

The Temple Church

Thursday 1 October 2020, 5.45 p.m.

To Celebrate the Opening of the Legal Year

CHORAL EVENSONG

Welcome to this service. We follow the services of the Book of Common Prayer (1662). The public-address system has a loop-facility. If you wear a hearing-aid, please turn its setting to T.

O heavenly Father, at whose hand the weak shall take no wrong nor the mighty escape just judgment: Pour thy grace upon all the officers of our courts, that by their true, fruitful and diligent execution of justice and equity, thou mayest be glorified, the common wealth daily promoted and increased, and we all live in peace and quietness, godliness and virtue; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, 1549

Welcome to this service to celebrate the Opening of the Legal Year in London. In 1214-15 Magna Carta was negotiated here in the Temple. For the fraught negotiations at Epiphany 1215 the King's regalia will have been on display on the Church's altar; he, like the Magi at the first Epiphany, brought gold to the greater King who had anointed him and who validated his power. (If he hoped thereby to overawe the rebellious barons, he failed. It was then that the barons demanded, for the first time, an enforceable charter.) In 1219 the Charter's hero William Marshal was buried here, in the Round, where his effigy still lies. Next to it lies the effigy of the Marshal's eldest son, one of the twenty-five Surety Barons at Runnymede.

For all those who through the centuries have sought the ways of justice and of peace; all those who with courage and foresight have secured the increase of our liberties and advancement of our rights; and all those who in this our generation defend the rule of law and protect all God's children from injustice and abuse of power, we give heartfelt thanks to God.

This service is being live-streamed, and is accessible through the homepage of the Temple Church at www.templechurch.com. It will remain online for five days.

ORGAN PRELUDE

Dies' sind die heil'gen zehn Gebot
(The Ten Commandments), BWV678

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

All stand at the entrance of the choir and clergy.

INTROIT

O come in one to praise the Lord
and him re-count our stay and health.
All hearty joys let us record
to his strong rock, our Lord of health.
His face with praise let us present,
his works in sight let us announce.
Join we, I say, in glad ascent;
Our psalms and hymns let us pronounce.

Music: Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585)

Words: based on Psalm 95. 1-2 Matthew Parker (1504-1575)

Please note: The choir sings the hymn.

*We in the congregation stand; but, in accordance with the Government's present rulings,
please do not sing.*

HYMN

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home;

Beneath the shadow of thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

A thousand ages in thy sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home!

Music: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Words: Based on Psalm 90

OPENING READING

From Amos Chapter 5

*Read by The Hon. Mrs Justice McGowan, Deputy Treasurer Elect
of Middle Temple*

Thus saith the Lord unto the house of Israel,

Seek ye me, and ye shall live. Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth, seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night; that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth. The Lord is his name.

Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate. Let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream.

All sit or kneel.

THE BIDDING

At the beginning of this legal year, we gather in the presence of almighty God, who is the judge of all and who knows the secrets of our hearts, to give thanks for the rule of law with which our lands are blessed. Here in London we give thanks for our own high calling to serve the Crown and all the people in the cause of justice; and for the integrity and support of those around us. We celebrate with thanksgiving our work, our lives and our friendships at the Bar.

We join our own prayers with those of judges, attorneys and jurists throughout the world. We all, wherever we may be, commit ourselves afresh to the service of the law and of our own land. We seek God's strength and guidance for the year to come: may we remain true to the highest standards and to ourselves, and be a true reflection in all our work of the justice and mercy of God.

May God sustain us in our duties, grant us humility and sound judgement, forgive our errors, and inspire us with his wisdom. Here on earth may we serve more faithfully that heavenly justice in which alone we in the end can trust.

So let us, each in our own mother-tongue, pray for the coming of God's kingdom of peace and of justice over all the earth, saying, as Jesus taught us:

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.

All stand at 'Glory be to the Father'.

THE RESPONSES

(Smith)

PSALM 93

The Lord is King, and hath put on glorious apparel:

the Lord hath put on his apparel, and girded himself with strength.

He hath made the round world so sure: that it cannot be moved.

Ever since the world began hath thy seat been prepared: thou art from everlasting.

The floods are risen, O Lord, the floods have lift up their voice:

the floods lift up their waves.

The waves of the sea are mighty, and rage horribly:

but yet the Lord, who dwelleth on high, is mightier.

Thy testimonies, O Lord, are very sure: holiness becometh thine house 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.

All sit.

THE FIRST LESSON

Read by Amanda Pinto QC, Chair of the Bar Council

The First Lesson is written in the fourth chapter of the prophet Micah beginning at the first verse.

In the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks. Nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken. For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.

He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Here endeth the First Lesson.

All stand.

MAGNIFICAT (*Sumsion in G*)

My soul doth magnify the Lord:
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden.
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 showed 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.

Words: St Luke 1. 46-55

All sit.

THE SECOND LESSON

Read by Simon Davis, President of The Law Society

The Second Lesson is written in the fifth chapter of the Gospel of Matthew beginning at the first verse.

And seeing the multitudes, Jesus went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him. And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness:
 for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers:

for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake:

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Rejoice, and be exceeding glad:

for great is your reward in heaven:

for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

All stand.

NUNC DIMITTIS (*Sunsion in G*)

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.

Words: St Luke 2. 29-32

All sit or kneel.

THE COLLECTS

O Lord, we beseech thee, let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without thy succour, preserve it evermore by thy help and goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.**

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.**

All sit.

ANTHEM

Let justice and judgment be the preparation of thy seat!
Let mercy and truth go before thy face.
Let justice, judgment, mercy and truth go before thy face.
Allelujah.

Music: George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)
Words: Coronation Anthem No. 3

All remain seated or kneel.

THE PRAYERS

Read by The Reverend Mark Hatcher, Reader of the Temple

We pray for our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth, that she will execute law and justice in mercy in all the judgments of her Courts. We pray for all who administer justice in this realm; for judges and magistrates, barristers, solicitors, clerks, court officials and ombudsmen, and all whose profession or expertise is the law. We pray for the police, the probation and the prison services, for all those who sustain order in our land, that under the law's protection we may live in security and peace. Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

Read by Patricia Lee Refo, President of the American Bar Association

O God, the just and merciful Judge of all mankind, look down from heaven, we pray, on all your servants throughout your world who have answered your call to serve the law and the administration of justice. Grant unto them your Holy Spirit, the Spirit of uprightness, the Spirit of discernment, and the Spirit of love, that in confidence and good heart they may fulfil their duties, to the good of your people and the glory of your name. Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

Read by Philip Dykes, QC, SC, Chairman of the Hong Kong Bar Association

We pray for each other, ourselves and all our colleagues who serve and promote the rule of law, for God's guidance and strength in all we undertake. We give thanks for the friendships we enjoy with our colleagues and with all who serve in our Courts; may we draw strength from our shared commitment to the cause of justice. Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

Read by Ranko Pelicarić, President of The Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe

We pray for all those who take counsel for the nations of the earth. Take away, we beseech you O Lord, all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord within and between our lands. Be pleased to direct and prosper all the consultations of those who lead our nations; that all things may be so ordered and settled by their endeavours, upon the best and surest foundations, that peace and happiness, truth and justice may be established among us and between us for our own and future generations.

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

Read by Emeka Jude Phillipe Obegolu, President of the Pan African Bar Union

We pray for all those who have been afflicted by the current virus: for all those who have lost loved ones or livelihood, for all those who are still sick. We pray for the world's health and emergency services, giving thanks for all those who are working as staff or volunteers to keep us safe and well. We look forward with hearts full of hope to the time of normal life restored, and the long road found towards the recovery for which we pray. Open our eyes and hearts, O Lord, now and through the coming months, to see and to serve as best we may those around us in need. Amen.

All sit.

ADDRESS

The Rt Hon. Robert Buckland QC, MP,
The Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice

All stand.

Please note: The choir sings the hymn.

We in the congregation stand; but, in accordance with the Government's present rulings, please do not sing.

HYMN

O worship the king all glorious above,
O gratefully sing his power and his love;
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendour, and girded with praise.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

O measureless might! Ineffable love!
While angels delight to hymn thee above,
Thy ransomed creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall sing to thy praise.

Music: Sir Robert Grant (1779-1838)
Words: Based on Psalm 104

All remain standing.

FINAL READING

Philippians 4. 4-8

Read by Sir Robert Francis QC, Reader-Elect of Inner Temple

Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.

Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

THE BLESSING

Let us go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all men; love and serve the Lord; rejoice in the power of the Holy Ghost. So may the Lord bless us and keep us; the Lord make his face to shine upon us and be gracious unto us; the Lord lift up his countenance upon us, and give us peace. **Amen.**

All are invited to be seated until asked by a steward to leave.

There will be a retiring collection. Contactless collection points for the use of cards will be available at the doors; the devices are set at £5 per 'swipe'. There will be baskets for the receipt of cash, dropped in without contact.

In either case, it will be of great advantage to the Church if you would kindly fill in the Gift Aid envelope enclosed in this Order of Service and drop it into a collection-basket as you leave.

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Flourish for an Occasion

Sir William Harris (1883-1973)

Special Notice

A recording of
this morning's Service at Westminster Abbey
for the Opening of the Legal Year
will be available to watch on the judicial intranet
from Friday afternoon 2 October.

SPECIAL SERVICES AND CONCERTS AT THE TEMPLE CHURCH

Please note that all our choral services – on Sundays and on Wednesdays – will be streamed and available through our website: the Order of Service will be posted on our site too. Do join us online when you can.

www.templechurch.com

As normal:

Sundays, 11.15am:

1st and 3rd Sunday of the month: Choral Mattins

2nd and 4th Sunday of the month: Choral Communion

Tuesday 6 October, 7.00pm

CONCERT – TEMPLE SONG 2020

Tre Voci, Ruby Hughes *soprano*; Natalie Clein *cello*; Julius Drake *piano*

Due to social distancing requirements tickets for this concert are very limited but a video of this concert will be free to view after the performance. For further information www.templemusic.org

Wednesday 7 October, 5.45pm

CHORAL EVENSONG

To celebrate Harvest Festival

Tuesday 13 October, 7.00pm

CONCERT – THE SIXTEEN

Harry Christophers *conductor*; David Miller *lute*.

Due to social distancing requirements tickets for this concert are very limited. For further information www.templemusic.org

Wednesday 14 October, 5.45pm

CHORAL EVENSONG

For Prisons' Week

Wednesday 28 October, 5.45pm

CHORAL EVENSONG

*For All Saints' Day and to Commemorate the Faithful Departed
(All Souls' Day)*

*We regret due to social distancing restrictions the service below is by
invitation only.*

Sunday 8 November, 10.55am

CHORAL MATTINS: For Remembrance Day

and at 3.30 pm

FAURÉ REQUIEM: For Remembrance Day (online only)

The Temple Church Choir

Roger Sayer *director*, Charles Andrews *organ*

NHS Test and Trace

Let's help stop the spread of Coronavirus. Scan this QR code with your
NHS COVID-19 APP to check in.



Temple Church, London
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