

LIVESTREAMED MORNING PRAYER: A SERVICE OF THE WORD Sunday 14th February 2021 The Sunday before Lent: The Transfiguration



Music before the service: Epithalium Gary Davison (b. 1961)





Christ, upon the mountain peak, stands alone in glory blazing. Let us, if we dare to speak, join the saints and angels praising: Allelulia!

Trembling at his feet we saw Moses and Elijah speaking. All the Prophets and the Law shout through them their joyful greeting: Alleluia!



Swift the cloud of glory came, God, proclaiming in its thunder, Jesus as the Son by name! Nations, cry aloud in wonder: Alleluia!

This is God's beloved Son! living hope of every nation. Hear and heed him everyone; sing with earth and all creation: Alleluia!

> Words: Brian Wren (b. 1936) Tune: ST. ALBINUS Henry J. Gauntlett (1805-76)

The online congregation is welcomed

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

Jesus said: 'Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.' Matthew 11:28

PENITENCE

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.

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**.

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.

PSALM: 50:1-6

The Lord, the most mighty God, has spoken ♦
and called the world from the rising of the sun to its setting.
Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth; ♦
our God comes and will not keep silence.
Consuming fire goes out before him ♦
and a mighty tempest stirs about him.
He calls the heaven above, ♦
and the earth, that he may judge his people:
'Gather to me my faithful, ♦
who have sealed my covenant with sacrifice.'
Let the heavens declare his righteousness, ♦
for God himself is judge.

and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning: is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING: 2 Kings 2:1-12

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE: Te Deum Laudamus Part 2

You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father. When you took our flesh to set us free, you humbly chose the Virgin's womb. You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers You are seated at God's right hand in glory: we believe that you will come to be our judge. Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.

SECOND READING: Mark 9:2-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON by Gillian McGaughey, Diocesan Reader

ANTHEM:

O nata lux de lumine,	O Light born of Light,
Jesu redemptor saeculi,	Jesus, redeemer of the world,
Dignare clemens supplicum	with loving-kindness deign to receive
Laudes precesque sumere.	suppliant praise and prayer.
Qui carne quondam contegi	Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh
Dignatus es pro perditis,	for the sake of the lost,
Nos membra confer effici	grant us to be members
Tui beati corporis.	of thy blessed body.
	Words: Anonymous Office Hymn at Lauds on the Feast of the Transfiguration
	Music: Edmund Joliffe (b. 1976)

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.

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

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **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 to the Father in the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ:

Lord of glory, it is good that we are here. In peace we make our prayer to you, in trust we confirm our faith in you. Help us to set our faces steadfastly to where you would have us go. Fill us with the wisdom of the Law, the vision of the Prophets and the grace of Jesus Christ.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of glory, look with favour on your Church, proclaiming your beloved Son to the world and listening to the promptings of your Spirit. May she be renewed in holiness that she may reflect your glory and guide your people into the ways of love and peace.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of glory, look with favour on the nations of the world, scarred by hatred, strife and war. Guide those in authority to hear the wisdom of the past and to discern with clear vision where their present duty lies. May they be healed by the touch of your hand.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of glory, look with favour on those in need and distress, suffering as your Son has suffered and waiting for the salvation you promise. Bless those who can only see the darkness of the cloud and sense no divine voice of reassurance. Dispel the fear of those who have not known you and of those who have forgotten you. May the day break and Christ the Morning Star bring them the light of his presence.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of glory, look with favour on those who have died in faith having received a partial vision of your kingdom. Giving thanks for their memory and example, we ask that you will transform us into the likeness of your Son that, according to your promise, we may see him with our own eyes in majesty and share the fellowship of all your saints in glory.

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, though exhausted, continue to work in hospitals and nursing homes, and all who give care in the community. We pray, guide all scientists seeking to understand the new waves of infection and those developing effective vaccines. Give your wisdom to all who have responsibility in church, politics and society for leading us through this pandemic. This we ask in the name of the one who spent himself in service of others with no thought for himself, even our Lord, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**



Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only light, Sun of Righteousness, arise, Triumph o'er the shades of night; Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn Unaccompanied by thee: Joyless is the day's return, Till thy mercy's beams I see; Till they inward light impart, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine; Pierce the gloom of sin and grief; Fill me, radiancy divine, Scatter all my unbelief; More and more thyself display, Shining to the perfect day.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88)

Tune: RATISBON Melody from J.G. Werner's Choralbuch (Leipzig 1815, Harmony by W.H. Havergal (1793-1870)

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.

Organ Voluntary: Prelude, Op. 41, i Kenneth Leighton (1929-88)

Organist: Matthew Owens

Soloist: Matthew Quinn

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A Service of Evening Prayer for use at home is available for download from the cathedral website.

Sunday 21st February 2021: The First Sunday in Lent

11.00am Livestreamed Morning Prayer: A Service of the Word. Preacher: Canon M. Niblock, Dean's Vicar

Under current restrictions most of the cathedral staff will also be "home working" and so the Cathedral Offices will not be routinely open. In case of pastoral emergency, please contact Rev. Janice Elsdon, the Dean's Vicar or the Dean.

Ash Wednesday Service – 17th February, 2021

Please tune in at **7.30pm** to the Belfast Cathedral Facebook page for a livestreamed **Service of Choral Eucharist for Ash Wednesday** to mark the beginning of Lent 2021.

Music includes: W. Byrd "A Mass for Four Voices", A. Scarlatti "Miserere mei, Deus" and R. Farrant "Call to Remembrance, O Lord"

Please remember that you can continue to make your FWO contribution to the Cathedral via On-line Banking.

Bank Details for the Cathedral Account which you will need to make an On-line Banking Transfer are as follows:

Cathedral Bank Branch:

Bank of Ireland, City Centre Branch, I Donegall Square South, Belfast. BTI 5LR.Name of Account:Parochial No I Current AccountSort Code:90-21-27Account Number:10006051

Please give your own name as the Payment Reference. Thank you for your continuing financial support for Belfast Cathedral

A Form of Declaration to Register as an Accustomed Member of the General Vestry of the Cathedral Parish of St Anne Belfast is printed below

If you are over the age of 18, have contributed to the cathedral finances, and wish your name to be added to the Register of Vestry Members, please complete this form, scan a copy and e-mail it to the Dean (<u>dean@belfastcathedral.org</u>) <u>by 7.00pm Sunday 14th February, 2021.</u> The Meeting to revise the Register of Vestry Members will be held on Thursday 18th February, 2021



Form of Declaration to apply as an Accustomed Member for the General Vestry of the Cathedral Parish of St Anne, Belfast.

I, (Insert your Full Names).....

Of (Insert your full address).....

.....

do hereby solemnly declare that I am a member of the Church of Ireland, and that I have for three calendar months last past been, and now am, an accustomed member of the congregation attending the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast, in the parish of St Anne, Belfast, in the diocese of Connor, and that I am not registered as a vestry member in any other church or chapel or church hall in Ireland as an accustomed member of the congregation.

Signed.....

Name (in block capitals).....

Address.....

Date