



**EVENSONG**

**ON THE**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Sunday 21 March 2021**

**at 4.00pm**

# 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's service will be live streamed from the Minster. We hope that this regular provision of choral worship will help us through the months ahead and the challenges of different restrictions due to the pandemic. Under current Government and Church of England guidance, only up to three singers may sing during a service which is open to a congregation.

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 these prayers are sung:*

O praise the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord.

Let us pray.

O Lord, open thou our lips and purify our hearts, that we may worthily magnify thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O praise the Lord with me, and let us magnify his name together.

## Introit

Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my crying come unto thee. Hide not thy face from me, O hide not thy face in the time of my trouble: incline thine ear unto me, O Lord, O hear me and that right soon.

*Words* Psalm 102.1, 2 ♦ *Music* Thomas Tomkins (1573–1656)

## 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* Robert Ashfield (1911–2006)

## Psalm

I will always give thanks unto the Lord ♦ his praise shall ever be in my mouth.  
My soul shall make her boast in the Lord ♦ the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.

O praise the Lord with me ♦ and let us magnify his Name together.  
I sought the Lord, and he heard me ♦ yea, he delivered me out of all my fear.  
They had an eye unto him, and were lightened ♦ and their faces were not ashamed.

Lo, the poor crieth, and the Lord heareth him ♦ yea, and saveth him out of all his troubles.

The angel of the Lord tarrieth round about them that fear him ♦ and delivereth them.

O taste, and see, how gracious the Lord is ♦ blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

O fear the Lord, ye that are his saints ♦ for they that fear him lack nothing.  
The lions do lack, and suffer hunger ♦ but they who seek the Lord shall want no manner of thing that is good.

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.

PSALM 34.1–10

## First Lesson

A reading from the book of the Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, ‘When Pharaoh says to you, “Perform a wonder”, then you shall say to Aaron, “Take your staff and throw it down before Pharaoh, and it will become a snake.”’ So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did as the Lord had commanded; Aaron threw down his staff before Pharaoh and his officials, and it became a snake. Then Pharaoh summoned the wise men and the sorcerers; and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did the same by their secret arts. Each one threw down his staff, and they became snakes; but Aaron’s staff swallowed up theirs. Still Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the Lord had said.

Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘Pharaoh’s heart is hardened; he refuses to let the people go. Go to Pharaoh in the morning, as he is going out to the water; stand by at the river bank to meet him, and take in your hand the staff that was turned into a snake. Say to him, “The Lord, the God of the Hebrews, sent me to you to say, ‘Let my people go, so that they may worship me in the wilderness.’ But until now you have not listened. Thus says the Lord, ‘By this you shall know that I am the Lord.’ See, with the staff that is in my hand I will strike the water that is in the Nile, and it shall be turned to blood. The fish in the river shall die, the river itself shall stink, and the Egyptians shall be unable to drink water from the Nile.”’ The Lord said to Moses, ‘Say to Aaron, “Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt—over its rivers, its canals, and its ponds, and all its pools of water—so that they may become blood; and there shall be blood throughout the whole land of Egypt, even in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone.”’

Moses and Aaron did just as the Lord commanded. In the sight of Pharaoh and of his officials he lifted up the staff and struck the water in the river, and all the water in the river was turned into blood, and the fish in the river died. The river stank so that the Egyptians could not drink its water, and there was blood throughout the whole land of Egypt. But the magicians of Egypt did the same by their secret arts; so Pharaoh’s heart remained hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the Lord had said. Pharaoh turned and went into his house, and he did not take even this to heart. And all the Egyptians had to dig along the Nile for water to drink, for they could not drink the water of the river.

Here ends the first lesson.

EXODUS 7:8–24

## 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 I. 46–55 ♦ *Music* THE FIRST SERVICE, Philip Moore (*b.* 1943)

## Second Lesson

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. But law came in, with the result that the trespass multiplied; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, just as sin exercised dominion in death, so grace might also exercise dominion through justification leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Here ends the second lesson.

ROMANS 5.12–end

## 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* FIRST SERVICE, Philip Moore

## 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 and Responses

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.**

## The Collects

We beseech thee, Almighty God, mercifully to look upon thy people; that by thy great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore, both in body and soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; 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* Robert Ashfield

## **Anthem**

Blessed is he whose unrighteousness is forgiven: and whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth no sin: and in whose spirit there is no guile.

*Words* Psalm 32.1, 2 ♦ *Music* Thomas Tomkins (1573–1656)

## **Sermon**

The Revd Dr Victoria Johnson, Canon Precentor

## **The Blessing**

## **Voluntary**

Herzlich tut mich verlangen, BWV 727

J S Bach

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