



EVENSONG
FOR THE
TRANSFIGURATION

SUNDAY 9 AUGUST 2020

Welcome

A warm welcome to York Minster and to this online expression of Choral Evensong when we mark the feast of the Transfiguration.

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.

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.

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 72.1–8

Give the King thy judgements, O God ♦ and thy righteousness unto the King's son.

Then shall he judge thy people according unto right ♦ and defend the poor.

The mountains also shall bring peace ♦ and the little hills righteousness unto the people.

He shall keep the simple folk by their right ♦ defend the children of the poor, and punish the wrong-doer.

They shall fear thee, as long as the sun and moon endureth ♦ from one generation to another.

He shall come down like the rain into a fleece of wool ♦ even as the drops that water the earth.

In his time shall the righteous flourish ♦ yea, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth.

His dominion shall be also from the one sea to the other ♦ and from the flood unto the world's end.

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

Exodus 34.29–35

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

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* Plainchant

Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 3

Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Surely we do not need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you or from you, do we? You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all; and you show that you are a letter of Christ, prepared by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

Such is the confidence that we have through Christ towards God. Not that we are competent of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our competence is from God, who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of letter but of spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

Now if the ministry of death, chiselled in letters on stone tablets, came in glory so that the people of Israel could not gaze at Moses' face because of the glory of his face, a glory now set aside, how much more will the ministry of the Spirit come in glory? For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, much more does the ministry of justification abound in glory! Indeed, what once had glory has lost its glory because of the greater glory; for if what was set aside came through glory, much more has the permanent come in glory!

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

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* Plainchant

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.

Heavenly Father, whose Son Jesus Christ was wonderfully transfigured before chosen witnesses upon the holy mountain, and spoke of the exodus he would accomplish at Jerusalem: grant us strength so to hear his voice and bear our cross, that in the world to come we may behold him as he is; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
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

Eternal Light, shine in our hearts;
Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil;
Eternal Power, be our support;
Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance;
Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us;
that with all our heart and mind and soul and strength
we may seek your face
and be brought by your infinite mercy to your holy presence'
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words Alcuin of York (735–804) ♦ *Music* Humphry Clucas (b. 1941)

Prayers

The Revd Canon Dr Victoria Johnson, Precentor