



MORNING PRAYER: A SERVICE OF THE WORD
The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity
Sunday 27th September 2020

*Welcome to the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast.
Please follow the instructions from the Churchwardens.
Under government guidance for the purposes of keeping
Contact Tracing Records
it is essential that you complete the following information
with the pencil provided, or a pen of your own.
Please leave this service sheet in the box at the West End
when you leave at the end of the service.
These will be retained for 21 days, after which they will be destroyed.
Thank you.*

Name(s): _____

Telephone contact: _____



Organ voluntary: Miniature Suite for Organ, I Intrada *John Ireland (1879-1962)*

*Please stand as the choir sings the **PROCESSIONAL HYMN** (ICH 528*) during the entrance of the clergy:*

The Church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word:
from heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

The world with a scornful wonder
may see her sore opprest,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed;
yet saints their watch are keeping,
their cry goes up, 'How long?'
and soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.

'Mid toil, and tribulation,
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great Church victorious
shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.

*Words: Samuel J. Stone (1839-1900)
Tune: AURELIA S.S. Wesley (1810-76)*

The Dean welcomes the congregation.

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Jesus said: 'Remember I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

Matthew 28:20

Beloved in Christ, we come together to offer to Almighty God our worship and praise and thanksgiving, to confess our sins and to receive God's forgiveness, to hear his holy word proclaimed, to bring before him our needs and the needs of the world, and to pray that in the power of his Spirit we may serve him and know the greatness of his love.

Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

Please kneel or sit

Heavenly Father, **we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault; by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand

PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth will proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

Please sit as the choir sings **PSALM 78:1-4, 11-17:** *chant by Herbert Oakley*

Hear my law, O my people:

incline your ears unto the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable:

I will declare hard sentences of old;

Which we have heard and known:

and such as our fathers have told us;

That we should not hide them from the children of the generations to come:

but to shew the honour of the Lord, his mighty and wonderful works that he hath done.

They kept not the covenant of God:

and would not walk in his law;

But forgot what he had done:

and the wonderful works that he had shewed for them.

Marvellous things did he in the sight of our forefathers, in the land of Egypt: even in the field of Zoan.

He divided the sea, and let them go through:

he made the waters to stand on an heap.

In the day-time also he led them with a cloud:

and all the night through with a light of fire.

He clave the hard rocks in the wilderness:

and gave them drink thereof, as it had been out of the great depth.

He brought waters out of the stony rock:

so that it gushed out like the rivers.

Please stand for the **GLORIA:**

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.

Please sit for the **FIRST READING:** Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried

out to the LORD, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The LORD said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Please remain seated as the choir sings the **CANTICLE:** Jubilate Deo (Psalm 100)
Service in F John Ireland (1879-1962)*

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 our 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.

*Please stand for the **GLORIA:***

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.

*Please sit for the **SECOND READING:** Matthew 21:23-32*

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?"

But if we say, “Of human origin”, we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.’ So they answered Jesus, ‘We do not know.’ And he said to them, ‘Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

‘What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, “Son, go and work in the vineyard today.” He answered, “I will not”; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, “I go, sir”; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?’ They said, ‘The first.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON by the Reverend Canon Mark Niblock

*Please remain seated as the choir sings the **ANTHEM:** God so loved the world* Sir John Stainer (1840-1901)

God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whoso believeth in him should not perish,
but have everlasting life.

For God sent not his Son into the world
to condemn the world;
but that the world through him might be saved.

Words John 3 vv. 16, 17

*Please stand and face east for the **APOSTLES’ CREED***

I believe in God, the **Father** almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living 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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Let us pray.

Please kneel or sit

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen
and grant her government wisdom.

Let your ministers be clothed with righteousness
and let your servants shout for joy.

O Lord, save your people
and bless those whom you have chosen.

Give peace in our time, O Lord,
and let your glory be over all the earth.

O God, make clean our hearts within us
and renew us by your Holy Spirit.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O Lord, hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have the grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECTS AT MORNING PRAYER

Go before us, Lord, in all our doings, with your most gracious favour, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name, and finally by your mercy attain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray that your Holy Spirit may so guide and govern us that in all the cares and occupations of our daily life, we may never forget your presence but may remember that we are always walking in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray that the will of God shall be obeyed in the Church and in the world:

Grant that all the members of your Church, knowing the source of all power and enabling true authority, may humbly obey and cheerfully serve in their various callings. We pray for George, bishop of Connor, David, bishop of Down and Dromore, for Dean Stephen and the Chapter of this cathedral church. Keep them and us faithful in work and worship, that your will may be done.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Look with pity upon the world where stubborn hearts turn away from truth and refuse its challenge. We pray for restraint and respect in international dialogue, and an awareness of the duties rather than privileges of leadership. May there be integrity in keeping promises and agreements wherever they are made, between nations or between individuals. We especially pray for political leaders throughout the world in the ongoing crisis of a global pandemic.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Keep us faithful in our promises and honest in our dealings. Give us grace to spread the word of God to our families, our friends and neighbours, and those with whom we work. We pray for healthcare workers facing renewed dangers as infection rates increase, and the stress of caring for large numbers of sick people.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Have compassion on all who feel betrayed by those they once trusted. Keep them from resentment and help them to heal their relationships. Come to those who know that they have failed in love and duty, and show them the way of return and reconciliation.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the departed who have passed through this world, sometimes in obedience and sometimes in rebellion. With all offences pardoned, may they enter the joy of the Lord who first called them to his service.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father, **accept these our prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

A PRAYER DURING THIS TIME OF CORONAVIRUS

O Heavenly Father, who by your Son Jesus Christ has taught us the glory of self-sacrifice and service: bless all who care for the sick, and those suffering from or recovering from Coronavirus. Give your strength to all who work in nursing homes, and all who give care in the community. Guide all who are planning for the future. We pray for our own cathedral family, gathered here or still at home. Continue to protect our communities in this new wave of infection, we pray, and give wisdom to all who have responsibility in church and society for leading us forward. This we ask in the name of the one who spent himself in service for others with no thought for himself, even our Lord, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Please stand as the choir sings the **HYMN: ICH 92****

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
in a believer's ear!

It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,
and drives away our fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole,
and calms the troubled breast;
'tis manna to the hungry soul,
and to the weary rest.

Dear Name! the rock on which I build,
my shield and hiding-place,
my never-failing treasury, filled
With boundless stores of grace.

Weak is the effort of my heart,
and cold my warmest thought;
but when I see thee as thou art,
I'll praise thee as I ought.

Words: John Newton (1725-1807)

Tune: ST PETER Alexander Reinagle (1799-1877)

THE 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 with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as the choir and clergy depart and sit for the **Organ Voluntary:***

Tuba Tune Norman Cocker (1889-1953)

Please remain seated until the end of the Voluntary, and exit in rows from the back to the front, as directed by the Cathedral Wardens.



We are pleased that flower arrangements will be placed in the cathedral once more. The arrangements today were given by Stephen and Debbie Hurson following their marriage during the week. Within the cathedral community, today flowers would have been donated by Alan and Dorothy Martin in memory of their parents.



NOTICES



Please join us this afternoon at 3.30pm for a special Choral Evensong in thanksgiving for organists, church musicians and the work of the Down, Dromore and Connor Organ Scholarship Board.

Services Sunday 4 October 2020:

11.00am A Shortened Service of the Word
followed by the Easter General Vestry Meeting at 11.50am
2.00pm Blessing of Pets on the Cathedral Steps
3.30pm Choral Evensong

Annual General Vestry Notice

The Annual General Vestry Meeting (usually Easter Vestry) for Belfast Cathedral will be held following the Morning Service **from 11.50am on Sunday 4 October 2020** in the Cathedral Nave.

This year is a Triennial year, with the election of representatives to the Cathedral Board, as Parochial Nominators and as Representatives to Diocesan Synod.

Please plan to attend and vote if you are a Registered as a General Vestry member.

Blessing of Pets on the Cathedral Steps

Sunday 4 October at 2.00- 3.00pm

This year we are unable to host a Pets Service within the cathedral.

However, marking the feast day of St Francis of Assisi on 3 October, we encourage owners to bring their pets or working animals to the steps of the cathedral for a Blessing and in Thanksgiving for the aid these animals give to mental health.

Harvest Sunday and Cathedral Gift Day

Sunday 10th October 2020

Even throughout the Pandemic of the past six months, there is much for which we can give thanks to God though His provision to our places of greatest need.

Our services of Harvest Thanksgiving, with the return of flowers to the cathedral and other tokens which reflect today's world, give us opportunity to return thanks.

The Cathedral Gift Day also allows us to make a special financial thanksgiving to the significant financial needs of our cathedral in this year.

Please make a donation in your regular FWO envelope for 10th October or in a specially marked envelope of your own.