



EVENSONG  
ON THE  
FEAST OF PENTECOST

SUNDAY 31 MAY 2020

## Welcome

A warm welcome to York Minster and to this service of Evening Prayer.

Welcome to this online expression of Choral Evensong, one of the most cherished services in the Church of England. Welcome if you are a regular worshipper and know the Minster well, and welcome if you are experiencing this building and this form of prayer for the first time today.

Under normal circumstances this traditional form of prayer is said or most usually sung in this place every day of the year, led by the choir of York Minster. 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.

In a world of uncertainty and confusion, we hope this service offers refreshment and peace, and an opportunity to rest in God's presence, until we are able to gather together again.

We mark in this service today the Festival of Pentecost, when we give thanks for the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit blessing the church and the whole world, and that spirit sustains us today in our worship and binds us together as the body of Christ, even as we each offer our prayers from our own homes.

We hope you find this service helpful, and are so pleased you can join us.

We now keep a moment of silence to rest in God's presence before the service begins.

## 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.

### 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.**

### Psalm 67

God be merciful unto us, and bless us : and shew us the light of his countenance,  
and be merciful unto us:

That thy way may be known upon earth : thy saving health among all nations.

Let the people praise thee, O God : yea, let all the people praise thee.

O let the nations rejoice and be glad : for thou shalt judge the folk righteously,  
and govern the nations upon earth.

Let the people praise thee, O God : let all the people praise thee.

Then shall the earth bring forth her increase : and God, even our own God,  
shall give us his blessing.

God shall bless us : and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

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.**

*Tone vii.2*

## First Lesson

Joel 22.21–end

Do not fear, O soil;  
    be glad and rejoice,  
    for the Lord has done great things!  
Do not fear, you animals of the field,  
    for the pastures of the wilderness are green;  
the tree bears its fruit,  
    the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

O children of Zion, be glad  
    and rejoice in the Lord your God;  
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,  
    he has poured down for you abundant rain,  
    the early and the later rain, as before.  
The threshing-floors shall be full of grain,  
    the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

I will repay you for the years  
    that the swarming locust has eaten,  
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,  
    my great army, which I sent against you.

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,  
    and praise the name of the Lord your God,  
    who has dealt wondrously with you.  
And my people shall never again be put to shame.  
You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,  
    and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other.  
And my people shall never again be put to shame.

Then afterwards  
    I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;  
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
    your old men shall dream dreams,  
    and your young men shall see visions.  
Even on the male and female slaves,  
    in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

## 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* Judith Bingham (b. 1952)

## Second Lesson

Acts 2. 14–21

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them:

‘Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and  
listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only  
nine o’clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet

Joel<sup>k</sup> In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.  
Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

## **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* Judith Bingham

## **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.

God, who as at this time didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by the sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit; Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end.

**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.**

## **Anthem**

If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may bide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth.

*Words* St John 14. 15–16 • *Music* Thomas Tallis (c. 1505–85)

## **Sermon**

The Revd Canon Michael Smith, Pastor

## **Prayers**



## Hymn



Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,  
and lighten with celestial fire;  
thou the anointing Spirit art,  
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart:

Thy blessèd unction from above  
is comfort, life, and fire of love;  
enable with perpetual light  
the dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soilèd face  
with the abundance of thy grace:  
keep far our foes, give peace at home;  
where thou art guide no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
and thee, of both, to be but One;  
that through the ages all along  
this may be our endless song:

Praise to thy eternal merit,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Words* John Cosin (1594–1672)  
*Tune* VENI CREATOR, NEH 138, Mode viii

## Blessing

*The Dean says:*

May the Spirit,  
who hovered over the waters when the world was created,  
breathe into you the life he gives.

**Amen.**

May the Spirit,  
who overshadowed the Virgin when the eternal Son came among us,  
make you joyful in the service of the Lord.

**Amen.**

May the Spirit,  
who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost,  
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.

**Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## Voluntary

Komm, heiliger Geist, BUXWV 199

Dietrich Buxtehude

*played by Benjamin Morris*