

The Temple Church

Wednesday 11 November 2020, 5.45 p.m.

*To commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the laying
to rest of the Unknown Warrior*

CHORAL EVENSONG

The Temple Singers

Welcome to this service. We follow the services of the Book of Common Prayer (1662). This service is being live-streamed, and will remain online for five days.

The Prelude, Introit, Hymns, Second Lesson, Anthem and Kontakion were all sung at the service in Westminster Abbey on 11 November 1920, 'The Funeral Service of a British Warrior', when the Unknown Warrior was laid to rest.

ORGAN PRELUDE

Marche funèbre et Chant séraphique

Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

INTROIT

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth. And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another. We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

Music: William Croft (1678-1727)

Words: Burial Sentences, John 11. 25, 26, Job 19. 25-27, 1 Timothy 6. 7; Job 1.21

HYMN

O Valiant Hearts, who to your glory came
Through dust of conflict and through battle-flame;
Tranquil you lie, your knightly virtue proved,
Your memory hallowed in the Land you loved.

Proudly you gathered, rank on rank to war,
As who had heard God's message from afar;
All you had hoped for, all you had, you gave
To save Mankind – yourselves you scorned to save.

Long years ago, as earth lay dark and still,
Rose a loud cry upon a lonely hill,
While in the frailty of your human clay
Christ, our Redeemer, passed the self-same way.

Still stands His Cross from that dread hour to this
Like some bright star above the dark abyss;
Still, through the veil, the Victor's pitying eyes
Look down to bless our lesser Calvaries.

O risen Lord, O Shepherd of our Dead,
Whose Cross has bought them and whose Staff has led
In glorious hope their proud and sorrowing Land
Commits her Children to Thy gracious Hand. *Amen.*

Music: Ellers, Edward Hopkins (1818-1901)

Words: Sir John Stanhope Arkwright (1872-1954)

BIDDING

On 11 November 1920, the procession bearing the Unknown Warrior passed from Victoria, to Hyde Park Corner, down Constitution Hill, along the Mall to Trafalgar Square and up to Whitehall to the Cenotaph. Vast crowds gathered, six or more deep all along the route, and all silent.

“It was as if his watching countrymen relaxed at last their hold upon their tears, as the Warrior was borne away to burial. Their hearts were speaking, their tongues were still. The sense of unity and of Eternity came through eye and ear, when all heads were bared and there were thousands of faces lit by the quiet sunlight, the sense of multitudes none could number set free from time and place.” – *The Times*

This evening we remember before God all those who died in the great wars of the twentieth century; and all those who thereby protected the rights and freedoms which we enjoy today. We give heartfelt thanks for the peace with which in this land we have since been blessed; and we pray for all those whose lives, in this our own generation, are afflicted by war and civil strife.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Dearly beloved brethren, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying after me:

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 we 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.

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness, and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins: he pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe his holy gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him, which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure, and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

RESPONSES (*Ebdon*)

Priest. O Lord, open thou our lips.

Answer. **And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**

Priest. O God, make speed to save us.

Answer. **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Priest. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Answer. **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Priest. Praise ye the Lord.

Answer. **The Lord's Name be praised.**

PSALM 23 (*Walford Davies*)

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing.

He shall feed me in a green pasture:

and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.

He shall convert my soul:

and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me:

thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord 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.

THE FIRST LESSON

The First Lesson is written in the eleventh chapter of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah beginning at the first verse.

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; And shall make him of quick understanding in the

fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

Here endeth the First Lesson.

MAGNIFICAT
Short Service (Causton)

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 I. 46-55

THE SECOND LESSON

The Second Lesson is written in the seventh chapter of the Book of Revelation beginning at the ninth verse.

After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen. And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

NUNC DIMITTIS *Short Service (Causton)*

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 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 RESPONSES

THE COLLECTS

Lord, we beseech thee to keep thy household the Church in continual godliness; that through thy protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve thee in good works, to the glory of thy Name; 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.**

ANTHEM

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts.
Shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayers,
but spare us, Lord most Holy.
O God, most mighty and most merciful Saviour,
thou most worthy judge eternal,
suffer us not, at our last hour,
for any pains of death, to fall from thee. Amen.

Music: Henry Purcell (1659-95)
Words: Burial Service, Book of Common Prayer

SHORT ADDRESS AND PRAYERS

O eternal Lord God, who holdest all souls in life: Give, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth thy light and thy peace; and grant that we, following the good examples of those who have served you here and are now at rest, may at the last enter with them into thine unending joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

HYMN

God of our fathers, known of old
Lord of our far-flung battle-line
Beneath whose awful Hand we hold
Dominion over palm and pine
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget!

The tumult and the shouting dies
The captains and the kings depart
Still stands Thine ancient sacrifice,
An humble and a contrite heart.
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget!

For heathen heart that puts her trust
In reeking tube and iron shard
All valiant dust that builds on dust,
And guarding calls not Thee to guard
For frantic boast and foolish word,
Thy mercy on Thy People, Lord! *Amen.*

Music: Melita, John B. Dykes (1823-1876)

Words: Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936)

THE BLESSING

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; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CONTAKION

Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints:
where sorrow and pain are no more;
neither sighing but life everlasting.
Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of man:
and we are mortal formed from the dust of the earth,
and unto earth shall we return:
for so thou didst ordain,
when thou created me saying:
'Dust thou art und unto dust shalt thou return.'
All we go down to the dust;
and weeping o'er the grave we make our song:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Music: Kiev melody
Words: translated by W.J. Birkbeck (1869-1916)

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Christ ist erstanden, BWV627

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)