

EVENSONG ON THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2020

Welcome

A warm welcome to York Minster and to this service of Choral Evensong. Welcome if you are a regular worshipper and know the Minster well, and welcome if you are experiencing this building and this form of worship for the first time today.

Today we are planning to live stream the service from the Minster. We hope that this will become part of a regular provision which will help us through the months ahead and the challenges of different restrictions due to the pandemic.

In this service we are immersed in the words of scripture, spoken and sung, and we are given time and space to lose ourselves in prayer and come closer to God.

Order of Service

A bell is rung and this prayer is sung:

Peace be to this house ♦ And to all that dwell in it.

This is the day which the Lord hath made ♦ We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Let us pray.

O Lord, our God, who knowest all hearts, be merciful to us sinners and graciously assist us in our ministry before thee, that so we may offer a service and sacrifice well-pleasing in thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This is none other than the house of God ♦ This is the gate of heaven.

Introit

Oculi omnium in te sperant Domine: et tu das escam illorum in tempore opportuno. Gloria tibi Domine. Amen.

The eyes of all wait upon thee, O Lord: and thou givest them their meat in due season. Glory be to thee, O Lord. Amen.

Words Psalm 145. 15 ♦ Music Andrew Parnell (b. 1954)

Preces

O Lord, open thou our lips; And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us;

O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Praise ye the Lord. The Lord's name be praised.

Music Philip Moore (b. 1943)

Psalm 89.20-30

Thou spakest sometime in visions unto thy saints, and saidst ♦ I have laid help upon one that is mighty; I have exalted one chosen out of the people.

I have found David my servant ♦ with my holy oil have I anointed him.

My hand shall hold him fast ♦ and my arm shall strengthen him.

The enemy shall not be able to do him violence • the son of wickedness shall not hurt him.

I will smite down his foes before his face ♦ and plague them that hate him.

My truth also and my mercy shall be with him ♦ and in my Name shall his horn be exalted.

I will set his dominion also in the sea ♦ and his right hand in the floods.

He shall call me, Thou art my Father ♦ my God, and my strong salvation.

And I will make him my first-born ♦ higher than the kings of the earth.

My mercy will I keep for him for evermore ◆ and my covenant shall stand fast with him.

His seed also will I make to endure for ever ♦ and his throne as the days of heaven.

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

1 Kings 1.15-40

So Bathsheba went to the king in his room. The king was very old; Abishag the Shunammite was attending the king. Bathsheba bowed and did obeisance to the king, and the king said, 'What do you wish?' She said to him, 'My lord, you swore to your servant by the Lord your God, saying: Your son Solomon shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne. But now suddenly Adonijah has become king, though you, my lord the king, do not know it. He has sacrificed oxen, fatted cattle, and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the children of the king, the priest Abiathar, and Joab the commander of the army; but your servant Solomon he has not invited. But you, my lord the king—the eyes of all Israel are on you to tell them who shall sit on the throne of my lord the king after him. Otherwise it will come to pass, when my lord the king sleeps with his ancestors, that my son Solomon and I will be counted offenders.'

While she was still speaking with the king, the prophet Nathan came in. The king was told, 'Here is the prophet Nathan.' When he came in before the king, he did obeisance to the king, with his face to the ground. Nathan said, 'My lord the king, have you said, "Adonijah shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne"? For today he has gone down and has sacrificed oxen, fatted cattle, and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the king's children, Joab the commander of the army, and the priest Abiathar, who are now eating and drinking before him, and saying, "Long live King Adonijah!" But he did not invite me, your servant, and the priest Zadok, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and your servant Solomon. Has this thing been brought about by my lord the king and you have not let your servants know who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?'

King David answered, 'Summon Bathsheba to me.' So she came into the king's presence, and stood before the king. The king swore, saying, 'As the Lord lives, who has saved my life from every adversity, as I swore to you by the Lord, the God of Israel, "Your son Solomon shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne in my place", so will I do this day.' Then Bathsheba bowed with her face to the ground, and did obeisance to the king, and said, 'May my lord King David live for ever!'

King David said, 'Summon to me the priest Zadok, the prophet Nathan, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada.' When they came before the king, the king said to them, 'Take with you the servants of your lord, and have my son Solomon ride on my own mule, and bring him down to Gihon. There let the priest Zadok and the prophet Nathan anoint him king over Israel; then blow the trumpet, and say, "Long live King Solomon!" You shall go up following him. Let him enter and sit on my throne; he shall be king in my place; for I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and over Judah.' Benaiah son of Jehoiada answered the king, 'Amen! May the Lord, the God of my lord the king, so ordain. As the Lord has been with my lord the king, so may he be with Solomon, and make his throne greater than the throne of my lord King David.'

So the priest Zadok, the prophet Nathan, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and the Pelethites, went down and had Solomon ride on King David's mule, and led him to Gihon. There the priest Zadok took the horn of oil from the tent and anointed Solomon. Then they blew the trumpet, and all the people said, 'Long live King Solomon!' And all the people went up following him, playing on pipes and rejoicing with great joy, so that the earth quaked at their noise.

Magnificat

My soul doth magnify the Lord ♦ and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded ♦ the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

For behold from henceforth ♦ all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me ♦ and holy is his name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him ♦ throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm ◆ he hath scattered the proud, in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat ◆ and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things ◆ and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy ♦ hath holpen his servant Israel.

As he promised to our forefathers • Abraham and his seed, for ever.

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.

Words Luke 1.46–55

Music The First Service, John Sheppard (c. 1515–58

Second Lesson

Revelation 1.4-18

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

I, John, your brother who share with you in Jesus the persecution and the kingdom and the patient endurance, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, 'Write in a book what you see and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamum, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.'

Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands I saw one like the Son of Man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash across his chest. His head and his hair were white as white wool, white as snow; his eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined as in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and from his mouth came a sharp, two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining with full force.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he placed his right hand on me, saying, 'Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive for ever and ever; and I have the keys of Death and of Hades.

Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace ♦ according to thy word,

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation ♦ which thou hast prepared before the
face of all people,

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles ♦ and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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.

Words Luke 2.29–32 ♦ Music The First Service, John Sheppard

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth: and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate. was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead, he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church: the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Lesser Litany, Responses and Collects

The Lord be with you; and with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us; And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen; And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness; And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people; And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord; Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us; And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

O God, our refuge and strength, who art the author of all godliness; be ready, we beseech thee, to hear the devout prayers of thy Church; and grant that those things which we ask faithfully we may obtain effectually; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Music Philip Moore

Anthem

Salva nos domine vigilantes, custodi nos dormientes, ut vigilemus cum Christo, et requiescamus in pace.

Save us, O Lord, waking, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep may rest in peace.

Words from the Office of Compline ♦ *Music* Jean Mouton (1459–1522)

Sermon

The Revd Dr Victoria Johnson, Canon Precentor

The Blessing