



NINTH SUNDAY

AFTER TRINITY

CHORAL EVENSONG

WITH

SERMON IN MUSIC

28TH JULY 2024, 5:30^{PM}

**ST BRIDE'S
CHURCH**

Hymn

**The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine for ever.**

**Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home rejoicing brought me.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.**

**Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!**

**And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never:
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.**

Tune: Dominus Regit Me by J B Dykes 1823-76
Words: H W Baker 1821-77

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

John Holmes (d 1629)

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 74: 11-16

*11 O God, how long shall the adversary do this dishonour :
how long shall the enemy blaspheme thy Name, for ever?*

*12 Why withdrawest thou thy hand :
why pluckest thou not thy right hand out of thy bosom to
consume the enemy?*

*13 For God is my King of old :
the help that is done upon earth he doeth it himself.*

*14 Thou didst divide the sea through thy power :
thou brakest the heads of the dragons in the waters.*

*15 Thou smotest the heads of Leviathan in pieces :
and gavest him to be meat for the people in the wilderness.*

*16 Thou broughtest out fountains and waters out of the hard
rocks :
thou driedst up mighty waters.*

*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 by Thomas Attwood Walmisley (1814-1856)

Old Testament Lesson **Ecclesiasticus 38: 24-end** read by Yvonne Eddy

The wisdom of a learned man cometh by opportunity of leisure:
and he that hath little business shall become wise. How can he get
wisdom that holdeth the plough, and that glorieth in the goad, that
driveth oxen, and is occupied in their labours, and whose talk is of
bullocks?

He giveth his mind to make furrows; and is diligent to give the kine fodder. So every carpenter and workmaster, that laboureth night and day: and they that cut and grave seals, and are diligent to make great variety, and give themselves to counterfeit imagery, and watch to finish a work: The smith also sitting by the anvil, and considering the iron work, the vapour of the fire wasteth his flesh, and he fighteth with the heat of the furnace: the noise of the hammer and the anvil is ever in his ears, and his eyes look still upon the pattern of the thing that he maketh; he setteth his mind to finish his work, and watcheth to polish it perfectly: So doth the potter sitting at his work, and turning the wheel about with his feet, who is alway carefully set at his work, and maketh all his work by number; He fashioneth the clay with his arm, and boweth down his strength before his feet; he applieth himself to lead it over; and he is diligent to make clean the furnace:

All these trust to their hands: and every one is wise in his work. Without these cannot a city be inhabited: and they shall not dwell where they will, nor go up and down: They shall not be sought for in publick counsel, nor sit high in the congregation: they shall not sit on the judges' seat, nor understand the sentence of judgment: they cannot declare justice and judgment; and they shall not be found where parables are spoken. But they will maintain the state of the world, and all their desire is in the work of their craft.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Magnificat

Evening Service in C – 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

Hebrews 8

read by Robert Bryan

Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum:
We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of
the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; A minister of the
sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched,
and not man. For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts
and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have
somewhat also to offer. For if he were on earth, he should not be
a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according
to the law: Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly
things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to
make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things
according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.

But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord.

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Nunc Dimittis

Evening Service in C – Charles Villiers Stanford

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

John Holmes (d 1629)

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 God,
who didst send thy Holy Spirit,
to be the life and light of thy Church:
open our hearts to the riches of thy grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.*

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) *For lo, I raise up* – Charles Villiers Stanford

ii) *O for a closer walk with God* – Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)
(please see notes on page 14)

Prayers of Intercession

The Revd Dr Jeff Lake

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.**

Notices

Hymn

A collection will be taken during the singing of the hymn. If you would prefer to use contactless, a giving point will be available at the end of the service. If you are a UK tax payer, you are warmly encouraged to fill in a Gift Aid envelope for any method of giving. Thank you!

**Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.**

**Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.**

**I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.**

**I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.**

**Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies:
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!**

Tune: Eventide by W Monk 1823-89
Words: H Lyte 1793-1847

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

Cortège et litanie – Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

St Bride's Church, Fleet Street, London. CCLI Licence no 2277036
CCLI Streaming Licence no 954810

Sermon in Music

i) *For lo, I raise up* ; ii) *O for a closer walk with God* – Charles Villiers Stanford (1852 – 1924)

Charles Villiers Stanford was an Irishman by birth, but became an important figure in the British musical establishment. His first appointment was as organist of Trinity College, Cambridge, which he took up in 1873 while still an undergraduate – later he became simultaneously Professor of Music at Cambridge and the first composition teacher at the newly opened Royal College of Music in London, where his pupils included Holst, Howells and Vaughan Williams. He was knighted in 1901 and died in 1924, being buried in Westminster Abbey near Henry Purcell.

Stanford was a prolific composer of all kinds of music, but is principally remembered today for his church compositions. His four settings of the evening canticles (all of which exist in orchestral versions as well as with organ accompaniment) have long been a cornerstone of the Anglican repertoire and his three early Latin motets, all written for the choir at Trinity, are universally loved. The first Stanford anthem to be heard this evening is a less ambitious piece, being an arrangement of a hymn rather than an original composition. The words, by the great 18th century poet William Cowper, may be found at hymn 414, and the melody is taken from the Scottish Psalter of 1635. The first verse is sung by sopranos alone, then the melody passes to the basses and an expanded version is given to the full choir in the final verse.

Despite its origins in pre-existing material, the result is still characteristic of Stanford's style – the final passage builds to a series of rich and expansive chords before subsiding to a tender conclusion for the organ alone.

“For lo, I raise up” is less well-known – it is a powerful setting of verses from the first two chapters of the book of Habakkuk, with a virtuoso organ part. The text deals with the Lord's victory over worldly enemies, including the well-known passage

“For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of God as the waters cover the sea,” but there are also a number of gentler, more prayerful sections.

*O for a closer walk with God,
A calm and heavenly frame;
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!*

*Return, O holy dove, return,
Sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
And drove thee from my breast.*

*So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb.*

Words: William Cowper (1731-1800)

*For, lo, I raise up that bitter and hasty nation,
Which march through the breadth of the earth,
To possess the dwelling places that are not theirs.*

*They are terrible and dreadful,
Their judgment and their dignity proceed from themselves.
Their horses also are swifter than leopards,
And are more fierce than the evening wolves.*

*And their horsemen spread themselves,
Yea, their horsemen come from far.
They fly as an eagle that hasteth to devour,
They come all of them for violence;
Their faces are set as the east-wind,
And they gather captives as the sand.*

*Yea, he scoffeth at kings,
And princes are a derision unto him.
For he heapeth up dust and taketh it.
Then shall he sweep by as a wind that shall pass over,
And be guilty,
Even he, whose might is his God.*

*Art not thou from everlasting,
O Lord, my God, mine Holy One?
We shall not die.
O Lord, thou hast ordained him for judgement,
And thou, O Rock, hast established him for correction.
I will stand upon my watch and set me upon the tower,*

*And look forth to see what he will say to me,
And what I shall answer concerning my complaint.
And the Lord answered me and said:
The vision is yet for the appointed time,
And it hasteth toward the end, and shall not lie:
Though it tarry, wait for it, because it will surely come.*

*For the earth shall be filled
with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord,
As the waters cover the sea.
But the Lord is in his holy temple:
Let all the earth keep silence before Him.*

Words: Habakkuk 1.6–12, 2.1–3,14,20