

Choral Evensong

Week of Prayer for Reconciliation

6.00pm
27 May 2021

Officiant
The Rev'd Adrian Stephens

Canticles
Howells Collegium Regale

Responses
Sanders

Choir
St Peter's Cathedral Choir

Director of Music
Anthony Hunt

Organist
David Heah

Choral Evensong is a service sung in Anglican Cathedrals throughout the world. It is a quiet service of reflection at the end of the day. Sung by the priest and choir, Evensong invites us beyond ourselves and our daily troubles into the presence of God, giving us the space to pray for others, or, perhaps quite simply, to enable the beautiful music to wash over us.

The Officiant and Choir sing the Versicles and Responses

O Lord, open thou our lips.

And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

All stand for the Doxology

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.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's Name be praised.

Please stand to sing the Office Hymn

Hymn: #566 [St Columba]

Put peace into each other's hands

1. Put peace into each other's hands
and like a treasure hold it,
protect it like a candle-flame,
with tenderness enfold it.
2. Put peace into each other's hands
with loving expectation;
be gentle in your words and ways,
in touch with God's creation.
3. Put peace into each other's hands
like bread we break for sharing;
look people warmly in the eye:
our life is meant for caring.
4. Give thanks for strong – yet tender – hands,
held out in trust and blessing.
Where words fall short, let hands speak out,
the heights of love expressing.
5. Reach out in friendship, stay with faith
in touch with those around you.
Put peace into each other's hands:
the Peace that sought and found you.

Fred Kaan (1929–2009) Words: © 1989, 2001, Stainer & Bell Ltd, London, England
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Please sit as the choir sings Psalm 145 (Chant: Percy Buck)

I will magnify thee, O God, my King: and I will praise thy Name for ever and ever.
Every day will I give thanks unto thee: and praise thy Name for ever and ever.
Great is the Lord, and marvellous worthy to be praised: there is no end of his greatness.
One generation shall praise thy works unto another: and declare thy power.
As for me, I will be talking of thy worship: thy glory, thy praise, and wondrous works;
So that men shall speak of the might of thy marvellous acts:
 and I will also tell of thy greatness.
The memorial of thine abundant kindness shall be shewed:
 and men shall sing of thy righteousness.
The Lord is gracious, and merciful: long-suffering, and of great goodness.
The Lord is loving unto every man: and his mercy is over all his works.
All thy works praise thee, O Lord: and thy saints give thanks unto thee.
They shew the glory of thy kingdom: and talk of thy power;
That thy power, thy glory, and mightiness of thy kingdom: might be known unto men.
Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom: and thy dominion endureth throughout all ages.
The Lord upholdeth all such as fall: and lifteth up all those that are down.
The eyes of all wait upon thee, O Lord: and thou givest them their meat in due season.
Thou openest thine hand: and fillest all things living with plenteousness.
The Lord is righteous in all his ways: and holy in all his works.
The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him: yea, all such as call upon him faithfully.
He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him:
 he also will hear their cry, and will help them.
The Lord preserveth all them that love him: but scattereth abroad all the ungodly.
My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord:
 and let all flesh give thanks unto his holy Name for ever and ever.

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: Judges 17:1-18:6 (read by Annabel Crompton)

There was a man in the hill country of Ephraim whose name was Micah. He said to his mother, 'The eleven hundred pieces of silver that were taken from you, about which you uttered a curse, and even spoke it in my hearing – that silver is in my possession; I took it; but now I will return it to you.' And his mother said, 'May my son be blessed by the Lord!' Then he returned the eleven hundred pieces of silver to his mother; and his mother said, 'I consecrate the silver to the Lord from my hand for my son, to make an idol of cast metal.' So when he returned the money to his mother, his mother took two hundred pieces of silver, and gave it to the silversmith, who made it into an idol of cast metal; and it was in the house of Micah. This man Micah had a shrine, and he made an ephod and teraphim, and installed one of his sons, who became his priest. In those days there was no king in Israel; all the people did what was right in their own eyes.

Now there was a young man of Bethlehem in Judah, of the clan of Judah. He was a Levite residing there. This man left the town of Bethlehem in Judah, to live wherever he could find a place. He came to the house of Micah in the hill country of Ephraim to carry on his work. Micah said to him, 'From where do you come?' He replied, 'I am a Levite of Bethlehem in Judah, and I am going to live wherever I can find a place.' Then Micah said to him, 'Stay with me, and be to me a father and a priest, and I will give you ten pieces of silver a year, a set of clothes, and your living.' The Levite agreed to stay with the man; and the young man became to him like one of his sons. So Micah installed the Levite, and the young man became his priest, and was in the house of Micah. Then Micah said, 'Now I know that the Lord will prosper me, because the Levite has become my priest.'

In those days there was no king in Israel. And in those days the tribe of the Danites was seeking for itself a territory to live in; for until then no territory among the tribes of Israel had been allotted to them. So the Danites sent five valiant men from the whole number of their clan, from Zorah and from Eshtaol, to spy out the land and to explore it; and they said to them, 'Go, explore the land.' When they came to the hill country of Ephraim, to the house of Micah, they stayed there. While they were at Micah's house, they recognized the voice of the young Levite; so they went over and asked him, 'Who brought you here? What are you doing in this place? What is your business here?' He said to them, 'Micah did such and such for me, and he hired me, and I have become his priest.' Then they said to him, 'Inquire of God that we may know whether the mission we are undertaking will succeed.' The priest replied, 'Go in peace. The mission you are on is under the eye of the Lord.'

Here ends the first reading.

Please stand while the choir sings The Song of Mary (Magnificat)

Luke 1:46-55

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

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.

Please sit for the second reading: 1 Corinthians 15:35-50 (read by Kevin Stracey)

But someone will ask, 'How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?' Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. Not all flesh is alike, but there is one flesh for human beings, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. There are both heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one thing, and that of the earthly is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; indeed, star differs from star in glory.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, 'The first man, Adam, became a living being'; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Here ends the second reading.

Please stand while the choir sings The Song of Simeon (Nunc Dimittis)

Luke 2:29-32

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 Officiant and Choir sing the response and prayers

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray. *(Please kneel/sit)*

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, shew 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.	

Followed by the Collect of the Day

Let us pray for our nation. We give thanks for this land and the diversity of its peoples. Grant that we may so honour one another that all may be enriched by our common heritage and freed from despair, poverty and exclusion; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The 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.**

The Evening Collect

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.**

The Choir sings the Anthem

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976) – *Jubilate in C*

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 children and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your 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.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

– *Psalm 100*

Please remain kneeling/seated for the prayers

A Thanksgiving for Australia

God of holy dreaming, Great Creator Spirit, from the dawn of creation you have given your children the good things of Mother Earth. You spoke and the gum tree grew. In the vast desert and dense forest, and in cities at the water's edge, creation sings your praise. Your presence endures as the rock at the heart of our Land. When Jesus hung on the tree you heard the cries of all your people and became one with your wounded ones: the convicts, the hunted, and the dispossessed. The sunrise of your Son coloured the earth anew, and bathed it in glorious hope. In Jesus we have been reconciled to you, to each other and to your whole creation. Lead us on, Great Spirit, as we gather from the four corners of the earth; enable us to walk together in trust from the hurt and shame of the past into the full day which has dawned in Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Reconciliation

Lord God, bring us together as one, reconciled with you and reconciled with each other. You made us in your likeness, you gave us your Son, Jesus Christ. He has given us forgiveness from sin. Lord God, bring us together as one, different in culture, but given new life in Jesus Christ, together as your body, your Church, your people. Lord God, bring us together as one, reconciled, healed, forgiven, sharing you with others as you have called us to do. In Jesus Christ, let us be together as one. **Amen.**

Please stand to sing the Final Hymn:

Hymn: #571 [Wiltshire]	We bring you, Lord, our prayer and praise
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| 1. We bring you, Lord, our prayer and praise
that every child of earth
should live and grow in freedom's ways,
in dignity and worth. | 4. Alike our prayer and praise express
the wants of humankind,
that those in bondage and distress
their larger freedoms find. |
| 2. We praise for such a task begun
to serve each other's need,
for every cause of justice won,
for every fetter freed. | 5. So may we still maintain the fight
till earth's oppressions cease
before the universal right
to liberty and peace. |
| 3. Our prayers are for a world in pain
where force and fear prevail,
the plough becomes the sword again,
and hope and harvests fail. | 6. In Christ we learn to love and care
and spread his truth abroad;
and in his Name we lift our prayer:
'Your kingdom come, O Lord.' |

Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926) Reproduced by permission of Oxford University Press.
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Please remain standing for the Blessing

You are welcome to sit and listen reflectively to the organ postlude.

Howells (1892-1983) – Psalm Prelude Op. 32 No. 2

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NEXT WEEK IN THE CATHEDRAL

SUNDAY 30TH MAY 2021

Trinity Sunday

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

Preacher: The Rev'd Dr Lynn Arnold AO

10:30am Choral Eucharist

Preacher: The Rev'd Dr Lynn Arnold AO

6:00pm Choral Evensong

Preacher: The Rev'd Adrian Stephens



Sunday Services:

8.00am Eucharist (BCP)

10.30am Choral Eucharist
(with Cathedral Kids)

6.00pm Choral Evensong

Weekdays

7.30am – Holy Communion

8.45am – Morning Prayer

10.00am – BCP Holy Communion

7.30pm– Taize Healing Service
(1st Saturday of the month)



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Monday to Friday

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The Rev'd Adrian Stephens

Locum Dean

The Rev'd Canon Jenny Wilson

Canon Precentor

The Rev'd Peter Jin

Assistant Priest

The Rev'd Dr Lynn Arnold AO

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The Rev'd Joan Claring-Bould

Honorary Assistant Priest