



**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY**

**AFTER**

**TRINITY**

**CHORAL EVENSONG**

**2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2022, 5:30<sup>PM</sup>**

**ST BRIDE'S  
CHURCH**

## Hymn

**Father, hear the prayer we offer:  
not for ease that prayer shall be,  
but for strength that we may ever  
live our lives courageously.**

**Not for ever in green pastures  
do we ask our way to be;  
but the steep and rugged pathway  
may we tread rejoicingly.**

**Not for ever by still waters  
would we idly rest and stay;  
but would smite the living fountains  
from the rocks along our way.**

**Be our strength in hours of weakness,  
in our wanderings be our guide;  
through endeavour, failure, danger,  
Father, be thou at our side.**

Tune: Sussex, English traditional melody adapted by Ralph Vaughan Williams 1872-1958  
Words: Love Maria Willis 1824-1908

## 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.*

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 142**

*1 I cried unto the Lord with my voice :  
yea, even unto the Lord did I make my supplication.*

*2 I poured out my complaints before him :  
and shewed him of my trouble.*

*3 When my spirit was in heaviness thou knewest my path :  
in the way wherein I walked have they privily laid a snare  
for me.*

*4 I looked also upon my right hand :  
and saw there was no man that would know me.*

*5 I had no place to flee unto :  
and no man cared for my soul.*

*6 I cried unto thee, O Lord, and said :  
Thou art my hope, and my portion in the land of the living.*

*7 Consider my complaint :  
for I am brought very low.*

*8 O deliver me from my persecutors :  
for they are too strong for me.*

*9 Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks unto thy  
Name :  
which thing if thou wilt grant me, then shall the righteous  
resort unto my company.*

*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.*

Chant: William Bexfield 1824-1853

## **Old Testament Lesson**

### **Nehemiah 5: 1-13**

read by Lucy Nutt

And there was a great cry of the people and of their wives against their brethren the Jews. For there were that said, We, our sons, and our daughters, are many: therefore we take up corn for them, that we may eat, and live. Some also there were that said, We have mortgaged our lands, vineyards, and houses, that we might buy corn, because of the dearth. There were also that said, We have borrowed money for the king's tribute, and that upon our lands and vineyards.

Yet now our flesh is as the flesh of our brethren, our children as their children: and, lo, we bring into bondage our sons and our daughters to be servants, and some of our daughters are brought unto bondage already: neither is it in our power to redeem them; for other men have our lands and vineyards.

And I was very angry when I heard their cry and these words. Then I consulted with myself, and I rebuked the nobles, and the rulers, and said unto them, Ye exact usury, every one of his brother. And I set a great assembly against them.

And I said unto them, We after our ability have redeemed our brethren the Jews, which were sold unto the heathen; and will ye even sell your brethren? or shall they be sold unto us? Then held they their peace, and found nothing to answer.

Also I said, It is not good that ye do: ought ye not to walk in the fear of our God because of the reproach of the heathen our enemies? I likewise, and my brethren, and my servants, might exact of them money and corn: I pray you, let us leave off this usury. Restore, I pray you, to them, even this day, their lands, their vineyards, their oliveyards, and their houses, also the hundredth part of the money, and of the corn, the wine, and the oil, that ye exact of them.

Then said they, We will restore them, and will require nothing of them; so will we do as thou sayest. Then I called the priests, and took an oath of them, that they should do according to this promise. Also I shook my lap, and said, So God shake out every man from his house, and from his labour, that performeth not this promise, even thus be he shaken out, and emptied. And all the congregation said, Amen, and praised the Lord. And the people did according to this promise.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All**

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Magnificat**

*'Great' Evening Service in D – Hubert Parry*

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 9**

read by Edward Bowsher

And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?

Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.)

He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing. The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged?

Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he. Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened?

He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight. Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not.

They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime was blind. And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes. Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see. Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them.

They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, He is a prophet. But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight. And they asked them, saying, Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? how then doth he now see? His parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind: But by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself. These words spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue. Therefore said his parents, He is of age; ask him.

Then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him, Give God the praise: we know that this man is a sinner. He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.



Then said they to him again, What did he to thee? how opened he thine eyes? He answered them, I have told you already, and ye did not hear: wherefore would ye hear it again? will ye also be his disciples?

Then they reviled him, and said, Thou art his disciple; but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spake unto Moses: as for this fellow, we know not from whence he is. The man answered and said unto them, Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from whence he is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes. Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth. Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind. If this man were not of God, he could do nothing. They answered and said unto him, Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee. And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him.

And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind. And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also? Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **Nunc Dimittis**

*'Great' Evening Service in D – Hubert Parry*

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 King,  
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 *O Lord we beseech thee  
mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people  
which call upon thee;  
and grant that they may both perceive  
and know what things they ought to do,  
and also may have grace and power  
faithfully to fulfil the same;  
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.  
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**

*Hail, gladdening light* – Charles Wood

*Hail, gladd'ning light, of his pure glory pour'd,  
who is th'immortal Father, heav'nly, blest, holiest of holies  
Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Now we are come to the sun's hour of rest,  
the lights of ev'ning round us shine,  
we hymn the Father, Son and Holy Spirit divine.*

*Worthiest art Thou at all times  
to be sung with undefiled tongue,  
Son of our God, giver of life alone;  
Therefore in all the world, thy glories Lord they own.  
Amen.*

Words: Translated from the Greek by John Keble

### **Sermon**

The Revd Steve Morris, *Associate Priest of St Bride's*

### **Hymn**

**Teach me, my God and King,  
in all things thee to see;  
and what I do in anything  
to do it as for thee.**

**A man that looks on glass,  
on it may stay his eye;  
or, if he pleaseth, through it pass,  
and then the heaven espy.**

**All may of thee partake;  
nothing can be so mean  
which, with this tincture, for thy sake  
will not grow bright and clean.**

**A servent with this clause  
makes drudgery divine;  
who sweeps a room, as for thy laws,  
makes that and the action fine.**

**This is the famous stone  
that turneth all to gold;  
for that which God doth touch and own  
cannot for less be told.**

Tune: Sandys from W Sandy's *Christmas Carols* 1833  
Words: George Herbert 1593-1633

## **Prayers of Intercession**

The Revd Steve Morris, *Associate Priest of St Bride's*

*These responses may be used*

**All** Lord, in thy mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

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

## **Offertory Hymn**

**Through all the changing scenes of life,  
in trouble and in joy,  
the praises of my God shall still  
my heart and tongue employ.**

**O magnify the Lord with me,  
with me exalt his name;  
when in distress to him I called,  
he to my rescue came.**

**The hosts of God encamp around  
the dwellings of the just;  
deliverance he affords to all  
who on his succour trust.**

**O make but trial of his love,  
experience will decide  
how blest are they, and only they,  
who in his truth confide!**

**Fear him, ye saints, and you will then  
have nothing else to fear;  
make you his service your delight,  
your wants shall be his care.**

**To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
the God whom we adore,  
be glory, as it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore**

Tune: Wiltshire by George Smart 1776-1867  
Words: Nahum Tate 1652-1715 and Nicholas Brady 1659-1726  
Psalm 34

## **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**

*Fantasia in G* – Hubert Parry