

Texts used for 26th September 2021 Choral Evensong

Processional: “intende quaesumus”:

Words selected from Alciun of York (c735-804) “sequentia de Sancto Michaelē”

Intende, quaesumus, intende nostris vocibus, audi nos, Michahel, archangele, audi nos. descende de poli sede

Heed, we ask, heed our voices, hear us, Michael, hear us, Michael, archangel, come down from your high seat.

Responsorial Psalm: The Akathist to St Michael the Archangel.

Words selected from The Akathist to St Michael the Archangel. Eastern Orthodox Tradition

Introduction: Choir and organ. “Hail Michael, Great captain of the hosts of Heav’n.”

Antiphon: Choir. “The morning stars sang together. The angels of God shouted for joy.”

Antiphon: All. “The morning stars sang together. The angels of God shouted for joy.”

Verse One: Choir and organ only.

*Hail * first-formed star · of the | world.*

*Candle of truth * candle of justice * shin-ing like | gold.*

Defender of · those who | struggle.

Defender of · those who | suffer.

Antiphon: All. “The morning stars sang together. The angels of God shouted for joy.”

Verse Two: Choir and organ only.

*Hail * undefeated by the for-ces of | evil.*

You by whom peace and quiet re-turn’d to | Heav’n.

Untiring guardian of lead-ers and | rulers.

Invisible destroyer ·of vile | customs.

Antiphon: All. “The morning stars sang together. The angels of God shouted for joy.”

Verse Three. Choir and organ only.

*Hail * indestructible rampart ·of the | Church.*

Leader of the thrice-holy hymn · of the | angels.

Mighty defender of those · who speak | truth.

Mighty defender of those who ·live by | mercy.

Antiphon: All. “The morning stars sang together. The angels of God shouted for joy.”

Verse Four. Choir and organ only.

*Hail * ever prepared guardian ·of man|kind.*

Untiring helper of those · who are |humble.

Terrible avenger of those ·who blas|phemy.

You shall gather the chosen · of the | earth.

Antiphon: All. “The morning stars sang together. The angels of God shouted for joy.”

Conclusion: Choir and organ. “Hail Michael, Great captain of the hosts of Heav’n.”

First Canticle: Guardian Angel

Words: anon French 19th Century. Roman Catholic tradition.

*Ange gardien Guardian angel
Bel ange, Beautiful angel.*

*Guardian angel, From heaven so bright,
Watching beside me, to lead me aright,
Fold thy wings round me, O guard me with love,
Softly sing songs to me, of heav'n above.*

*Beautiful angel, My guardian so mild,
Tenderly guide me, For I am thy child.*

*Angel so holy! Whom God sends to me,
Sinful and lowly, My guardian to be;
Wilt thou not cherish The child of thy care?
Let me not perish My trust is thy pray'r.*

*Beautiful angel, My guardian so mild,
Tenderly guide me, For I am thy child.*

*Angel, dear Angel Oh, close by me stay;
Safe from harm shield me, All ill keep away
Then thou wilt lead me When this life is o'er
To Jesus and Mary To praise evermore.
Beautiful angel, My guardian so mild,
Tenderly guide me, For I am thy child.*

Second Canticle: Chosen Commander

Words selected from The Akathist to St Michael the Archangel. Eastern Orthodox Tradition

Chosen Commander of the heavenly hosts and defender of mankind, we who are delivered from affliction offer this hymn of thanksgiving. We implore you, O Michael standing before the Throne of the King of Glory, to set us free from all distress that we may cry to you with faith and love:

Anthem: A prayer for Saint Michael the Archangel,

Words: anon. Leonine prayer. Roman Catholic tradition

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our shield, be our protection against the malice, be our protection against the snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him we humbly pray; O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls

Saint Michael the Archangel, Defend our cause, present our prayer, be our protection against the malice, be our protection against the snares of the devil.. Amen

Recessional

Words selected from The Akathist to St Michael the Archangel. Eastern Orthodox Tradition

*Hail, Michael, great captain of the hosts of Heaven.
Раду́йся, Михаи́л, великий капита́н хозяев неба .*