



LAST SUNDAY

AFTER

TRINITY

CHORAL EVENSONG

WITH

SERMON IN MUSIC

24TH OCTOBER 2021, 5:30^{PM}

**ST BRIDE'S
CHURCH**

Hymn

**Thou, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.**

**Thou, who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
let there be light.**

**Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move on the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.**

**Holy and blessèd Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide
let there be light.**

Tune: Moscow, F de Giardini 1716-96
Words: J Marriott 1780-1825

Welcome

Minister Beloved, we are come together
in the presence of Almighty God
and of the whole company of heaven
to offer unto him, through our Lord Jesus Christ,
our worship and praise and thanksgiving;
to make confession of our sins,
to pray as well for others as for ourselves,
that we may know more truly
the greatness of God's love
and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace;
and to ask on behalf of all men
such things as their well being doth require.
Wherefore let us kneel now
and humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Confession

All **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.**

The Minister delivers 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.

All Amen.

Preces

Philip Radcliffe

Minister O Lord, open thou our lips,
Choir *and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.*

Minister O God, make speed to save us,
Choir *O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Minister 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.*

Minister Praise ye the Lord.
Choir *The Lord's name be praised.*

Psalm 119: 121-128

Choir *121 I deal with the thing that is lawful and right :
 O give me not over unto mine oppressors.*

*122 Make thou thy servant to delight in that which is good :
 that the proud do me no wrong.*

*123 Mine eyes are wasted away with looking for thy health :
and for the word of thy righteousness.*

*124 O deal with thy servant according unto thy loving mercy :
and teach me thy statutes.*

*125 I am thy servant, O grant me understanding :
that I may know thy testimonies.*

*126 It is time for thee, Lord, to lay to thine hand :
for they have destroyed thy law.*

*127 For I love thy commandments :
above gold and precious stone.*

*128 Therefore hold I straight all thy commandments :
and all false ways I utterly abhor.*

*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.*

Chant: Herbert Murrill 1909-52

Old Testament Lesson

Ecclesiastes 11 and 12

read by Edward Bowsher

Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days. Give a portion to seven, and also to eight; for thou knowest not what evil shall be upon the earth. If the clouds be full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth: and if the tree fall toward the south, or toward the north, in the place where the tree falleth, there it shall be. He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap. As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, nor how the bones do grow in the womb of her that is with child: even so thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all.

In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good. Truly the light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold the sun: But if a man live many years, and rejoice in them all; yet let him remember the days of darkness; for they shall be many. All that cometh is vanity.

Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment. Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: for childhood and youth are vanity. Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain: In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened, And the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of musick shall be brought low; Also when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail: because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets: Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern. Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

Vanity of vanities, saith the preacher; all is vanity. And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, and set in order many proverbs. The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, even words of

truth. The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd. And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh.

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

All This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Magnificat

Evening Service in D – Ernest Moeran

Choir *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 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.*

New Testament Lesson

2 Timothy 2: 1-7

read by Lucy Nutt

Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.

The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits. Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Nunc Dimittis

Evening Service in D – Ernest Moeran

Choir *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.*

Apostles' Creed

**All 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 Catholic Church;
the Communion of Saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the Resurrection of the body,
and the Life everlasting.
Amen.**

Responses

Philip Radcliffe

Minister The Lord be with you,
Choir *and with thy spirit.*

Minister Let us pray.

Choir *Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

*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.*

Minister *O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us,
Choir and grant us thy salvation.*

Minister *O Lord, save the Queen,
Choir and mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.*

Minister *Endue thy Ministers with righteousness,
Choir and make thy chosen people joyful.*

Minister *O Lord, save thy people,
Choir and bless thine inheritance.*

Minister *Give peace in our time, O Lord,
Choir because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.*

Minister *O God, make clean our hearts within us,
Choir and take not thy Holy Spirit from us.*

Collects

The first, for the day

Minister *Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures
to be written for our learning;
grant that we may in such wise hear them,
read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them,
that by patience and comfort of thy holy word,
we may embrace and ever hold fast
the blessed hope of everlasting life,
which thou hast given us
in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.*

Choir *Amen.*

The second, for Peace

Minister 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 third, for Aid against all Perils

Minister 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.*

Sermon in Music

i) *Open thou mine eyes* – John Rutter

ii) *Strengthen ye the weak hands* – William Harris

(Please see notes on page 14)

Prayers of Intercession

The Revd Dr Jeff Lake, *Associate Priest of St Bride's*

These responses may be used

All Lord, in thy mercy,
hear our prayer.
Merciful Father,

All **accept these prayers**
for the sake of thy Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,
‘Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down
thy head upon my breast’:
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,
‘Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live’:
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.
I heard the voice of Jesus say,**

**‘I am this dark world’s light;
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright’:
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I’ll walk
till travelling days are done.**

Tune: Kingsfold adapted from an English folksong by R Vaughan Williams 1872–1958
Words: H Bonar 1808–89

Blessing

Minister The peace of God,
 which passeth all understanding,
 keep your hearts and minds
 in the knowledge and love of God,
 and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:
 and the blessing of God almighty,
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
 be amongst you and remain with you always.

Choir *Amen.*

Organ Voluntary

Carillon – Herbert Murrill

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Sermon in Music

i) *Open thou mine eyes* – John Rutter b 1945

ii) *Strengthen ye the weak hands* – William Harris 1813-1973

John Rutter is one of the most popular and prolific composers of sacred music of his generation, writing music that is tuneful and approachable. He is particularly famous for his original Christmas carols and for many other anthems, as well as more extended pieces, such as his settings of the Magnificat and the Requiem – this evening's Sermon in Music presents one of his less well-known works.

Open thou mine eyes is a setting of a text by the 16th century scholar Lancelot Andrewes (Bishop of Winchester and one of those responsible for the King James Bible). It was written for the Texas Choral Directors' Association and begins with a soprano solo - continuing with a section for upper voices in three parts. This is balanced by a passage for three-part male voices, which leads into a closing section for full choir, with the soloist repeating the opening melody above it. The melody has a Celtic influence and this extends to the harmony, where the 7ths are sometimes flattened.

William Henry Harris was one of the most distinguished church musicians of the twentieth century, holding organist posts successively at New College and Christ Church, Oxford before becoming organist of St George's chapel, Windsor Castle in 1933, a post he held for almost 30 years. He was involved in two Coronations (George VI in 1937 and Elizabeth II in 1953) and taught the piano to the two young princesses, Elizabeth and Margaret.

As a composer, Harris wrote a number of large-scale works, including a setting of Francis Thompson's poem *The Hound of Heaven* for baritone soloist, choir and orchestra – he had music performed at the Three Choirs Festival and the Proms. However, he was most at home writing for church choirs, and two of his anthems for eight-part choir, *Faire is the heaven* and *Bring us, O Lord God* have become mainstays of the Anglican repertoire.

Strengthen ye the weak hands is an anthem for choir and organ intended for St Luke's day and has a wide-ranging text, beginning with verses from Ecclesiasticus, continuing with the well-known passage from Isaiah chapter 50 and concluding with the Prayer Book collect for the Visitation of the Sick.

Open thou mine eyes

Open thou mine eyes and I shall see,
incline my heart and I shall desire,
order my steps and I shall walk
in the ways of thy commandments.

O Lord God, be thou to me a God
and beside thee let there be none else,
no other, nought else with thee.
Vouchsafe to me to worship thee and serve thee
according to thy commandments
in truth of spirit, in reverence of body,
in blessing of lips, in private and in public.

Words: Lancelot Andrewes 1555-1626

Strengthen ye the weak hands

The Lord hath created medicines out of the earth;
and he that is wise will not abhor them.
And he hath giv'n men skill, that he might be honour'd in his
marvellous works.

My son, in thy sickness leave off from sin, and order thy hands
aright, and cleanse thy heart from all wickedness.

Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say
to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold
your God will come; he will come and save you.

Then shall the eyes of the blind be open'd, and the ears of the deaf
shall be unstopp'd.

Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.

The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.

It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be giv'n unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the Lord, and the excellency of our God.

O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeem'd us, save us, save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

Words: Ecclesiasticus 38: 4, 6, 9, 10, 12, Isaiah 35: 1-6 , The Book of Common Prayer

WREN TALK

THURSDAY 28TH OCTOBER, 7^{PM}

SPEAKER PROFESSOR TONY TRAVERS

academic, journalist, Director of LSE London



LONDON AFTER COVID-19

How fast will the city recover and how might it change?

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**ST BRIDE'S
CHURCH**



Thank You

We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to all who have continued to support us during this crisis, both through regular giving and occasional gifts.

This financial support remains vital to our on-going ministry. Although our normal services have now resumed, our ability to raise funds to maintain our ministry and building is still impacted.

The singers, organist, and Director of Music are all freelance professional musicians who have been significantly affected during the pandemic, and your donations have allowed us to help them financially through these difficult times.

We shall continue to offer our online worship - even though this requires additional investment - because no service from St Bride's would be complete without the wonderful music which our choir provides.

If you would like to make a donation to support the work of St Bride's, please do so at:

www.justgiving.com/stbrideschurchfleetstreet

Alternatively, in the UK:

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