Sunday 25 October 2020
Choral Evensong
and Thanksgiving for our Founder and Benefactors

Online 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.
INTROIT
‘Lead me, Lord’

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety.

Words: Psalm 5.8 & 4.9
Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-76)

HYMN
‘Christ is made the sure foundation’

Christ is made the sure foundation, and the precious corner-stone, who, the two walls underlying, bound in each, binds both in one, Holy Sion’s help for ever, and our confidence alone.

All that dedicated city, dearly loved by God on high, in exultant jubilation pours perpetual melody,
God the One, in threefold glory,
Ssnging everlastingly.

To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of hosts, today;
with thy wonted loving-kindness,
hear thy people as they pray;
and thy fullest benediction
shed within its walls for ay.

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
gifts of grace by prayer to gain;
here to have and hold for ever,
those good things their prayers obtain,
and hereafter, in thy glory,
with thy blessèd ones to reign.

Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One,
One in love, and One in splendour,
while unending ages run. Amen.

Words: Latin, 7th century, trans. J. M. Neale (1818-66)
Music: Westminster Abbey, Purcell

**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.
CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God:

O God, our Father,  
we have sinned against thee  
in thought, word, and deed:  
we have not loved thee with all our heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
Have mercy upon us, we beseech thee;  
cleanse us from our sins;  
and help us to overcome our faults;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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

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 1

Blessed is the man that hath not walked in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stood in the way of sinners *
and hath not sat in the seat of the scornful.
But his delight is in the law of the Lord *
and in his law will he exercise himself day and night.
And he shall be like a tree planted by the water-side *
that will bring forth his fruit in due season.
His leaf also shall not wither *
and look, whatsoever he doeth, it shall prosper.
As for the ungodly, it is not so with them *
but they are like the chaff, which the wind scattereth away from the face of the earth.
Therefore the ungodly shall not be able to stand in the judgement *
neither the sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
But the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous *
and the way of the ungodly shall perish.

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 FIRST LESSON
From the Old Testament
Leviticus 19.1-2, 15-18
The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

You shall not render an unjust judgement; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbour. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbour: I am the Lord.

You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbour, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am 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.

Setting: Murrill in E
When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.
“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?”

He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment.

And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question:
“What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?”

They said to him, “The son of David.”

He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet”’? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?”

No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.
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.

Setting: Murrill in E

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 Spirit;
The holy Catholic Church;
The Communion of Saints;
The Forgiveness of sins;
The Resurrection of the body,
And the Life everlasting. Amen.

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 THE DAY
O God, for whose glory  
William of Durham founded this house:  
We thank thee for thy goodness to us,  
and ask that love of neighbour and all good learning  
may here for ever flourish;  
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 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
‘I was glad’

I was glad when they said unto me: We will go into the house of the Lord.  
For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord: to testify unto Israel,  
to give thanks unto the Name of the Lord.  
For there is the seat of judgement: even the seat of the house of David.  
O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.  
Peace be within thy walls: and plenteousness within thy palaces.  
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 Prayer of General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
We thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all people.
We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we shew forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives;
by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.
The College Prayer of Thanksgiving for our Founder and Benefactors

O MERCIFUL GOD and most loving Father,
we praise thy holy name for the memory of King Alfred
and for his advancement of learning in this land.
We give thee thanks for the blessings bestowed upon us of this house
by the bounty of William of Durham,
and all other benefactors of this college,
whether living or departed.

We thank thee also for the manifold and great blessings
which we have received at thy hand
through the faithful life and work of all
who have loved and served this House in their several generations.

Finally, we beseech thee,
that we may so set thy holy will ever before us
and be led into the knowledge of thy truth,
that both Church and Commonwealth
may be profited by our studies and endeavours,
and that we ourselves, after this life ended,
may be made partakers of eternal bliss in the life of the world to come;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all praise, thanksgiving and honour belong unto thee, O Father Almighty,
now and for evermore. AMEN.
Ye holy angels bright,
who wait at God's right hand,
or through the realms of light
fly at your Lord's command,
assist our song,
for else the theme
too high doth seem
for mortal tongue.

Ye blessèd souls at rest,
who ran this earthly race,
and now, from sin released,
behold the Saviour's face,
God's praises sound,
as in his sight
with sweet delight
ye do abound.

Ye saints, who toil below,
adore your heavenly King,
and onward as ye go
some joyful anthem sing;
take what he gives
and praise him still,
through good and ill,
who ever lives.

My soul, bear thou thy part,
triumph in God above,
and with a well-tuned heart
sing thou the songs of love;
let all thy days
till life shall end,
whate'er he send,
be filled with praise.

Words: Richard Baxter (1615-91) and others
Music: Darwall's 148th, John Darwall (1731-89)
BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes 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 among you and remain with you always. Amen.

VOLUNTARY
‘Voluntary for the Single Organ’
Henry Purcell