Sunday 14 June 2020
Leavers Evensong from University College, Oxford

A warm welcome to our service this week.
Thank you for joining us from wherever you may be.

The full text of the service is found in this pdf file that you have downloaded from our Online Evensong page. An audio-recording of the full service is on the page where you found the link to this text.

Our preacher this week is the Chaplain, and our service is one opportunity to say goodbye to those who leave us this year, among them the Master and Lady Crewe.
So good evening and welcome to our service tonight, to our Leavers Evensong at the start of this last week of term.

And as we begin, let us note the mixed emotions that we may feel – a combination of gratitude and of loss that each one of us may experience in very different ways ...

**INTROIT**

‘Lift thine eyes’

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains,  
Whence cometh help.  
Thy help cometh from the Lord,  
the Maker of heaven and earth.  
He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved.  
Thy Keeper will never slumber.  
Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains,  
Whence cometh help.

Words: From ‘Elijah’, drawing on Psalm 121.  
Music: Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
INTRODUCTION

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 people such things as their well-being doth require.

Therefore let us continue in a moment of shared silence, and remember God’s presence with us now.

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

Our Father, who 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 those that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

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 100

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands 
serve the Lord with gladness, 
and come before his presence with a song. 
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God 
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; 
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. 
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, 
and into his courts with praise 
be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name. 
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting 
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

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.
At the third new moon after the Israelites had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day, they came into the wilderness of Sinai. They had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, ‘Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.’

So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. The people all answered as one: ‘Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do.’ Moses reported the words of the people to the Lord.
MAGNIFICAT
The Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Luke 1.46-55

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.

THE SECOND LESSON
From the New Testament
Matthew 9.35-10.1, 10.5-14
Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.’

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: ‘Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, “The kingdom of heaven has come near.” Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for labourers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town.’
NUNC DIMITTIS
The Song of Simeon
Luke 2.29-32

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.

THE SUNG PRAYERS

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 COLLECT FOR PEACE

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.
THE COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS

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.

THE ANTHEM
‘Let all mortal flesh keep silence’

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: form the Liturgy of St James
Music: Edward Bairstow (1874-1976)
THE SERMON
Preacher: The Chaplain

HYMN
‘The Lord’s my shepherd’

The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want;
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e’en for His own name’s sake.

Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill;
for Thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.
My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me,
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling-place shall be.

Music: 'Crimond', melody by Jessie Irvine (1836-87)
Text: Scottish Psalter, 1650

THE INTERCESSIONS

As we continue together, let us pray

Let us pray for the world,
for all people in every kind of need,
and also for the College:

For communities, families and individuals
whose lives have been overturned by covid-19,
for those who face disproportionate suffering,
and for all who suffer through disease, poverty and injustice.
For researchers, clinicians and all engaged in biomedical research, and for all who care for the sick and dying, among them medical students, graduates and fellows of this College.

For those whose lives are diminished by violence, racism and discrimination of any kind, And for all who strive for justice and for peace both in Oxford and across the world.

For all those whose needs are known to us, among them those who leave the College this year: that they may know God's guidance on the way before them, that they may use wisely and generously all that they have learned in this place, and that they may always find a welcome here.

And let us pray for those who stay, and those who will join us next year: that we may work continually for all that makes for justice and for peace, And that love of neighbour and all good learning may here for ever flourish.

_and a prayer of St Augustine of Hippo:

O God, from whom to be turned is to fall, to whom to be turned is to rise, and in whom to stand is to abide for ever: grant us in all our duties thy help, in all our perplexities thy guidance, in all our dangers thy protection, and in all our sorrows thy peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
HYMN
‘Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty’

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and Seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see;
Only thou art holy, there is none beside thee
perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name
in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

Music: ‘Nicaea’, J. B. Dykes (1823-1876)
Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you,
the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you,
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

VOLUNTARY
‘Veni Redemptor’ and ‘A Point’
Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585)
THANKS

Our thanks go to:

The Master, and Lady Crewe
All who leave us this year, including members of the Chapel Choir
All who support the life of the College Chapel
The Chapel Choir, Organ Scholars, Choral Scholars and Choral Bursars, and their teachers
Justin Bowyer, College Digital Communications Manager, for technical advice and support, and for editing and posting the recording, and creating its webpage
Alexander Newton and Harry Stuart, for editing this recording

And to those who sang, played or read the various parts of our service:

Introit (Choir)
Hymn (Conor McGlone, piano, and Choir)
Versicles and Responses (Giles Underwood and Carys Lane)
Psalm 100 (Anna Bailey)
First Lesson (The Master)
Magnificat (Zoe Ford)
Second Lesson (Priya Radhakrishnan)
Nunc Dimittis (Stuart McGregor)
The Sung Prayers (Giles Underwood and Carys Lane)
The Anthem (Choir)
Hymn (Ben Nicholas, organ, and Choir)
Voluntary (Harry Stuart, organ)

Andrew Gregory, Chaplain
Giles Underwood, Director of Music
12 June 2020