



CANDLEMAS

CHORAL EVENSONG

29TH JANUARY 2023, 5:30^{PM}

**ST BRIDE'S
CHURCH**

Hymn

**Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing,
if our God our Father be.**

**Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.**

**Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.**

Tune: Mannheim. Melody by F Filitz 1847
Harmony: L Mason 1792–1872
Words: J Edmeston 1791–1867

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

Bernard Rose

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 118: 19-end

Choir

*19 Open me the gates of righteousness :
that I may go into them, and give thanks unto the Lord.*

*20 This is the gate of the Lord :
the righteous shall enter into it.*

*21 I will thank thee, for thou hast heard me :
and art become my salvation.*

*22 The same stone which the builders refused :
is become the head-stone in the corner.*

*23 This is the Lord's doing :
and it is marvellous in our eyes.*

*24 This is the day which the Lord hath made :
we will rejoice and be glad in it.*

*25 Help me now, O Lord :
O Lord, send us now prosperity.*

*26 Blessed be he that cometh in the Name of the Lord :
we have wished you good luck,
ye that are of the house of the Lord.*

*27 God is the Lord who hath shewed us light :
bind the sacrifice with cords, yea,
even unto the horns of the altar.*

*28 Thou art my God, and I will thank thee :
thou art my God, and I will praise thee.*

*29 O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious :
and his mercy endureth 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.*

Chant: Thomas Attwood Walmisley 1814-56

Old Testament Lesson

Haggai 2: 1-9

read by Robin Turner

In the seventh month, in the one and twentieth day of the month, came the word of the Lord by the prophet Haggai, saying, Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and to the residue of the people, saying, Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? and how do ye see it now? Is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing?

Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, saith the Lord; and be strong, O Joshua, son of Josedech, the high priest; and be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the Lord, and work: for I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts: According to the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt, so my spirit remaineth among you: fear ye not. For thus saith the Lord of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts.

The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts. The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts.

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

Magnificat

Magnificat in A – Charles Villiers Stanford

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

John 2: 18-22

read by Kirsty McEwen

Then answered the Jews and said unto him, What sign shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things?

Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.

Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days?

But he spake of the temple of his body.

When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Nunc Dimittis

Nunc Dimittis – Gustav Holst

Choir

*Nunc dimittis servum tuum,
Domine,
secundum verbum tuum in pace:
Quia viderunt oculi mei
salutare tuum:
Quod parasti ante
faciem omnium populorum:
Lumen ad revelationem
gentium,
et gloriam plebis tuae
Israel.*

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.

*Gloria Patri,
et Filio,
et Spiritui Sancto,
sicut erat in principio,
et nunc, et semper,
et in saecula saeculorum.
Amen.*

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

Bernard Rose

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 King,
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 and ever-living God,
we humbly beseech thy majesty,
that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day
presented in the Temple,
in substance of our flesh,
so we may be presented unto thee
with pure and clean hearts,
by thy Son Jesus Christ 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

O thou the central orb – Charles Wood

Choir *O thou the central orb of righteous love,
pure beam of the most high,
eternal light of this our wintry world,
thy radiance bright awakes new joy in faith,
hope soars above.*

*Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine,
gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine.
Thy saints with holy lustre round Thee move,
as stars about thy throne,
set in the height of God's ordaining counsel,
as thy sight gives measur'd grace to each,
thy power to prove.*

*Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin,
our nature all shall feel eternal day,
in fellowship with thee,
transforming clay to souls erewhile unclean,
now pure within,
Amen.*

Text: Henry Ramsden Bramley 1833-1917

Sermon

The Revd Steve Morris, *Associate Priest of St Bride's*

Please stand

Hymn

**Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
re-clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence praise.**

**In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee.**

**Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.**

**Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still small voice of calm.**

Tune: Repton by C H H Parry 1848–1918
Words: J G Whittier 1807–92

Prayers of Intercession

led by The Revd Steve Morris, *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

**Ye holy angels bright,
who wait at God's right hand,
or through the realms of light
fly at your Lord's command,
assist our song,
for else the theme
too high doth seem
for mortal tongue.**

**Ye blessèd souls at rest,
who ran this earthly race,
and now, from sin released,
behold the Saviour's face,
his praises sound,
as in his sight
with sweet delight
ye do abound.**

**Ye saints, who toil below,
adore your heavenly King,
and onward as ye go
some joyful anthem sing;
take what he gives
and praise him still,
through good or ill,
who ever lives.**

**My soul, bear thou thy part,
triumph in God above,
and with a well-tuned heart
sing thou the songs of love;
let all thy days
till life shall end,
whate'er he send,
be filled with praise.**

Tune: Darwall's 148th
Melody by J Darwall 1731-89
Harmony by W H Monk 1823-89
Words: R Baxter 1615-91 and J H Gurney 1802-62

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

Prelude on Darwell's 148th – Percy Whitlock

Played by Benjamin Giddens.

Matthew Morley is on sabbatical until September 24th.