



**BELFAST
CATHEDRAL**

**MORNING PRAYER:
A SERVICE OF THE WORD
Sunday 25th July 2021
11.00am
The Eighth Sunday after Trinity
and Feast of St James the Apostle**

*In response to relaxations of Covid restrictions,
the congregation may now join in singing the hymns.
Please ensure that your face covering is in place, and sing softly.*

*Welcome to the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast. Please follow the instructions from the Churchwardens. We ask you to wear a face covering throughout your visit. Under government guidance for the purposes of keeping Contact Tracing Records it is essential that you complete the following information. Please leave this service sheet **ON YOUR SEAT** when you leave at the end of the service. These will be retained for 21 days, after which they will be destroyed. Thank you.*

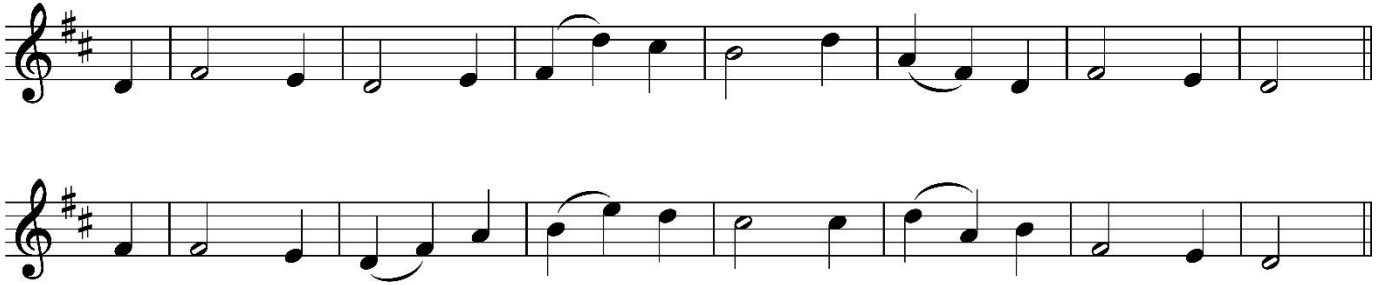
Name(s): _____

Telephone contact: _____



Organ Prelude.

Please stand for the **OPENING HYMN: ICH 657***



**O God of Bethel, by whose hand
thy children still are fed;
who through this earthly pilgrimage
hast all thy people led;**

**our vows, our prayers, we now present
before thy throne of grace;
God of our fathers, be the God
of their succeeding race.**

**Through each perplexing path of life
our wandering footsteps guide;
give us each day our daily bread,
and raiment fit provide.**

**O spread thy covering wings around
till all our wanderings cease,
and at our Father's loved abode
our souls arrive in peace.**

*Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-52) based on Genesis 28:10-22
Tune: ABRIDGE melody by Isaac Smith (1734-1805)*

Please sit

The congregation is welcomed

Please stand

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself. *2 Corinthians 5:19*

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.

PENITENCE

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

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

○ God, make speed to save us.
○ 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 remain standing to say the **PSALM: 14***

The fool has said in his heart, 'There is no God.' ♦
Corrupt are they, and abominable in their wickedness; there is no one that does good.

The Lord has looked down from heaven upon the children of earth, ♦
to see if there is anyone who is wise and seeks after God.

But every one has turned back; all alike have become corrupt: ♦
there is none that does good; no, not one.

Have they no knowledge, those evildoers, ♦
who eat up my people as if they ate bread and do not call upon the Lord?

There shall they be in great fear; ♦
for God is in the company of the righteous.

Though they would confound the counsel of the poor, ♦
yet the Lord shall be their refuge.

O that Israel's salvation would come out of Zion! ♦
When the Lord restores the fortunes of his people, then will Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad.

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.**

Please sit for the **FIRST READING:** 2 Samuel 11:1-15

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, 'This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite.' So David sent messengers to fetch her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, 'I am pregnant.'

So David sent word to Joab, 'Send me Uriah the Hittite.' And Joab sent Uriah to David. When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. Then David said to Uriah, 'Go down to your house, and wash your feet.' Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. When they told David, 'Uriah did not go down to his house', David said to Uriah, 'You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?' Uriah said to David, 'The ark and Israel and Judah remain in

booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing.' Then David said to Uriah, 'Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back.' So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. In the letter he wrote, 'Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Please stand to say the **CANTICLE: Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah Luke 1:68-79)***

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,

who has come to his people and set them free.

The Lord has raised up for us a mighty saviour,

born of the house of his servant David.

Through the holy prophets God promised of old

to save us from our enemies, from the hands of those who hate us,

to show mercy to our forebears,

and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the hand of our enemies.

Free to worship him without fear,

holy and righteous before him all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation

by the forgiveness of all their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God

the dawn from on high shall break upon us.

**To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

**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.**

Please sit for the **SECOND READING:** John 6:1-21

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.

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

SERMON by the Reverend Janice Elsdon

Please remain seated for the **ANTHEM:**

O holy Jesus, most merciful redeemer,
friend and brother,
may I know thee more clearly,
love thee more dearly,
and follow thee more nearly.

*Words: A Prayer of St Richard of Chichester (1197-1253)
Music: L.J. White (1831-1913)*

Please stand to say 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 FOR THE FEAST OF ST JAMES THE APOSTLE

Merciful God, whose holy apostle Saint James, leaving his father and all that he had, was obedient to the calling of your Son Jesus Christ and followed him even to death: help us, forsaking the false attractions of the world, to be ready at all times to answer your call without delay, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Blessed are you, O Lord, and blessed are those who observe and keep your law: Help us to seek you with our whole heart, to delight in your commandments and to walk in the glorious liberty given us by your Son, Jesus Christ. **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 the feeding of the body and of the soul:

Bless the Church with grace to teach and nurture all who are committed to her care. Accept our offered service, small and weak though it may be,

and transform it to be a power for good. As we continue to pray for the Canons of the cathedral, bless Canon Gill Withers, and the parish of Greyabbey and Ardquin with Portaferry, and Canon Stephen Fielding, and the parish of St. John's, Malone.

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

We pray for greater concern for the poor and deprived, for a more compassionate use of this world's goods. Grant to those in authority clear vision and caring hearts for the good of all.

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

Help us, our families and friends, to be confident that the least we have to give can be greater than we know. Bless with wisdom those who administer the resources of this community.

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

Have mercy on all who are hungry, the victims of famine and the multitude of those who are never properly fed. Strengthen and enable all who work to bring relief to stricken areas of the world. We remember those who are sick at this time, especially any within our cathedral community.

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

We give thanks for the departed whose need for earthly food is past. Gather us with them into eternal life, so that nothing that has been once offered shall be lost.

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

CATHEDRAL CORONAVIRUS PRAYER

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 today. Stand with those who grieve. Give your strength to all who work in hospitals, nursing homes and in the community. Guide those who are tracking the infection, developing policy, and administering the vaccines. Give wisdom to all who have responsibility in church, politics and society in all the decisions they must make. 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.**

Please stand for the **CLOSING HYMN: ICH 454***



**Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
Christ to the world with joy we bring;
Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
Christ in our hearts, the world's true King.**

**King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;
kingship with him his servants gain;
with Christ, the Servant-Lord of all,
Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.**

**Prophets of Christ, we hear his word:
he claims our minds, to search his ways,
he claims our lips, to speak his truth,
he claims our hearts, to sing his praise.**

**We are his Church, he makes us one:
here is one hearth for all to find,
here is one flock, one Shepherd-King,
here is one faith, one heart, one mind.**

Words: James Quinn (1919-2010)

Tune: DUKE STREET Melody from H. Boyd's Psalm and Hymn Tunes (1793) later attrib. John L. Hatton (d. 1793)

Please remain standing

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.

*Please remain in your place until the Churchwardens direct you to move.
We ask that members of the congregation exit the building straight away
and do not congregate on the west steps.*

Thank you.

There is a Retiring Collection at this service.



NOTICES



Sunday 1st August 2021: The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

11.00am Choral Eucharist administered in accordance with Covid Regulations

Preacher: The Dean

3.30pm

Cathedral Choral Evensong for the month of August.

*We regret that during July & August Morning Worship will not be livestreamed.
Please plan to attend in person or access the service through the Cathedral Audio
Telephone Service by dialing 028 9532 0355*

**Please remember to make your FWO contribution to the Cathedral
as you leave the cathedral this morning.**

Or via On-line Banking:

Bank Details 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 (and FWO number) as the Payment Reference.

Thank you for your continuing financial support for Belfast Cathedral

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