



FIRST SUNDAY

OF LENT

CHORAL EVENSONG

6TH MARCH 2022, 5:30^{PM}

**ST BRIDE'S
CHURCH**

Hymn

**Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise:
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.**

**O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight
and to the rescue came.**

**O generous love! that he, who smote
in Man for man the foe,
the double agony in Man
for man should undergo;**

**And in the garden secretly,
and on the cross on high,
should teach his brethren, and inspire
to suffer and to die.**

**Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise:
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.**

Tune: Gerontius by J B Dykes 1823-76
Words: J H Newman 1801-90

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

Thomas Tomkins

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: 73-80

Choir

*73 Thy hands have made me and fashioned me :
O give me understanding, that I may learn thy
commandments.*

*74 They that fear thee will be glad when they see me :
because I have put my trust in thy word.*

*75 I know, O Lord, that thy judgements are right :
and that thou of very faithfulness hast caused me to
be troubled.*

*76 O let thy merciful kindness be my comfort :
according to thy word unto thy servant.*

*77 O let thy loving mercies come unto me, that I may live :
for thy law is my delight.*

*78 Let the proud be confounded, for they go wickedly
about to destroy me :
but I will be occupied in thy commandments.*

*79 Let such as fear thee, and have known thy testimonies :
be turned unto me.*

*80 O let my heart be sound in thy statutes :
that I be not ashamed.*

*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: John Soaper 1743-94

Old Testament Lesson

Jonah 3

read by James Irving

And the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the second time, saying, Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee. So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey. And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown. So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them. For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he caused it to be proclaimed

and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water: But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not? And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Magnificat

Second Evening Service – William Byrd

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

Luke 18: 9-14

read by Jane Wilkinson

And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

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

Nunc Dimittis

Second Evening Service – William Byrd

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

Thomas Tomkins

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 *Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ
did fast forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are,
yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves
in obedience to thy Spirit;
and, as thou knowest our weakness,
so may we know thy power to save;
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,
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.*

Anthem

Give ear, O Lord – Thomas Weelkes

*Give ear, O Lord, to hear a sinner's careful cry,
and let my woeful 'plaints ascend above the starry sky.*

*To grace receive the soul that puts his trust in thee,
and mercy grant to purge my sins; mercy, good Lord, mercy.*

*My soul desires to drink from fountains of thy grace,
to slake his thirst, O God, vouchsafe, turn not away thy face;*

*But bow thy tender ear with mercy when I cry,
and pardon grant for all sins past; mercy, good Lord, mercy.*

*Behold at length, O Lord, my true repentant mind,
which knocks with faith and hope thereby Thy mercies great to find.*

*Thy promise thus hath pass'd from which I will not fly,
who doth repent, trusting in thee, shall taste of thy mercy.*

Words: William Hunnis d 1597
Psalm 107: 23-30

Sermon

The Revd Canon Dr Alison Joyce, *Rector of St Bride's*

Hymn

**As pants the hart for cooling streams
when heated in the chase,
so longs my soul, O God, for thee,
and thy refreshing grace.**

**For thee, my God, the living God,
my thirsty soul doth pine:
O when shall I behold thy face,
thou majesty divine?**

**Why restless, why cast down, my soul?
Hope still, and thou shalt sing
the praise of him who is thy God,
thy health's eternal spring.**

**To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
the God whom we adore,
be glory, as it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.**

Tune: Martyrdom by H Wilson 1766–1824
Words: N Tate 1652-1715 and N Brady 1659-1726
Psalm 42 in A New Version of the Psalms of David 1696

Prayers of Intercession

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

This response may be used

All Lord, in thy mercy,
hear our prayer.

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

Hymn

**Thy kingdom come! On bended knee
the passing ages pray;
and faithful souls have yearned to see
on earth that kingdom's day.**

**But the slow watches of the night
not less to God belong;
and for the everlasting right
the silent stars are strong.**

**And lo, already on the hills
the flags of dawn appear;
gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,
proclaim the day is near:**

**The day in whose clear-shining light
all wrong shall stand revealed,
when justice shall be throned in might,
and every hurt be healed;**

**When knowledge, hand in hand with peace,
shall walk the earth abroad:
the day of perfect righteousness,
the promised day of God.**

Tune: Irish by S Powell, Dublin 1749
Words: F Hosmer 1840-1929

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

St Bride assisted by Angels – Judith Bingham

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:

text 5STBRIDES to 70470 to donate £5

text 10STBRIDES to 70470 to donate £10

text 20STBRIDES to 70470 to donate £20

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