

**Parish Church of St Alphege Solihull**



**CHORAL ENCAENIA**

**A Service of Music and Readings  
for Music Foundation Sunday**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

**5pm**

**Officiant: Stephen Linstead/Fr Simon Marshall**



# The Gathering

## Introit

Hail! gladdening Light, of His pure glory poured      Worthiest art thou at all times to be sung  
Who is th'immortal Father, heavenly, blest,      With undefiled tongue,  
Holiest of Holies--Jesus Christ our Lord!      Son of our God, giver of life, alone:  
Therefore in all the world thy glories, Lord, they  
own. Amen.

Now we are come to the Sun's hour of rest;  
The lights of evening round us shine;  
We hymn the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit  
divine!

*Greek, tr. John Keble  
Music by Charles Wood*

## Invitation

My brothers and sisters, in the name of Christ, I welcome you.

We have come together today to celebrate with joy God's gift of music, and to give special thanks for the Musical Foundation of this parish, which does so much to enrich our worship and to draw us near to the living God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We give thanks today not only for the beauty of music, but also for the role it plays in our community, joining people together and giving a voice to their love for each other and for God; for the comfort it gives in times of grief and darkness; and for the upswelling of joy it gives in times of celebration and jubilee.

We give thanks also for the ministry of all those who commit their time and talent to the making and support of music in this place and in every chapel, church, and cathedral throughout the world: for conductors and organists; singers and instrumentalists; and all those who support them in their endeavours. And so with thankful hearts, let us pray to God.

O God of glory, around whose eternal throne all the heavenly powers offer you ceaseless songs of praise; grant that we may join our praises with the saints and angels who behold you face to face, and with them come into your awesome presence, where you reign, ever one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

## **Bidding Prayer**

Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good;

**Make music to his name, for it is lovely.**

O magnify the Lord with me:

**Let us exalt his name for ever.**

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;

**I will make music to my God while I have my being.**

And so, my brothers and sisters, I bid you pray not only for the Musical Foundation of this place and for all musicians throughout the world, but also for all the Church of God, saying with me the words our Saviour has 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.**

*Please sit*

1. O Praise God in his holiness: praise him in the firmament of his power.
2. Praise him in his noble acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.
3. Praise him in the sound of the trumpet: praise him upon the lute and harp.
4. Praise him in the cymbals and dances: praise him upon the strings and pipe.
5. Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals: praise him upon the loud cymbals.
6. Let every thing that hath breath: praise the Lord.

Glory by 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.

*Psalm 150*

*Music by Charles Villiers Stanford*

## **First Reading**

### **1 Chronicles 15:16, 25-28**

David also commanded the chiefs of the Levites to appoint their kindred as the singers to play on musical instruments, on harps and lyres and cymbals, to raise loud sounds of joy.

So David and the elders of Israel, and the commanders of the thousands, went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord from the house of Obed-edom with rejoicing. And because God helped the Levites who were carrying the ark of the covenant of the Lord, they sacrificed seven bulls and seven rams. David was clothed with a robe of fine linen, as also were all the Levites who were carrying the ark, and the singers, and Chenaniah the leader of the music of the singers; and David wore a linen ephod. So all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the Lord with shouting, to the sound of the horn, trumpets, and cymbals, and made loud music on harps and lyres.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## First Anthem

Sing joyfully to God our strength; sing loud unto the God of Jacob!  
Take the song, bring forth the timbrel, the pleasant harp, and the viol.  
Blow the trumpet in the new moon, even in the time appointed, and at our feast day.  
For this is a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob.

*Psalm 81:1-4*

*Music by William Byrd*

## Second Reading

### **Ezra 3:10-13**

When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, the priests in their vestments were stationed to praise the Lord with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, according to the directions of King David of Israel; and they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the Lord,

‘For he is good, for his steadfast love endures for ever towards Israel.’

And all the people responded with a great shout when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid. But many of the priests and Levites and heads of families, old people who had seen the first house on its foundations, wept with a loud voice when they saw this house, though many shouted aloud for joy, so that the people could not distinguish the sound of the joyful shout from the sound of the people’s weeping, for the people shouted so loudly that the sound was heard far away.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Anthem

*Sacerdotes Domini incensum et panes  
offerunt Deo:  
et ideo sancti erunt Deo suo  
et non polluent nomen eius.  
Alleluia.*

The priest of the Lord offered incense and  
bread to God:  
And so they were holy to their God  
And did not defile his name.  
Alleluia.

*Offertory for Corpus Christi  
Music by William Byrd*

## Third Reading

### Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.’

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: ‘Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!’

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: ‘Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.’ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am I; send me!’

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Third Anthem

*Os justi meditabitur sapientiam:  
et lingua ejus loquetur judicium.  
Lex Dei ejus in corde ipsius:  
et non supplantabuntur gressus ejus.  
Alleluia.*

The mouth of the righteous considers wisdom:  
And his tongue speaks that which is just.  
The law of his God is in his heart:  
And his footsteps shall not falter.  
Alleluia

*Psalm 36:30-31*

*Music by Anton Bruckner*

## Creed

*Please stand.*

Let us declare our faith in God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

## Admission of Choristers and Presentation of Choral Awards

*Please sit. Those choristers who have received their surplices and tabards in the last year are invited to remain standing. The Director of Music addresses the minister, saying:*

Minister, I present to you the choristers who have, in the last year, completed their probationary periods and are now ready to be admitted as choristers of the choir of this church.

*The minister addresses the new choristers, saying:*

Do you wish to become members of the choir of this church?

*They reply: I do*

Will you be reverent in the house of God and faithful in your service?

*They reply: I will*

Will you duly respect those set above you and keep the rules of the choir?

*They reply: I will*

Let us pray.

Almighty God, author of all wonder and delight, who calls each to your worship according to their kind and who has ordained lips and voices for your service, pour out your Holy Spirit upon these children, fill their hearts with your love and their mouths with your song that your name might be glorified in this place and throughout all creation.

**Amen**

I admit you all as members of the choir of this church in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. May the Lord preserve your going out and your coming in this day, and for ever more.

**Amen**

*The new choristers sit. All those choristers who have received RSCM medals or other awards are invited to stand. The Director of Music addresses the minister, saying:*

Minister, I present to you all the choristers who have been examined this year and found worthy of the various awards presented by the RSCM and other bodies.

*The minister addresses the choristers, saying:*

The Lord said, 'Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."'

Almighty God, from whom all earthly talents and gifts are sent, guide and support these choristers as they grow in your service and grant them ever increasing grace, for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

We say together the words of the Choristers' Prayer

**Bless, O Lord, us thy servants,**

**who minister in thy temple.**

**Grant that what we sing with our lips,**

**we may believe in our hearts,**

**and what we believe in our hearts,**

**we may show forth in our lives.**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **Fourth Reading**

### **Zephaniah 3:14-17**

Sing, Daughter Zion; shout aloud, Israel!

Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, Daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away your punishment, he has turned back your enemy.

The Lord, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm.

On that day they will say to Jerusalem,

“Do not fear, Zion; do not let your hands hang limp.

The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves.

He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.”

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Fourth Anthem

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain.  
O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength;  
lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, behold your God!  
Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

*Isaiah 40:9, 60:1*

*Music by George Frederick Handel*

## Fifth Reading

### **Ephesians 5:15-20**

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Fifth Anthem

*Beati quorum via integra est,  
qui ambulant in lege Domini.*

Blessed are those who are undefiled in the way,  
Who walk in the law of the Lord

*Psalm 119:1*

*Music by Charles Villiers Stanford*

**Revelation 5:11-14**

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice,

‘Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered  
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might  
and honour and glory and blessing!’

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

‘To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb  
be blessing and honour and glory and might  
for ever and ever!’

And the four living creatures said, ‘Amen!’ And the elders fell down and worshipped.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sixth Anthem**

Let all mortal flesh keep silence and stand with fear and trembling,  
and lift itself above all earthly thought.

For the King of kings and Lord of lords, Christ our God,  
cometh forth to be our oblation, and to be given for Food to the faithful.

Before Him come the choirs of angels with every principality and power;  
the Cherubim with many eyes, and wingèd Seraphim,  
who veil their faces as they shout exultingly the hymn:  
Alleluia!

*Liturgy of St James  
Music by Edward Bairstow*

## Intercessions

*The officiant offers prayers both for music and musicians, and for the common concerns of the church and the world, concluding with the following:*

Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening into the house and gate of heaven, to enter into that gate and dwell in that house, where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light; no noise nor silence, but one equal music; no fears nor hopes, but one equal possession; no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity; in the habitations of thy glory and dominion, world without end.

*after John Donne (1571-1631)*

**Amen**

## Valedictions

*The Head Chorister and Deputy Head Chorister of St Alphege Boys' Choir are invited to stand. The Director of Music says:*

Minister, I present to you Thomas Haywood and Josh Cahm who have led the Boys' Choir this academic year. We are grateful for their commitment and leadership over many years.

*The minister addresses them, saying:*

May what you have sung with you lips, may you believe in your hearts, and what you believe in your hearts, may you show forth in your lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Those members of the choir who are leaving due to retirement or relocation are invited to stand. The Director of Music addresses the minister, saying:*

Minister, I present to you John Emmett and Philip Tew, both of whom have given many decades of faithful service to this choir but who are now retiring, and Simon Ogdon who has been a loyal member of this choir for several years but is now leaving for pastures new.

*The minister addresses the choir members, saying:*

On behalf of this church and community I thank you for the service you have given and the service you are yet to give. May you go forth with the grace, blessing and protection of God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit

**Amen**

*The Chairman of the Friends of St Alphege Music addresses the minister, saying:*

Minister, I present to you our Director of Music, Joe Cooper, who has led the musical foundation of this church with passion and dedication for the last nine years, but who is now leaving for the next stage of his career and his life's journey.

Joe, on behalf of this church and community I thank you for your service, your vision, and your leadership in this place, and I wish you all the best for your future endeavours, both musical and otherwise. May you go forth with the grace, blessing and protection of God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and may the Lord preserve your going out and your coming in this day, and for ever more, in this place and everywhere.

**Amen**

*Gifts will be presented to the departing members of the choir after the service.*

## Valedictory Anthem

Sing for the morning's joy, Cecilia, sing,  
In words of youth and praises of the Spring,  
Walk the bright colonnades by fountains'  
    spray,  
And sing as sunlight fills the waking day;  
Till angels, voyaging in upper air,  
Pause on a wing and gather the clear sound  
Into celestial joy, wound and unwound,  
A silver chain, or golden as your hair.

Sing for your loves of heaven and of earth,  
In words of music, and each word a truth;  
Marriage of heart and longings that aspire,  
A bond of roses, and a ring of fire.  
Your summertime grows short and fades  
    away,  
Terror must gather to a martyr's death;  
But never tremble, the last indrawn breath  
Remembers music as an echo may.

Through the cold aftermath of centuries,  
Cecilia's music dances in the skies;  
Lend us a fragment of the immortal air,  
That with your choiring angels we may share,  
A word to light us thro' time-fettered night,  
Water of life, or rose of paradise,  
So from the earth another song shall rise  
To meet your own in heaven's long delight.

*Ursula Vaughan Williams*

*Music by Herbert Howells*

## The Blessing

May the songs of the angels sustain us,  
may the praises of the saints inspire us,  
may the silent music of the Unseen Trinity be in our hearts,  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among us and remain with us always.

**Amen.**

*Please stay after the service for refreshments, more personal valedictions and the presentation of gifts.*

## St Alphege Choir 2021

### **Boys**

Thomas Haywood (Head Chorister)  
Josh Cahm (Deputy Head Chorister)  
Thomas Baumber (Team Leader)  
Edvard Gudziunas  
Thomas Skaria  
William Medlicott  
Evan Harris  
William Lan  
Ethan Winwood  
Zakariya Rush  
Sheldon Lau  
Rahm Singh  
Yurii Makar  
Jack McDonald  
Theo Wright  
Dan Makar  
Aarav Pati

### **Ladies & St Alphege Singers**

Pamela Price  
Lynne Groutage  
Geraldine Burge  
Ruth Marshall  
Olesya Ivanova  
Bridget Wright  
Carol Southworth  
Jo Pitt  
Viv Dobson  
Ron Wheeler  
John Kay  
Roy Copsey  
Ron Wheeler

### **Girls**

Katherine Rawlings Smith (Head Chorister)  
Darcy Humphries (Deputy Head Chorister)  
Rachel Baumber (Team Leader)  
Charlotte Pratt (Team Leader)  
Lily Stanford  
Millie Mladjenovic  
Mary Bishop  
Michaela Labib  
Pauline Baiasu  
Lily Cooper  
Alisa Deyneka  
Chenaya Smith  
Lucinda Mullen  
Eden Jones  
Conelia Kondisetti  
Tezy James  
Sania Islam  
Abigail Weston  
Alivia Satchwell-Hounsell  
Hasya Shaga  
Fafa Xia

**Countertenors**

Simon Ogdon

Peter Hodgkinson

Daniel Pett \*

Matthew Baumber \*

**Tenors**

Nick Cahm

Alex Wollaston

Matthew Skaria

Michael Smith \*

Andrew Walker

**Organ Scholar**

Christopher Percival

**Junior Organ Scholar**

Josh Cahm

**Organist**

*Vacant*

**Director of Music**

Joe Cooper

**Basses**

Jeremy Bishop

Barney Stevens

Jacob Taylor

Mark Pratt

Joel Skaria

Philip Tew

John Emmett

Sam Hodgkinson



**Growing Disciples, Building Community, Transforming Lives**

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