Sunday 1 November 2020
Choral Evensong
All Saints Day

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 Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, the Bishop of Southwark.
INTROIT
‘With prayer and supplication’

With prayer and supplication,
let your requests be known unto God.
And the peace of God which passeth all understanding,
shall keep your hearts and minds,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Words: Philippians 4.6-7
Music: Amy Beach (1867-1944)
Jerusalem the golden,
with milk and honey blest,
beneath thy contemplation
sink heart and voice oppressed.
I know not, O I know not,
what social joys are there;
what radiancy of glory,
what light beyond compare.

They stand, those halls of Zion,
conjuribant with song,
and bright with many an angel,
and all the martyr throng.
The Prince is ever in them,
the daylight is serene;
the pastures of the blessed
are decked in glorious sheen.

There is the throne of David;
and there, from care released,
the song of them that triumph,
the shout of them that feast;
and they who, with their Leader,
have conquered in the fight,
forever and forever
are clad in robes of white.

O sweet and blessed country,
shall I ever see thy face?
O sweet and blessed country
shall I ever win thy grace?
Exult, o dust and ashes!
The Lord shall be thy part:
His only, his for ever,
Thou shalt be, and thou art!

Music: St Bede’s, Alexander Ewing, taken from Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861.
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, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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 34.1-10

I will alway 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.
For I am about to create new heavens
and a new earth;
the former things shall not be remembered
or come to mind.
But be glad and rejoice for ever
in what I am creating;
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy,
and its people as a delight.
I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
and delight in my people;
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,
or the cry of distress.
No more shall there be in it
an infant that lives but a few days,
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.
They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
They shall not labour in vain,
or bear children for calamity;
for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—
and their descendants as well.
Before they call I will answer,  
while they are yet speaking I will hear.  
The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,  
the lion shall eat straw like the ox;  
but the serpent—its food shall be dust!  
They shall not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
says 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: Watson in E
When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

‘Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

‘Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

‘Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

‘Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
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: Watson 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 ALMIGHTY God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant us grace so to follow thy blessed Saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys, which thou hast prepared for them that unfeignedly love thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

‘In paradisum’

In paradisum deducant angeli
In tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres
Et perducant te
In civitatem sanctam Jerusalem
Chorus angelorum te suscipiat
Et cum Lazaro, quondam paupere
Aeternam habeas réquiem.

May angels lead you into paradise
Martyrs receive you
at your arrival
And bring you
To the holy city Jerusalem
May the choir of angels receive you
And with Lazarus, once a pauper
May you have eternal rest.

Words: from the Requiem mass
Music: Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)
INTERCESSIONS

God our Father,
We pray for grace,
that we may follow your saints in glory,
that here on earth we may live as citizens of heaven,
and that through us your will may be done.

As we remember all those
who have gone before us,
With whose prayers and praise we join our own,
Let us pray for all who suffer or are in any kind of need.

For those who are persecuted because of their faith in you,
And for people of different faiths and outlooks
Who face persecution, discrimination or prejudice:
Because of what they believe,
Because of how they look,
or because of who they are.
Let us pray for those who are like us,
Those who are different from us,
Those who give us joy,
And those who make us uncomfortable.

And let us pray for the nations of the world,
And for the different communities of which each of us is a part,
And for all those in need whom we bring before you now.

*Silence is kept*

Finally, let us pray for ourselves and for all God’s children, in the words of John Donne:

Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening
into the house and gate of heaven,
to enter that gate and dwell in that house,
where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling,
    but one equal light;
no noise nor silence, but one equal music;
no fears nor hopes, but one equal possession;
no ends or beginnings, but one equal eternity;
in the habitations of your glory and dominion,
world without end. Amen.

**HYMN**

‘Through all the changing scenes of life’

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

Oh, 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.

Oh, 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. Amen.

Words: Psalm 34, in a form found in Tate and Brady, New Version, 1696
Music: 'Wiltshire', George Smart (1776-1887)

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
‘Adagio in E major’
Frank Bridge