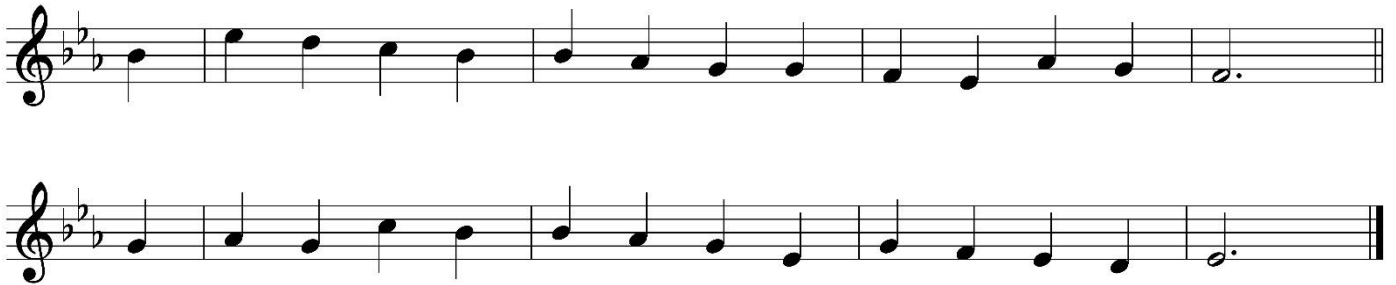




**LIVESTREAMED MORNING PRAYER:
A SERVICE OF THE WORD
Sunday 7th March 2021
The Third Sunday in Lent**

Music before the service: Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten sein BWV 641 J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

OPENING HYMN: ICH 92*



**How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
in a believer's ear!
It soothes our sorrows, heals his 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.**

**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.**

**Till then I would thy love proclaim
With every fleeting breath;
and may the music of thy Name
refresh my soul in death.**

*Words: John Newton (1725-1807)
Tune: ST PETER Alexander Reinagle (1799-1877)*

The online congregation is welcomed

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him, and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God by following his laws, which he set before us. *Daniel 9:9-10*

PENITENCE

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart God will not despise. Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion, and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Against you, you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

cf Psalm 51

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: 19

The heavens are telling the glory of God ♦
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

One day pours out its song to another ♦
and one night unfolds knowledge to another.

They have neither speech nor language ♦
and their voices are not heard,

Yet their sound has gone out into all lands ♦
and their words to the ends of the world.

In them has he set a tabernacle for the sun, ♦
that comes forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber and rejoices as a champion to run his course.

It goes forth from the end of the heavens and runs to the very end again, ♦
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; ♦
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart; ♦
the commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; ♦
the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, ♦
sweeter also than honey, dripping from the honeycomb.

By them also is your servant taught ♦
and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can tell how often they offend? ♦
O cleanse me from my secret faults!

Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins lest they get dominion over me; ♦
so shall I be undefiled, and innocent of great offence.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, ♦
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

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.**

FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17

God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE: Te Deum Laudamus (*Part 3*)

Save your people, Lord, **and bless your inheritance:
govern and uphold them now and always.**

**Day by day we bless you;
we praise your name for ever.**

**Keep us today, Lord, from all sin:
have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

**Lord, show us your love and mercy,
for we put our trust in you.**

**In you, Lord, is our hope,
let us never be put to shame.**

SECOND READING: John 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON by the Reverend Janice Elsdon

ANTHEM: Verily, verily I say unto you, *Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)*

Verily, verily I say unto you,
except ye eat the flesh of the Son of Man
and drink His blood, ye have not life in you.
Whoso eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood hath eternal life,
and I will raise him up at the last day.
For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.
He that eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood
dwelleth in me, and I in him.

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

Merciful Lord, grant your faithful people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LENTEN COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent. Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECTS AT MORNING PRAYER

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life, and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us in all assaults of our enemies, that we, surely trusting in your protection, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everliving God, we give you thanks for bringing us safely to this day: Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger, and in all things guide us to know and do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to the Lord for true holiness in the Church and in the world, in the name of Christ, who drives out all that is evil.

Shield the Church from all that would corrupt her witness and make her unworthy of her Master. We pray for Archbishops John and Michael, and for the House of Bishops of the Church of Ireland. May her places of worship be holy and her ministry unblemished by covetousness of material gain or worldly success.

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

Have mercy on the world where profit too often is a stronger motive than the love of holiness. We pray for the suffering of life on earth, struggling under over-production, climate change, and destruction of natural habitats. Drive out the false values by which some grow rich and many are poor, until the whole earth becomes a temple fit for the Lord.

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

Bless us, our families and friends, with such reverence in our faith that we may value the holiness that is in other people. Grant to those who conduct their business in this community the spirit of fair dealing and mutual respect. Bless all businesses and charities as they await further news of pathways out of lockdown.

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

Have mercy on all who have suffered loss from the dishonesty of those they trusted, or who have been hurt or harassed by those close to them. Release from evil those who have made material profit their goal and have lost the peace of contentment.

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

We give thanks for the departed who, having worshipped in this world, have died with Christ and been raised up with him, especially those whose memory we cherish. As yesterday marked Philip Prosser's first anniversary, we continue to pray for Valerie, Stephen, Julie and all who hold his memory precious. May we in our time join those who have gone before to rejoice in the heavenly Temple where he is the eternal light.

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

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. Stand with those who grieve. Give your strength to all who work in hospitals and nursing homes, and all who give care in the community. Guide all scientists seeking to understand new variants of the infection and develop new vaccines, and give wisdom to all who have responsibility in church, politics and society for leading a way out of the current Lockdown. 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.

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

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

OFFERTORY HYMN: ICH 637* (*Please do not forget to support the life of Belfast Cathedral through your continued financial giving during these challenging times*)



**O for a closer walk with God,
a calm and heavenly frame,
a light to shine upon the road
that leads me to the Lamb!**

**Where is the blessedness I knew
when first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul-refreshing view
of Jesus and his word?**

**Return, O holy Dove, return,
sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
and drove thee from my breast.**

**So shall my walk be close with God,
calm and serene my frame;
so purer light shall mark the road
that leads me to the Lamb.**

Words: William Cowper (1731-1800)

Tune: CAITHNESS Melody from Scottish Psalter (1635)

THE BLESSING

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, and to take up your cross and follow him: 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: Fuga g-moll BWV 578 J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Organist: Jack Wilson

Soloist: India Chapman Webb



NOTICES



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

**Sunday 14th March 2021: The Fourth Sunday in Lent
(Mothering Sunday)**

11.00am Livestreamed Morning Prayer: A Service of the Word.

Preacher: The Reverend Dr Maithrie White-Dundas

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.

Lent Reflections

Rev. Dr Ron Elsdon continues to lead a series of daily Lent Reflections.

These are posted daily Monday to Saturday on the cathedral website and Facebook pages.

Across the six weeks of Lent, and leading to Holy Week, Ron will consider the themes of
Lament, Fear, Repentance, Thanksgiving, Perseverance and Hope
as with the disciples of Jesus we journey towards the Resurrection of Easter Day.

With a few short minutes each day, we can each stop, pause, reflect and pray to make this
different season of Lent into a Lent that makes a difference.

Additionally, the Dean has suggested using the following prayer on a daily basis over coming weeks:

"God be in my head, and in my understanding. God be in mine eyes, and in my looking. God be in my mouth, and in my speaking. God be in my heart and in my thinking. God be at my end, and at my departing."

There are three ways you can make your FWO contribution to the Cathedral.

1. Make an On-line card donation today via the Cathedral Website at
<https://belfastcathedral.enthuse.com/profile>

2. Set up an On-line Bank Transfer:

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, 1 Donegall Square South, Belfast. BT1 5LR.

Name of Account: **Parochial No 1 Current Account**

Sort Code: **90-21-27**

Account Number: **10006051**

Please give your own name as the Payment Reference.

3. Alternatively a Crossed Cheque may be made out to

“Belfast Cathedral Parochial No 1 Account”

and posted to **The Deanery, 5 Deramore Drive, Belfast. BT9 5JQ.**

Cheques will then be delivered to our Finance Officer for cashing at a local branch.

Requests for Standing Order Forms can be e-mailed to:

admin@belfastcathedral.org

Thank you for your continuing financial support for Belfast Cathedral through these difficult times.