

Evensong, Sunday 1 August 2021

Welcome to this service of Evensong from St Alphege Church Solihull. This is the 9th Sunday after Trinity.

First Versicles & Responses

O Lord open thou our lips

and our mouth shall show forth thy praise

O God + make speed to save us

O Lord make haste to help us.

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

As it was in the beginning...AMEN

Praise ye the Lord.

the Lord's name be praised.

Office Hymn - Oft in danger, oft in woe

1 **OFT in danger, oft in woe,**

Onward, Christians, onward go;

Bear the toil, maintain the strife,

Strengthened with the Bread of Life.

2 **Onward, Christians, onward go,**

Join the war, and face the foe;

Will ye flee in danger's hour?

Know ye not your Captain's power?

3 **Let your drooping hearts be glad;**

March in heavenly armour clad;

Fight, nor think the battle long,

Victory soon shall tune your song.

4 **Let not sorrow dim your eye,**

Soon shall every tear be dry;

Let not fears your course impede,

Great your strength, if great your need.

5 **Onward then in battle move;**

More than conquerors ye shall prove;

Though opposed by many a foe,

Christian soldiers, onward go.

Psalm 88

We say the Psalm antiphonally: i.e. the minister says the odd numbered verses and the congregation says the even numbered verses.

There is a brief pause at the colon (:) in each verse. Please sit for the psalm.

Domine Deus

1. O LORD God of my salvation, I have cried day and night before thee: O let my prayer enter into thy presence, incline thine ear unto my calling.
2. For my soul is full of trouble: and my life draweth nigh unto hell.
3. I am counted as one of them that go down into the pit: and I have been even as a man that hath no strength.
4. Free among the dead, like unto them that are wounded, and lie in the grave: who are out of remembrance, and are cut away from thy hand.
5. Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit: in a place of darkness, and in the deep.
6. Thine indignation lieth hard upon me: and thou hast vexed me with all thy storms.
7. Thou hast put away mine acquaintance far from me: and made me to be abhorred of them.
8. I am so fast in prison: that I cannot get forth.
9. My sight faileth for very trouble: Lord, I have called daily upon thee, I have stretched forth my hands unto thee.
10. Dost thou shew wonders among the dead: or shall the dead rise up again, and praise thee?

At the end of the psalm we all stand and say:

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.

First Lesson - Job 28

Please sit.

- “Surely there is a mine for silver,
and a place for gold to be refined.
- ² Iron is taken out of the earth,
and copper is smelted from ore.
- ³ Miners put ^[a] an end to darkness,
and search out to the farthest bound
the ore in gloom and deep darkness.
- ⁴ They open shafts in a valley away from human habitation;
they are forgotten by travellers,
they sway suspended, remote from people.
- ⁵ As for the earth, out of it comes bread;
but underneath it is turned up as by fire.
- ⁶ Its stones are the place of sapphires, ^[b]
and its dust contains gold.

- ⁷ “That path no bird of prey knows,
and the falcon’s eye has not seen it.
- ⁸ The proud wild animals have not trodden it;
the lion has not passed over it.
- ⁹ “They put their hand to the flinty rock,
and overturn mountains by the roots.
- ¹⁰ They cut out channels in the rocks,
and their eyes see every precious thing.
- ¹¹ The sources of the rivers they probe;^[c]
hidden things they bring to light.
- ¹² “But where shall wisdom be found?
And where is the place of understanding?
- ¹³ Mortals do not know the way to it,^[d]
and it is not found in the land of the living.
- ¹⁴ The deep says, ‘It is not in me,’
and the sea says, ‘It is not with me.’
- ¹⁵ It cannot be gotten for gold,
and silver cannot be weighed out as its price.
- ¹⁶ It cannot be valued in the gold of Ophir,
in precious onyx or sapphire.^[e]
- ¹⁷ Gold and glass cannot equal it,
nor can it be exchanged for jewels of fine gold.
- ¹⁸ No mention shall be made of coral or of crystal;
the price of wisdom is above pearls.
- ¹⁹ The chrysolite of Ethiopia^[f] cannot compare with it,
nor can it be valued in pure gold.
- ²⁰ “Where then does wisdom come from?
And where is the place of understanding?
- ²¹ It is hidden from the eyes of all living,
and concealed from the birds of the air.
- ²² Abaddon and Death say,
‘We have heard a rumor of it with our ears.’
- ²³ “God understands the way to it,
and he knows its place.
- ²⁴ For he looks to the ends of the earth,
and sees everything under the heavens.
- ²⁵ When he gave to the wind its weight,
and apportioned out the waters by measure;
- ²⁶ when he made a decree for the rain,
and a way for the thunderbolt;
- ²⁷ then he saw it and declared it;
he established it, and searched it out.
- ²⁸ And he said to humankind,
‘Truly, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom;
and to depart from evil is understanding.’”

Magnificat

Please stand.

- 1 **Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
 Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
 in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.**

- 2 **Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
 Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
 his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.**

- 3 **Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
 Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
 the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**

- 4 **Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
 Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
 to children's children and for evermore!**

Tune: Woodlands

The Second Lesson Hebrews 11.17-31

Please sit.

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He who had received the promises was ready to offer up his only son, ¹⁸ of whom he had been told, "It is through Isaac that descendants shall be named for you." ¹⁹ He considered the fact that God is able even to raise someone from the dead—and figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. ²⁰ By faith Isaac invoked blessings for the future on Jacob and Esau. ²¹ By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, "bowing in worship over the top of his staff." ²² By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave instructions about his burial.^[i]

²³ By faith Moses was hidden by his parents for three months after his birth, because they saw that the child was beautiful; and they were not afraid of the king's edict.^[g]

²⁴ By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called a son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶ He considered abuse suffered for the Christ^[h] to be greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to the reward. ²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, unafraid of the king's anger; for he persevered as though^[i] he saw him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and the

sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.^[i]

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient,^[k] because she had received the spies in peace.

³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two,^[i] they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Nunc Dimittis

Please sit.

- 1 Lord, now let your servant
go his way in peace —
your great love has brought me
joy that will not cease.**
- 2 For my eyes have seen him
promised from of old —
saviour of all people,
shepherd of one fold.**
- 3 Light of revelation
to the Gentiles shown,
light of Israel's glory
to the world made known.**

Tune: Pastor Pastorum

The Apostles' Creed

(Please remain standing)

**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.**

Second Versicles and Responses

The Lord be with you.

And with Thy Spirit.

Let us pray

(Please sit)

*Lord have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us.
Our Father..... from evil. AMEN..*

Priest. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Answer. And grant us thy salvation.

Priest. O Lord, save the Queen.

Answer. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Priest. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

Answer. And make thy chosen people joyful.

Priest. O Lord, save thy people.

Answer. And bless thine inheritance.

Priest. Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Answer. Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Priest. O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Answer. And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **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 Collect for Aid against all Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech Thee O Lord and by thy great goodness defend
us from the perils and danger of this night, for the sake of thy only Son our Saviour
Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

SERMON

Please sit.

Hymn - O Strength and Stay

Please stand.

**1 O Strength and Stay upholding all creation,
Who ever dost thyself unmoved abide,
Yet day by day the light in due gradation
From hour to hour through all its changes guide;**

**2 Grant to life's day a calm unclouded ending,
An eve untouched by shadows of decay,
The brightness of a holy death-bed blending
With dawning glories of the eternal day.**

**3 Hear us, O Father, gracious and forgiving,
Through Jesus Christ thy co-eternal Word,
Who, with the Holy Ghost, by all things living
Now and to endless ages art adored. Amen.**

PRAYERS

Please sit or kneel.

Final Hymn - Glory to thee my God

**1 Glory to thee, my God, this night
For all the blessings of the light;
Keep me, O keep me, King of kings,
Beneath thy own almighty wings.**

**2 Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,
The ill that I this day have done,
That with the world, myself and thee,
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.**

**3 Teach me to live, that I may dread
The grave as little as my bed;
Teach me to die, that so I may
Rise glorious at the awful day.**

**4 O may my soul on thee repose,
And with sweet sleep my eyelids close,
Sleep that may me more vigorous make
To serve my God when I awake.**

**5 Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

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

Organ Voluntary: Adagio from Symphony No.3 - Vierne.

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