

EXETER COLLEGE OXFORD

CHORAL MATTINS

*ON*  
*THE*  
FEAST  
*OF THE*  
ASCENSION

Welcome to this Service, which draws upon freshly recorded and archival music. The organ is played by the Junior Organ Scholar, Christopher Holman, with the exception of the accompaniment of the anthem 'God is gone up', which is played by Theodore Hill. This was recorded in 2019 during the Ascension Day Eucharist, as the anthem 'Antiphon' is directed by the Parry Wood Organ Scholar, James Short. The hymns and canticles have been recorded in isolation for this service.

The first lesson is read by Gwynfor Morgan, a third year Earth Scientist, the second lesson by Rick Trainor, the Rector, and the prayers are offered by the Catechist, the Rev'd Canon Dr Margaret Whipp.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY  
Plein jeu (Messe pour les Couvents) *F. Couperin*

*The Chaplain introduces the Service.*

THE INTROIT

Let all the world in every corner sing,  
my God and King!  
The heavens are not too high,  
his praise may thither fly,  
the earth is not too low,  
his praises there may grow.  
Let all the world in every corner sing,  
my God and King!  
The church with psalms must shout,  
no door can keep them out;  
but, above all,  
the heart must bear the longest part.  
Let all the world in every corner sing,  
my God and King!

*Words: G. Herbert, 1593 – 1632*  
*Music: R. Vaughan Williams 1872 – 1953*

THE PRECES

*Sumsion*

Chaplain: O Lord, open thou our lips:  
Choir: And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.  
Chaplain: O God make speed to save us.  
Choir: O Lord, make haste to help us.  
Chaplain: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy  
Ghost.  
Choir: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world  
without end. Amen.  
Chaplain: Praise ye the Lord.  
Choir: The Lord's name be praised.

## HYMN



Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!  
Glorious to his native skies, Alleluia!  
Christ, awhile to mortals given, Alleluia!  
Enters now the highest heaven, Alleluia!

See! The heav'n its Lord receives, Alleluia!  
Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Alleluia!  
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia!  
Still he calls mankind his own, Alleluia!

Still for us he intercedes, Alleluia!  
His prevailing death he pleads: Alleluia!  
Near himself prepares our place, Alleluia!  
Harbinger of human race. Alleluia!

Lord, though parted from our sight, Alleluia!  
Far above yon azure height, Alleluia!  
Grant our hearts may thither rise, Alleluia!  
Seeking thee beyond the skies, Alleluia!

*Words: C. Wesley, 1707-88, and  
T. Cotterill, 1779 – 1823  
Music: Llanfair, R. Williams 1781 - 1821*

## THE FIRST LESSON

*Daniel 7. 9 – 14*

I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened. I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to

the burning flame. As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time. I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

### BENEDICTUS

*is sung by the Choir, recorded in isolation for this Service,  
on the Third Tone*

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel : for he hath visited, and redeemed his people;  
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us : in the house of his servant David;  
As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets :  
which have been since the world began;  
That we should be saved from our enemies :  
and from the hands of all that hate us;  
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers :  
and to remember his holy Covenant;  
To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham :  
that he would give us;  
That we being delivered out of the hands of our enemies :  
might serve him without fear;  
In holiness and righteousness before him : all the days of our life.  
And thou, Child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest : for thou shalt go  
before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;  
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people : for the remission of their sins,  
Through the tender mercy of our God :  
whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us;  
To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death :  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
Glory be to the Father &c

### THE SECOND LESSON

*Acts 1. 1- 11*

The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: to whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye

have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.

### JUBILATE DEO

*is sung by the Choir,  
recorded in isolation for this Service,  
to a setting in B flat by C.V.Stanford, 1852 – 1924*

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 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 &c

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth:  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,  
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
Born of the Virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, dead, and buried,  
He descended into hell;  
The third day he rose again from the dead,  
He ascended into heaven,  
And sitteth on the right hand  
of God the Father Almighty;  
From thence he shall come  
to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
The holy Catholick Church;  
The Communion of Saints;  
The Forgiveness of sins;  
The Resurrection of the body;  
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

## THE LESSER LITANY AND RESPONSES

Chaplain: The Lord be with you:

Choir: And with thy spirit.

Chaplain: Let us pray.

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

All: **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.**

Chaplain: O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;  
 Choir: And grant us thy salvation.  
 Chaplain: O Lord, save the Queen;  
 Choir: And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.  
 Chaplain: Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
 Choir: And make thy chosen people joyful.  
 Chaplain: O Lord, save thy people;  
 Choir: And bless thine inheritance.  
 Chaplain: Give peace in our time, O Lord;  
 Choir: Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but  
 only thou O God.  
 Chaplain: O God, make clean our hearts within us;  
 Choir: And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

### THE COLLECTS

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth, with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God world without end. Amen.

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty, and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### THE ANTHEM

God is gone up with a triumphant shout:  
 The Lord with sounding Trumpets' melodies:  
 Sing Praise, sing Praise, sing Praise, sing Praises out,  
 Unto our King sing praise seraphicwise!  
 Lift up your Heads, ye lasting Doors, they sing,  
 And let the King of Glory enter in.

Methinks I see Heaven's sparkling courtiers fly,

In flakes of Glory down him to attend,  
And hear Heart-cramping notes of Melody  
Surround his Chariot as it did ascend;  
Mixing their Music, making ev'ry string  
More to enravish as they this tune sing.

*Words: E. Taylor, 1646 – 1729*

*Music: G. Finzi, 1901 – 56*

### THE PRAYERS

*The prayers end with:*

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost  
be with us all ever more. Amen.**

### HYMN



Crown him with many crowns,  
The Lamb upon his throne.  
Hark! How the heav'nly anthem drowns  
All music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing  
Of him who died for thee,  
And hail him as thy matchless king  
Through all eternity.

Crown him the virgin's son,  
The God incarnate born,  
Whose arm those crimson trophies won

Which now his brow adorn;  
Fruit of the mystic rose,  
As of that rose the stem;  
The root whence mercy ever flows,  
The Babe of Bethlehem.

Crown him the Lord of love,  
Behold his hands and side,  
Those wounds, yet visible above,  
In beauty glorified.  
No angel in the sky  
Can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bends his burning eye  
At mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace,  
Whose power a sceptre sways  
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,  
Absolved in prayer and praise.  
His reign shall know no end,  
And round his piercèd feet  
Fair flowers of paradise extend  
Their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years,  
The Potentate of time,  
Creator of the rolling spheres,  
Ineffably sublime.  
Glassed in a sea of light,  
Where everlasting waves  
Reflect his throne – the Infinite!  
Who lives – and loves – and saves!

*Words: M. Bridges, 1800 – 94*  
*Music: Diademata, G. Elvery, 1816 – 93*

## THE BLESSING

Christ our ascended King pour upon you the abundance of his gifts and bring you to reign with him in glory. And the blessing of the God of love, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost be with you now and ever more. **Amen.**

The Lord preserve your going out and your coming in. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
**from this time forth, for evermore. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Pièce héroïque *Franck*