვარული გექნებათ."

The Lord's Prayer see insert

Music: Piano trio in B-flat Major, opus 97 Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)
"Archduke"

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) dedicated this trio to his patron, pupil and friend Archduke Rudolf, hence the work's nickname Archduke Trio. The year prior Beethoven had composed the "Les Adieux" sonata when the Archduke had to flee Vienna in the face of the advancing French Army. This subsequent Trio, composed upon his return to the Imperial Palace, radiates a sense of serenity.

Silence

The people are invited to offer their own prayers, silently or aloud, during this time.

A prayer for the dead

Bring us, O loving God, at our last awakening into the house and gate of heaven, to enter into that gate and dwell in that house where there shall be no darkness or dazzling, but one equal light; no noise nor silence, but one equal music; no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity; in the habitations of your glory and dominion, to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

The final prayer is said by all:

Keep watch, dear Lord,
With those who work, or watch,
Or weep this night;
And give your angels charge over those who sleep
Tend the sick, Lord Christ,
Give rest to the weary,
Bless the dying,
Soothe the suffering,
Pity the afflicted,
Shield the joyous;
And all for your love's sake. Amen.

The Benediction

The church will remain open until 9:00 for silent prayer.

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The Right Reverend Mark D. W. Edington Bishop in Charge
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The Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe is the European presence of the Episcopal Church in the United States, and part of the worldwide Anglican Communion. The Episcopal Church is present in seventeen countries worldwide, of which seven are within the Convocation. Comprising both parish and mission congregations, the Convocation is under the authority of the Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church, whose Suffragan for Europe serves as the Convocation's Bishop-in-Charge. Built in 1886, the the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity in Paris was consecrated in 1923 as the cathedral for Europe of the Episcopal Church, and is the seat of the Bishop-in-Charge and the home of the Convocation office.



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