



BELFAST
CATHEDRAL

A SERVICE OF EVENING PRAYER FOR USE AT HOME

Sunday 9th August 2020

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

HYMN: ICH 24

All creatures of our God and king,
lift up your voice and with us sing
 alleluia, alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam:

*O praise him, O praise him,
 alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
 O praise him, alleluia!

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice:

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
 alleluia, alleluia!

Thou fire so masterful and bright,
that givest us both warmth and light:

Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfoldest blessings on our way,
 O praise him, alleluia!

The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
let them his glory also show:

All ye that are of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
 O sing ye, alleluia!

Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care:

And thou, most kind and gentle death,
waiting to hush our latest breath,
 O praise him, alleluia!

Thou leadest home the child of God,
and Christ our Lord the way has trod:

Let all things their creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
 O praise him, alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three-in-One:

Words: William Henry Draper (1855-1933)

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN Melody from Geistliche Kirchengesäng (Cologne, 1623) arr. R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

OPENING RESPONSES:

O Lord, open thou our lips
and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

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 Spirit;
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: 49

O hear ye this, all ye people:
ponder it with your ears, all ye that dwell in the world;
High and low, rich and poor:
one with another.
My mouth shall speak of wisdom:
and my heart shall muse of understanding.
I will incline mine ear to the parable:
and shew my dark speech upon the harp.
Wherefore should I fear in the days of wickedness:
and when the wickedness of my heels compasseth me round about?
There be some that put their trust in their goods:
and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches.
But no man may deliver his brother:
nor make agreement unto God for him;
For it cost more to redeem their souls:
so that he must let that alone for ever;
Yea, though he live long:
and see not the grave.
For he seeth that wise men also die, and perish together:
as well as the ignorant and foolish, and leave their riches for other.
And yet they think that their houses shall continue for ever:
and that their dwelling-places shall endure from one generation to
another; and call the lands after their own names.
Nevertheless, man will not abide in honour:
seeing he may be compared unto the beasts that perish; this is the way of
them.
This is their foolishness:
and their posterity praise their saying.
They lie in the hell like sheep, death gnaweth upon them, and the righteous shall have domination
over them in the morning:
their beauty shall consume in the sepulchre out of their dwelling.
But God hath delivered my soul from the place of hell:
for he shall receive me.
Be not thou afraid, though one be made rich:
or if the glory of his house be increased ;
For he shall carry nothing away with him when he dieth:
neither shall his pomp follow him.
For while he lived, he counted himself an happy man:
and so long as thou doest well unto thyself, men will speak good of thee.
He shall follow the generation of his fathers:
and shall never see light.
Man being in honour hath no understanding:
but is compared unto the beasts that 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.

FIRST LESSON: I Kings 11:41-12:20

The rest of the acts of Solomon, all that he did as well as his wisdom, are they not written in the Book of the Acts of Solomon? The time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years. Solomon slept with his ancestors and was buried in the city of his father David; and his son Rehoboam succeeded him.

Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel had come to Shechem to make him king. When Jeroboam son of Nebat heard of it (for he was still in Egypt, where he had fled from King Solomon), then Jeroboam returned from Egypt. And they sent and called him; and Jeroboam and all the assembly of Israel came and said to Rehoboam, 'Your father made our yoke heavy. Now therefore lighten the hard service of your father and his heavy yoke that he placed on us, and we will serve you.' He said to them, 'Go away for three days, then come again to me.' So the people went away.

Then King Rehoboam took counsel with the older men who had attended his father Solomon while he was still alive, saying, 'How do you advise me to answer this people?' They answered him, 'If you will be a servant to this people today and serve them, and speak good words to them when you answer them, then they will be your servants for ever.' But he disregarded the advice that the older men gave him, and consulted the young men who had grown up with him and now attended him. He said to them, 'What do you advise that we answer this people who have said to me, "Lighten the yoke that your father put on us"?' The young men who had grown up with him said to him, 'Thus you should say to this people who spoke to you, "Your father made our yoke heavy, but you must lighten it for us"; thus you should say to them, "My little finger is thicker than my father's loins. Now, whereas my father laid on you a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke. My father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions."' '

So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam on the third day, as the king had said, 'Come to me again on the third day.' The king answered the people harshly. He disregarded the advice that the older men had given him and spoke to them according to the advice of the young men, 'My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to your yoke; my father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions.' So the king did not listen to the people, because it was a turn of affairs brought about by the LORD that he might fulfil his word, which the LORD had spoken by Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam son of Nebat.

When all Israel saw that the king would not listen to them, the people answered the king, 'What share do we have in David?

We have no inheritance in the son of Jesse.

To your tents, O Israel!

Look now to your own house, O David.'

So Israel went away to their tents. But Rehoboam reigned over the Israelites who were living in the towns of Judah. When King Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was taskmaster over the forced labour, all Israel stoned him to death. King Rehoboam then hurriedly mounted his chariot to flee to Jerusalem. So Israel has been in rebellion against the house of David to this day.

When all Israel heard that Jeroboam had returned, they sent and called him to the assembly and made him king over all Israel. There was no one who followed the house of David, except the tribe of Judah alone.

THE CANTICLE MAGNIFICAT:

My soul doth magnify the Lord:

and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded:

the lowliness of his handmaiden.

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.**

SECOND LESSON: Acts 14:8-20

In Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet and had never walked, for he had been crippled from birth. He listened to Paul as he was speaking. And Paul, looking at him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, said in a loud voice, 'Stand upright on your feet.' And the man sprang up and began to walk. When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, 'The gods have come down to us in human form!' Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates; he and the crowds wanted to offer sacrifice. When the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting, 'Friends, why are you doing this? We are mortals just like you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. In past generations he allowed all the nations to follow their own ways; yet he has not left himself without a witness in doing good—giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, and filling you with food and your hearts with joy.' Even with these words, they scarcely restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them.

But Jews came there from Antioch and Iconium and won over the crowds. Then they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead. But when the disciples surrounded him, he got up and went into the city. The next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe.

THE CANTICLE NUNC DIMITTIS:

**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 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 Spirit, 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, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil. Amen.**

O Lord, show 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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Grant to us, Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as be rightful; that we, who cannot any thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.**

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.**

A PRAYER OF ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

THE GRACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

HYMN: ICH 29

Lord of beauty, thine the splendour
shown in earth and sky and sea,
burning sun and moonlight tender,
hill and river, flower and tree:
lest we fail our praise to render
touch our eyes that they may see.

Lord of wisdom, whom obeying
mighty waters ebb and flow,
while unhasting, undelaying,
planets on their courses go:
in thy laws thyself displaying,
teach our minds thy truth to know.

Lord of life, alone sustaining
all below and all above,
Lord of love, by whose ordaining
sun and stars sublimely move:
in our earthly spirits reigning,
lift our hearts that we may love.

Lord of beauty, bid us own thee,
Lord of truth, our footsteps guide,
Till as Love our hearts enthrone thee,
and, with vision purified,
Lord of all, when all have known thee,
thou in all art glorified.

Words: Cyril A. Alington (1872-1955)

Tune: RHUDDLAN Welsh traditional melody from E. Jones' Musical Relics of the Welsh Bards (1800)

PRAYER OF BLESSING

May the peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep our 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 us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

Belfast Cathedral Closure

We regret that, due to current restrictions as a result of the Covid-19 virus, Belfast Cathedral will be closed on Sundays except for the Sunday morning service.

Please note that next Sunday 16th August, the 10.15am Radio Ulster Morning Service will be broadcast live from Belfast Cathedral, marking the 75th Anniversary of VJ Day.

**PLEASE TAKE YOUR PLACE IN THE CONGREGATION
& BE SEATED BY 9.50AM**

Please use the cathedral website (www.belfastcathedral.org) or our Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/BelfastCathedral/>) to watch this morning's online Cathedral Service.

This can be experienced live at 11am, or as a recording thereafter.

You can also listen to the service through the Telephone Audio facility.

This will be posted during Sunday afternoon.

Please dial: **028 95 320 355** and follow the instructions.

The Cathedral will reopen to Tourists from 11am to 3pm on weekdays and Saturdays from this Friday 14th August.

Please spread the "good news"