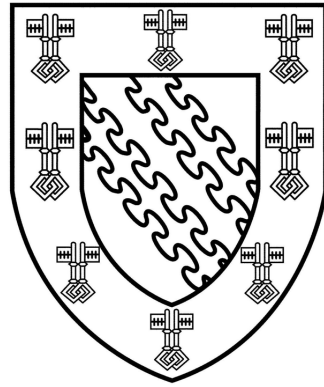
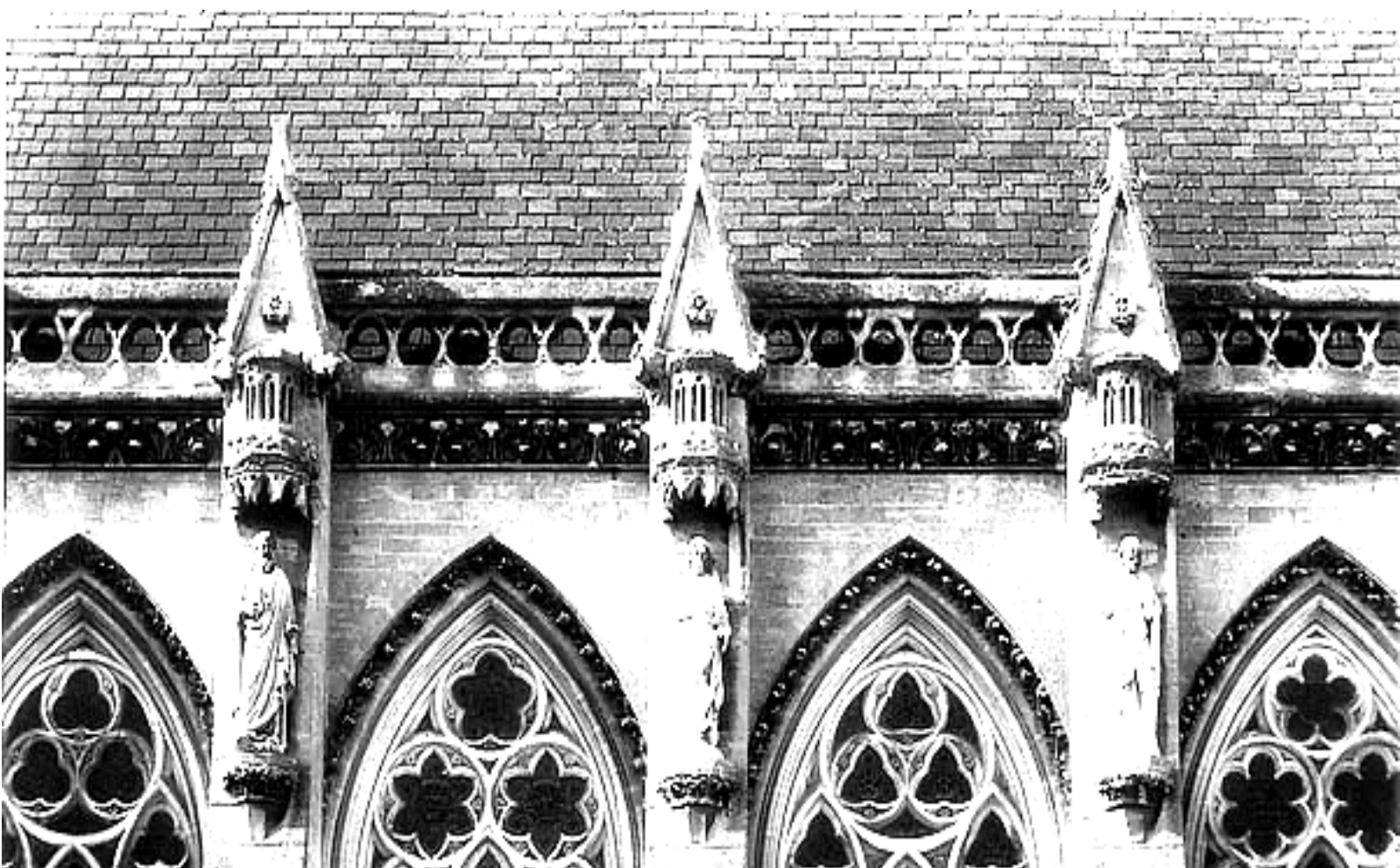


EXETER COLLEGE CHAPEL



CHORAL EVENSONG Rogation Sunday

17 May 2020



WELCOME TO EXETER COLLEGE CHAPEL

This service is based around the order for Choral Evensong, a product of the Reformation, whereby sections from the monastic offices of Vespers and Compline were combined to produce one of the gems of Anglican liturgy. Evensong is, at its core, a service of the Word of God: the readings, canticles responses, and some of the prayers are taken from Holy Scripture. This is enhanced by choral settings of some parts of the service, adding to the mystery and bringing alive these ancient texts.

Choral Evensong is a profoundly beautiful service, although if this is your first experience of it you may find some of it puzzling. To help with this, on the left hand pages of this booklet is a brief guide and commentary, explaining the service. Please take the booklet away with you and read the guide at your leisure; don't let it distract your worship. Some of the wording and terminology has changed its meaning over the centuries; notably the word 'miserable', which to a sixteenth century audience meant 'seeking mercy', rather than being grumpy or feeling low.

Evensong is a mixture between actively participating in the worship by singing, responding, and praying the words, and also by allowing the choir, readers, and clergy to pray, and sing, and speak on your behalf, allowing you to reflect on the text or any issues you may be facing.

Like all services this Term, several different recordings make up the service. The hymns were recorded during services in 2019. Psalm 141 is sung in German, as it is taken from a recording of German Vespers. The Canticles were recorded at the Choral and Organ Open Day Evensong in May 2019, as were the responses, and the anthem is from the CD 'Faber New Choral Works', directed by Mark Shepherd. The organ voluntary is played by the Parry Wood Organ Scholar, James Short. The first lesson is read by Mark Sinfield, the Human Resources Officer, and the second lesson by third year student Wei Ai Ng. Many thanks to all who have contributed to this service.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



Jesus lives! thy terrors now
Can, O Death, no more appall us;
Jesus lives! by this we know
Thou, O Grave, canst not enthrall us.
Hallelujah!

Jesus lives! henceforth is death
But the gate of life immortal;
This shall calm our trembling breath,
When we pass its gloomy portal.

Jesus lives! for us he died;
Then alone to Jesus living,
Pure in heart may we abide,
Glory to our Saviour giving.

Jesus lives! our hearts know well
Naught from us his love shall sever;
Life, nor death, nor powers of hell
Tear us from his keeping ever.

Jesus lives! to him the throne
Over all the world is given;
May we go where he is gone,
Rest and reign with him in heaven.

*words: C. Gellert, 1715 – 69.
trans. F. Cox 1812 – 97
music: St Albinus, H.J.Gauntlett 1805 – 76*

¶ *The congregation are welcomed and the service introduced*

The Confession

The confession at the beginning of the service serves to call to mind our actions and to think of them, and the implications they have for us, for our neighbours and society. In making our confession we are trusting in the mercy, forgiveness, and hope of God who is merciful and faithful. The Absolution, although pronounced by a priest, comes from God.

The Preces

Immediately after having been forgiven our sins, we praise God through the preces. The Preces, the Latin plural of prex, meaning prayer, are short versicles and responses; these are taken from the psalms. All stand for the Gloria [Glory be to the Father &c] as a mark of respect for the Holy Trinity.

The Psalm, Lessons, and Canticles

From this point the service changes from confession and praise to focussing on the word of God. One or several psalms are sung by the choir; there are two readings, one from the Hebrew Bible and one from the New Testament. These are interspersed with the canticles, the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis. Both are taken from Luke's Gospel, and are Mary and Simeon's response to the revelation of God and his love for them and the world. At Choral Evensong the choir sings the psalm and canticles on behalf of the congregation. You may like to use this as an opportunity to enjoy being enveloped in music, to pray the words they sing, or simply to listen.

William Petre in his Statutes for Exeter College appointed Psalm 121 as the College Psalm, to be said daily. This tradition continues each morning as Psalm 121 is said at the beginning of morning prayer.

THE CONFESSION

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Almighty and most merciful Father; we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou them O God, which confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord. And grant O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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.

The Choir sings Psalm 141

*Let my prayer be set forth in thy sight as the incense :
and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.*

Lord, I call upon thee, haste thee unto me :
and consider my voice when I cry unto thee.
Let my prayer be set forth in thy sight as the incense :
and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.
Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth :
and keep the door of my lips.

O let not mine heart be inclined to any evil thing :
let me not be occupied in ungodly works with the men that work wickedness,
lest I eat of such things as please them.
Let the righteous rather smite me friendly :
and reprove me.
But let not their precious balms break my head :
yea, I will pray yet against their wickedness.
Let their judges be overthrown in stony places :
that they may hear my words, for they are sweet.
Our bones lie scattered before the pit :
like as when one breaketh and heweth wood upon the earth.
But mine eyes look unto thee, O Lord God :
in thee is my trust, O cast not out my soul.
Keep me from the snare that they have laid for me :
and from the traps of the wicked doers.
Let the ungodly fall into their own nets together :
and let me ever escape them.

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 8.20 – 9.17

And Noah builded an altar unto the Lord; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And the Lord smelled a sweet savour; and the Lord said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done. While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease. And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth. And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered. Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things. But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat. And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man. Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man. And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein. And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying, And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you; And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth. And I will establish my covenant with you, neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth. And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: And I will

remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.

MAGNIFICAT

Gloucester Service *Howells*

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 forever.
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.

¶ *All sit*

THE SECOND LESSON

John 14. 15 – 21

[Jesus said:] If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

The Apostles' Creed

After the Nunc Dimittis we turn to face the Altar to recite the Apostles' Creed. If you have no faith, please do not feel obligated to say the words. Traditionally all turn to face the altar, liturgical east, to remind us that Christianity is a faith illumined by the light of the resurrection dawn.

The Lesser Litany and Responses

Like the preces, the lesser litany and responses are short petitions to God; some are taken from scripture, others from ancient texts of the church. The Lord's Prayer, common to all Christians, reminds us that we are not just praying in Exeter Chapel but form a worldwide fellowship.

The responses are 'soundbite prayers': they reflect some of the general needs of society as well as our relationship with God. Situated after the bible readings they illustrate how prayer and praise are our responses to God's love

The Collects

This section of prayer concludes with the collects. These are longer prayers than the responses, and many were translated or composed by Thomas Cranmer when the first prayer book was compiled in 1549. At Evensong the first collect is associated with the specific date or festival, the last two collects do not change.

The Anthem

The Prayer Book introduces the anthem; 'in quires and places where they sing, here followeth the anthem', and as such the anthem of today finds its roots Anglican worship. The words are often taken from scripture, but poetry, prose, and a combination of all three are common.

NUNC DIMITTIS

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 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 COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God from whom all good things do come; grant to us thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that be good, and by thy merciful guiding may perform the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Choir: 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.

Choir: Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS

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.

Choir: Amen.

THE ANTHEM

Into thy hands, O Lord and Father, we commend our souls and our bodies, our parents and our homes, friends and kindred. Into thy hands, O Lord and Father, we commend our benefactors and brethren departed. Into thy hands, O Lord and Father, we commend all thy people faithfully believing, and all who need thy pity and protection. Enlighten us with thy holy grace and suffer us never more to be separated from thee. Lord Jesus Christ, mercifully grant to me that the rest of my pilgrimage may be directed according to thy will, that the rest of my life may be completed in thee and my soul may deserve to enjoy thee who art eternal life for ever.

Words: Prayers of St Edmund of Abingdon c1174 – 1240

Music: Jonathan Dove, b. 1959

THE PRAYERS

The prayers conclude 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



King of glory, King of peace,
I will love thee;
and that love may never cease,
I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request,
thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my working breast,
thou hast spared me.

Wherefore with my utmost art
I will sing thee,
and the cream of all my heart
I will bring thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
thou didst clear me;
and alone, when they replied,
thou didst hear me.

Sev'n whole days, not one in sev'n,
I will praise thee;
in my heart, though not in heav'n,
I can raise thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort
to enroll thee:
e'en eternity's too short
to extol thee.

Words: G. Herbert 1593 – 1632
Music Gwalchmai J. Jones 1827 – 70

THE BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight: and the blessing of the God of love; Father, Son, and Holy Ghost be with you now and always. **Amen.**

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

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fugue in F BWV540

ASCENSION DAY 2020

There will be Choral Mattins, as usual, to celebrate Ascension Day, but sadly they won't take place on the top of the tower this year. The service will be available on the College's website on Thursday 21 May from 8am.