

Sunday, May 15, 2022

Prelude

Hymn 709: O holy city, seen of John

1 O holy city, seen of John,
where Christ, the Lamb, doth reign,
within whose four-square walls shall come
no night, nor need, nor pain,
and where the tears are wiped from eyes
that shall not weep again!

2 Hark, now from men whose lives are held
more cheap than merchandise,
from women struggling sore for bread,
from little children's cries,
there swells the sobbing human plaint
that bids thy walls arise.

3 O shame on us who rest content
while lust and greed for gain
in street and shop and tenement
wring gold from human pain,
and bitter lips in blind despair
cry, 'Christ hath died in vain!'

4 Give us, O God, the strength to build
the city that hath stood
too long a dream, whose laws are love,
whose ways are brotherhood,
and where the sun that shineth is
God's grace for human good.

Anthem: Creation's Hymn – Ludwig Van Beethoven

Hymn 718: O God, you gave your servant John

1 O God, you gave your servant John
a vision of the world to come:
a radiant city filled with light,
where you with us will make your home;
where neither grief nor pain shall dwell,
since former things have passed away,
and where they need no sun nor moon;
your glory lights eternal day.

2 Our cities wear great shrouds of pain;
beneath our gleaming towers of wealth
the homeless crouch in rain and snow,
the poor cry out for strength and health.

Youth's hope is dimmed by ignorance;
unwilling, workers idled stand;
indifference walks unheeding by
as hunger stretches out its hand.

3 Come, Lord, make real John's vision fair;
come, dwell with us, make all things new;
we try in vain to save our world
unless our help shall come from you.

Come, strengthen us to live in love;
bid hatred, greed, injustice cease.
Your glory all the light we need,
let all our cities shine forth peace.

Anthem: Holy art Thou – George Frederick Handel

Hymn 707: For the faithful who have answered

1 For the faithful who have answered
when they heard your call to serve,
for the many ways you led them
testing will and stretching nerve,
for their work and for their witness
as they strove against the odds,
for their courage and obedience
we give thanks and praise, O God.

2 Many eyes have glimpsed the promise,
many hearts have yearned to see.
Many ears have heard you calling
us to greater liberty.

Some have fallen in the struggle,
others still are fighting on.
You are not ashamed to own us.
We give thanks and praise, O God.

3 For this cloud of faithful witness,
for the common life we share,
for the work of peace and justice,
for the gospel that we bear,
for the vision that our homeland
is your love - deep, high, and broad -
for the different roads we travel
we give thanks and praise, O God.

Postlude