



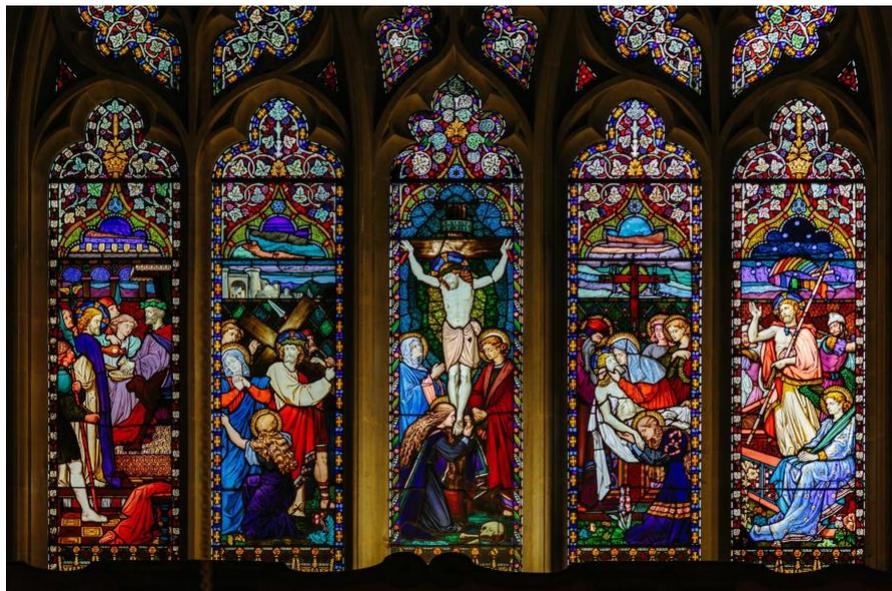
**Sunday 15 November 2020  
Choral Evensong**

**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 Revd Katie Tupling, Disability Adviser and Lead Chaplain for the Deaf for the Diocese of Oxford.



## WORDS OF WELCOME



### INTROIT

#### 'Te lucis ante terminum'

Te lucis ante terminum,  
Rerum Creator, poscimus,  
ut pro tua clementia,  
sis praesul et custodia.

*To thee before the close of day,  
Creator of the world, we pray  
that, with thy wonted favour, thou  
wouldst be our guard and keeper now.*

Procul recedant somnia,  
et noctium phantasmata:  
hostemque nostrum comprime,  
ne polluantur corpora.

*From all ill dreams defend our sight,  
from fears and terrors of the night;  
withhold from us our ghostly foe,  
that spot of sin we may not know.*

Praesta pater omnipotens  
per Jesum Christum Dominum  
qui tecum in perpetuum  
regnat cum Sancto Spiritu. Amen.

*O Father, that we ask be done,  
through Jesus Christ, thine only Son,  
who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,  
doth live and reign eternally. Amen.*

Words: Evening Hymn, 5th/6th century, trans. John Mason Neale (1818-1866)  
Music: Thomas Tallis (c1505-85)

**HYMN**  
**'Father, hear the prayer we offer'**

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.

Words: Maria Willis (1824-1908)

Music: 'Sussex', English traditional melody adapted by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

**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 90.1-12

Lord, thou hast been our refuge \*  
from one generation to another.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever the earth and the world were  
made \*

thou art God from everlasting, and world without end.

Thou turnest man to destruction \*

again thou sayest, Come again, ye children of men.

For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday \*  
seeing that is past as a watch in the night.

As soon as thou scatterest them they are even as a sleep \*  
and fade away suddenly like the grass.

In the morning it is green, and groweth up \*  
but in the evening it is cut down, dried up, and withered.

For we consume away in thy displeasure \*  
and are afraid at thy wrathful indignation.

Thou hast set our misdeeds before thee \*  
and our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.

For when thou art angry all our days are gone \*  
we bring our years to an end, as it were a tale that is told.

The days of our age are threescore years and ten; and though men be so strong  
that they come to fourscore years \*

yet is their strength then but labour and sorrow; so soon passeth it away, and  
we are gone.

But who regardeth the power of thy wrath \*  
for even thereafter as a man feareth, so is thy displeasure.

So teach us to number our days \*  
that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

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**  
**Zephaniah 1.7, 12-18**



Be silent before the Lord God!  
For the day of the Lord is at hand;  
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,  
he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the people  
who rest complacently on their dregs,  
those who say in their hearts,  
'The Lord will not do good,  
nor will he do harm.'  
Their wealth shall be plundered,  
and their houses laid waste.  
Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;  
though they plant vineyards,  
they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near,  
near and hastening fast;  
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,  
the warrior cries aloud there.  
That day will be a day of wrath,  
a day of distress and anguish,  
a day of ruin and devastation,  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and thick darkness,  
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry  
against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people  
that they shall walk like the blind;  
because they have sinned against the Lord,  
their blood shall be poured out like dust,  
and their flesh like dung.  
Neither their silver nor their gold  
will be able to save them  
on the day of the Lord's wrath;  
in the fire of his passion  
the whole earth shall be consumed;  
for a full, a terrible end  
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

**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: Dyson in F

**THE SECOND LESSON**  
**From the New Testament**  
**Matthew 25.14-30**



Jesus said, 'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

**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: Dyson in F

**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,  
whose blessed Son was manifested  
that he might destroy the works of the devil  
and make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:  
grant us, we beseech thee, that, having this hope,  
we may purify ourselves, even as he is pure,  
that when he shall appear again with power and great glory  
we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;  
where with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Spirit,  
he liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever.

### 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

#### 'Ex ore innocentium'

It is a thing most wonderful  
almost too wonderful to be,  
that God's own Son should come from heaven,  
and die to save a child like me.

And yet I know that it is true:  
he chose a poor and humble lot,  
and wept, and toiled and mourned and died,  
for love of those who loved him not.

I sometimes think about the Cross,

and shut my eyes, and try to see  
the cruel nails and crown of thorns,  
and Jesus crucified for me.

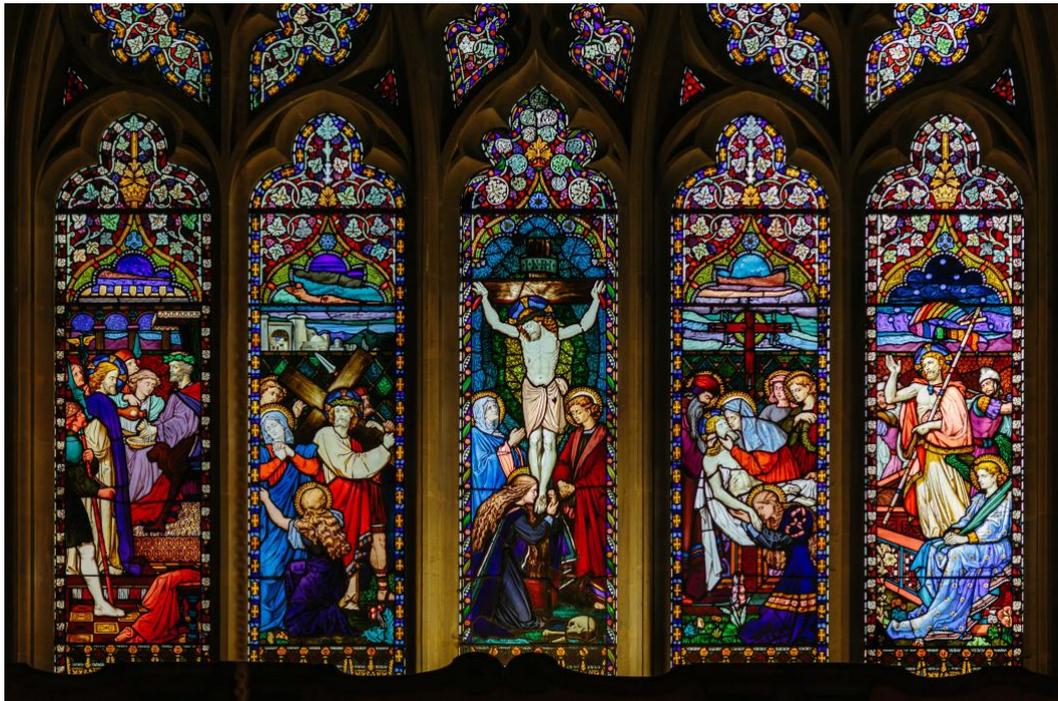
But even could I see him die,  
I should but see a little part  
of that great love, which, like a fire,  
is always burning in his heart.

And yet I want to love thee, Lord;  
O light the flame within my heart,  
and I will love thee more and more,  
until I see thee as thou art.

Words: Walsham How (1823-1897)

Music: John Ireland (1879-1962)

**THE SERMON**  
**Preacher: The Revd Katie Tupling**



## INTERCESSIONS

*As we continue together, let us pray ...*



Holy God, Holy and Strong,  
Father and Mother to us;  
you made yourself vulnerable through the self-giving gift of your Son,  
who emptied himself, and lived as one of us;  
who bore our infirmities, experienced our pain,  
and shared in our death, before you raised him to new life.

We pray for all who suffer today for any reason:  
for those wrongly imprisoned, for those falsely accused,  
for those who struggle to provide for their loved ones and for themselves,  
for the sick, the dying and the bereaved,  
and for those whose lives are overturned by the impact of COVID-19.

We pray for those among us who are under pressure of any kind:  
those whose mental health and wellbeing is affected through self-isolation,  
those who are anxious about contracting or spreading the virus,  
those who are anxious about what might happen at the end of term:

Give comfort and strength, we pray, to all who need it,  
and give us empathy understanding and patience,  
that we may be both alert and responsive  
to the needs of those around us.

In this time of limitation,  
when many of us are unable to do what we might normally take for granted,  
we pray for those who are abled and disabled in different ways.  
Help us to recognize the challenges that each of us face,  
and the grace and strength to address them.  
Give us capacity to see talents and good in others,  
especially when they struggle to see it in or for themselves.

Give us eyes and hearts and minds that see through and beyond  
the masks and coverings that we and others wear,  
whether through our own choice or not,  
that we may recognise and affirm your dignity in all your children,  
and that we with them may celebrate your love for all of us,  
and know your strength and your presence,  
even when we are weak or weary.

Through him who lived and died for us,  
and whose scarred and wounded body you raised to new life,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord, **Amen.**

### HYMN

#### **'Guide me, O thou great Redeemer**

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more,  
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow.  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield,  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside.  
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.

Words: Welsh text by William Williams (1717-91), trans. By Peter Williams (1727-96) and others  
Music: 'Cwm Rhondda', John Hughes (1873-1932)

## **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** **Prelude (Op105 No3)** **Charles Villiers Stanford**

