

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

CHORAL EVENSONG

1ST MAY 2022, 5:30^{PM}

SI BRIDE'S CHURCH

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him,
for he is thy health and salvation:
all ye who hear,
now to his temple draw near,
joining in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth, shieldeth thee gently from harm, or when fainting sustaineth: hast thou not seen how thy heart's wishes have been granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee; surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend thee: ponder anew what the Almighty can do, if to the end he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath,
come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from his people again:
gladly for aye we adore him!

Tune: Lobe den Herren, 17th century German, set to Neander's Lobe den Herren in 1863 Words: German, J Neander 1650-80, Tr C Winkworth 1827-78

Welcome

Minister

Beloved, we are come together in the presence of Almighty God and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him, through our Lord Jesus Christ, our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make confession of our sins, to pray as well for others as for ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all men such things as their well being doth require. Wherefore let us kneel now and humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Confession

All

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us: but thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders; spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults, restore thou them that are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord:

and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name.
Amen.

The Minister delivers the Absolution

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

Preces

John Sanders

Minister O Lord, open thou our lips,

Choir and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Minister O God, make speed to save us, Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Please stand

Minister Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,

and to the Holy Ghost;

Choir as it was in the beginning, is now,

and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen.

Minister Praise ye the Lord.

Choir The Lord's name be praised.

Psalm 30

Choir

1 I will magnify thee, O Lord, for thou hast set me up: and not made my foes to triumph over me.

2 O Lord my God, I cried unto thee: and thou hast healed me.

3 Thou, Lord, hast brought my soul out of hell: thou hast kept my life from them that go down to the pit.

4 Sing praises unto the Lord, O ye saints of his: and give thanks unto him for a remembrance of his holiness.

5 For his wrath endureth but the twinkling of an eye, and in his pleasure is life: heaviness may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

6 And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be removed: thou, Lord, of thy goodness hast made my hill so strong.

7 Thou didst turn thy face from me: and I was troubled.

8 Then cried I unto thee, O Lord: and gat me to my Lord right humbly.

9 What profit is there in my blood: when I go down to the pit?

10 Shall the dust give thanks unto thee: or shall it declare thy truth?

11 Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me: Lord, be thou my helper.

12 Thou hast turned my heaviness into joy: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness.

13 Therefore shall every good man sing of thy praise without ceasing:
O my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and the Son: and the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Chants: Richard Woodward 1743-1777 and Charles Hylton Stewart 1884-1932

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 38: 9-20

read by James Irving

The writing of Hezekiah king of Judah, when he had been sick, and was recovered of his sickness:

I said in the cutting off of my days, I shall go to the gates of the grave: I am deprived of the residue of my years. I said, I shall not see the Lord, even the Lord, in the land of the living: I shall behold man no more with the inhabitants of the world. Mine age is departed, and is removed from me as a shepherd's tent: I have cut off like a weaver my life: he will cut me off with pining sickness: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me.

I reckoned till morning, that, as a lion, so will he break all my bones: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me. Like a crane or a swallow, so did I chatter: I did mourn as a dove: mine eyes fail with looking upward: O Lord, I am oppressed; undertake for me. What shall I say? he hath both spoken unto me, and himself hath done it: I shall go softly all my years in the bitterness of my soul. O Lord, by these things men live, and in all these things is the life of my spirit: so wilt thou recover me, and make me to live. Behold, for peace I had great bitterness:

but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back. For the grave cannot praise thee, death can not celebrate thee: they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth. The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth.

The Lord was ready to save me: therefore we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments all the days of our life in the house of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Magnificat

'Gloucester' Evening Service - Herbert Howells

Choir

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 showed 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.

New Testament Lesson John 11: 27-44

read by Matthew Morley

Martha saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world. And when she had so said, she went her way, and called Mary her sister secretly, saying, The Master is come, and calleth for thee. As soon as she heard that, she arose quickly, and came unto him.

Now Jesus was not yet come into the town, but was in that place where Martha met him. The Jews then which were with her in the house, and comforted her, when they saw Mary, that she rose up hastily and went out, followed her, saying, She goeth unto the grave to weep there. Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.

When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled. And said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto him, Lord, come and see. Jesus wept.

Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him! And some of them said, Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died? Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.

Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four days. Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto

thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?

Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me. And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Nunc Dimittis

'Gloucester' Evening Service - Herbert Howells

Choir

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.

Apostles' Creed

All

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.

Responses

John Sanders

Minister The Lord be with you, Choir and with thy spirit.

Minister Let us pray.

Choir 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.

Minister O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us, Choir and grant us thy salvation.

Minister O Lord, save the Queen, Choir and mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Minister Endue thy Ministers with righteousness, Choir and make thy chosen people joyful.

Minister O Lord, save thy people, Choir and bless thine inheritance.

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

Minister O God, make clean our hearts within us, Choir and take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Collects

The first, for the day

Minister Almighty Father,

who in thy great mercy gladdened the disciples

with the sight of the risen Lord:

give us such knowledge of his presence with us,

that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life

and serve thee continually in righteousness and truth;

through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

Choir Amen.

The second, for Peace

Minister 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.

Choir Amen.

The third, for Aid against all Perils

Minister 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.

Choir Amen.

Anthem

Let all mortal flesh keep silence – Edward Bairstow

Let all mortal flesh keep silence and stand with fear and trembling, and lift itself above all earthly thought.

For the King of kings and Lord of lords, Christ our God, cometh forth to be our oblation, and to be given for Food to the faithful.

Before Him come the choirs of angels with every principality and power; the Cherubim with many eyes, and wingèd Seraphim, who veil their faces as they shout exultingly the hymn: Alleluia!

Words: from the Liturgy of St James

Sermon

The Revd Canon Dr Alison Joyce, Rector of St Bride's

Hymn

Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain, wheat that in dark earth many years has lain; love lives again, that with the dead has been:

Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

In the grave they laid him, Love whom men had slain, thinking that never he would wake again, laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:

Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, he that for three days in the grave had lain, quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:

Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, thy touch can call us back to life again, fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been: Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

Tune: Noel Nouvelet. Old French melody harmonised by M Shaw 1875-1958 Words: J M C Crum 1872-1958

Prayers of Intercession

The Revd Dr Jeff Lake, Associate Priest of St Bride's

These responses may be used

Lord, in thy mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Merciful Father,

All accept these prayers for the sake of thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow. My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow:

Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison, our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen.

My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber: till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number:

Had Christ, that once was slain...

Death's flood hath lost its chill, since Jesus crossed the river: Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver:

Had Christ, that once was slain...

Tune: This Joyful Eastertide from David's Psalmen 1685 Words: G R Woodward 1848-1934

Blessing

Minister The peace of God, which passeth all understanding,

keep your hearts and minds

in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be amongst you and remain with you always.

Choir Amen.

Organ Voluntary

Sarabande (for the Morning of Easter) – Herbert Howells

St Bride's Church, Fleet Street, London. CCLI Licence no 2277036 CCLI Streaming Licence no 954810

Thank You

We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to all who have continued to support us during this crisis, both through regular giving and occasional gifts.

This financial support remains vital to our on-going ministry. Although our normal services have now resumed, our ability to raise funds to maintain our ministry and building is still impacted.

The singers, organist, and Director of Music are all freelance professional musicians who have been significantly affected during the pandemic, and your donations have allowed us to help them financially through these difficult times.

We shall continue to offer our online worship - even though this requires additional investment - because no service from St Bride's would be complete without the wonderful music which our choir provides.

If you would like to make a donation to support the work of St Bride's, please do so at:

www.justgiving.com/stbrideschurchfleetstreet

Alternatively, in the UK:

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ST BRIDE'S CHURCH