

Chapel Podcasts 1-f_mixdown_1.wav

Voiceover [00:00:02] This podcast is brought to you by the University of Aberdeen.

[00:00:28] **INTROIT:** My eyes for beauty pine (Herbert Howells). **CANTOR: Liam Dyker**

Marylee Anderson [00:02:23] You, O Lord, are my lamp; you turn our darkness into light. The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you all: and also with you. A very warm welcome to King's College Chapel at the University of Aberdeen for Evening Prayer. My name is Marylee and I am one of the University Chaplains. For over 500 years, people have gathered to worship in this ancient chapel and we are excited to be with you as we continue this tradition. Today, I am joined by two members of the University of Aberdeen Chapel Choir, Liam Dyker and Evie Davidson, as well as our Director of Chapel Music, Stuart Muir. There are orders of service available on the chaplaincy website if you would like to follow with us.

Marylee Anderson [00:03:28] So, wherever you are joining us from, you are welcome, for here in this place and time, God welcomes all the dreamers as well as the doubters. Here, in this time, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name. Here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is with us always. Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God who is worthy of thanks giving and praise.

[00:04:53] **HYMN:** O Light whose splendour thrills and gladdens. **CANTOR: Evie Davidson**

Marylee Anderson Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe! Your word brings on the dusk of evening, your wisdom creates both night and day. You determine the cycles of time, arrange the succession of the seasons, and establish the stars in their heavenly courses. Lord of the starry hosts is your name. Living and eternal God, rule over us always. Blessed be the Lord, whose word makes evening fall. Amen. Let my prayer be as incense to you: the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

PSALM 141: O Lord, come quickly when I call. **CANTOR: Liam Dyker**

PSALM 23: The Lord is my shepherd. **CANTOR: Evie Davidson.**

Marylee Anderson [00:11:40] Let us pray. Lord, teach us the silence of humility, the silence of wisdom, the silence of love, the silence that speaks without words, the silence of faith. Lord, teach us to silence our own hearts and minds that we may listen for the movement of your Holy Spirit and feel your presence in the depths of our being. Amen.

Marylee Anderson [00:12:27] So, our scripture reading comes from First John, Chapter four verses seven to nineteen, and I'm going to read it to you from The Message. And these verses were written to first century Christians who were in the midst of conflict. They remind us that God's love is with us always and, having just been through a recent time of bereavement, I can testify to how much the love of God sustains, but also how precious the love of friends and family is during times of darkness. And these verses remind us that the love of God is too wonderful to keep to ourselves. So as you listen to these verses and we take time to pause, remember how loved you are by God. Remember the times that friends and family have shown you love and ponder how during these times of difficulty, confusion and worry, we might share love with our family, friends and neighbours. So, reading from First John, chapter four, verses seven to nineteen. My beloved friends let us

continue to love each other, since love comes from God, everyone who loves is born of God and experiences our relationship with God. The person who refuses to love doesn't know the first thing about God, because God is love. So you can't know God if you don't love. This is how God showed his love for us. God sent his only son into the world so we might live through him. This is the kind of love we are talking about, not that we once upon a time loved God, but that he loved us and sent his son as a sacrifice to clear away our sins and the damage they've done to our relationship with God. My dear dear friends, if God loved us like this, we certainly ought to love each other. No one has seen God ever. But if we love one another, God dwells deeply within us and his love becomes complete in us perfect love. This is how we know we're living steadily and deeply in him and he and us. He's given us life from his life, from his very own spirit. Also, we've seen for ourselves and continue to state openly that the Father sent his son as saviour of the world. Everyone who confesses that Jesus is God's son participates continuously in an intimate relationship with God. We know it so well, we've embraced it heart and soul, this love that comes from God. God is love. When we take up permanent residence and a life of love, we live in God and God lives in us this way, love has the run of the house, becomes at home and mature in us so that we're free of worry on Judgement Day. Our standing in the world is identical with Christ's. There is no room in love for fear. Well-formed love banishes fear, since fear is crippling a fearful life, fear of death, fear of judgement, is one not yet fully formed in love. We, though, are going to love, love and be loved.

[00:17:18] **THE MAGNIFICAT:** My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord. **CANTOR:** **Liam Dyker**

Marylee Anderson [00:19:59] Let's pray together. Tender God in whose love we live and move, we pray for our world crying out to be healed, to feel loved, wanted, cherished and unique. God of peace, we pray for a world torn apart by conflict and war, a world that lives uneasily in a climate of fear with no clear vision for future days. Compassionate God, we pray for a world that thinks less of others than ourself; a world where division between nations, race, religion, neighbour and family leads to distrust. God of creation, we pray for a world that is short on happiness, too busy to enjoy this world you have created, too preoccupied with living to appreciate life. Loving God, we pray for a world that needs to know your love, your hope, your peace, your joy and salvation. A world that needs to know it is special, unique and is uniquely loved by God. In peace, let us pray to the Lord together, that this evening may be holy, good and peaceful: we pray to you, O Lord. That all we have done this day and the people we have met may bring us closer to you: we pray to you, O Lord. That we may be forgiven our sins and offences: we pray to you, O Lord. That we hear and respond to your call to peace and justice: we pray to you, O Lord. That you will sustain the faith and hope of the weary, the lonely and the oppressed: we pray to you, O Lord. That you will strengthen us in your service and fill our hearts with longing for your kingdom: we pray to you, O Lord. Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.

Marylee Anderson [00:23:03] Our father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Do not bring us to the time of trial, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

[00:23:44] **ANTHEM:** God be in my head (Philip Wilby). **CANTOR:** **Evie Davidson**

Marylee Anderson [00:25:51] Let's pray together. Lord, it is night. The night is for stillness. Let us be still in your presence. It is night after a long day. What has been done has been done; what has not been done has not been done; let it be. The night is dark. Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives rest in you. The night is quiet. Let the quietness of your peace enfold us, all dear to us, and all who have no peace. The night heralds the dawn. Let us look expectantly to a new day, new joys, new possibilities. In your name, we pray. Amen. So, may God bless us in our sleep with rest, in our dreams, with vision, in our waking with a calm mind, in our soul with a friendship of the Holy Spirit this night and every night. And wherever you go, may the blessing of God: Source of all being Eternal Word and Holy Spirit, be with you, those you love and for whom you pray, this night and always. Amen.

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