

# ST PETER'S CHURCH, NOTTINGHAM

**Matins**  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2020  
The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Officiant: The Reverend Christopher Harrison  
Preacher: The Reverend Dr Helen Hall

## WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

*The officiant invites those present to confess their sins before God*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

**O God, our Father, we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed: we have not loved thee with all our heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. Have mercy upon us, we beseech thee; cleanse us from our sins; and help us to overcome our faults; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The officiant says words of God's forgiveness in 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. Amen.

**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. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory. For ever and ever. Amen.**

## VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

*sung by the church choir to the setting by Philip Radcliffe (1905-1986), recorded at Ely Cathedral in January 2015*

*O Lord, open thou our lips.*

And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

*O God, make speed to save us.*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*All stand*

*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.

*Praise ye the Lord.*

The Lord's Name be praised.

## PSALM 23

*sung to a chant by Edward Elgar (1857-1934), recorded by individual members of the church choir in online collaboration*

The Lord is my shepherd :  
therefore can I lack nothing.

He shall feed me in a green pasture :  
and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.

He shall convert my soul :  
and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake.

Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil :  
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me :  
thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life :  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord 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.

## FIRST READING

*St Luke describes the life of the first Christian community*

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

*Acts 2.42-end*

## TE DEUM

*A traditional song of thanksgiving to God for sending Christ to the world, sung by the church choir to the setting in F major by John Ireland (1879-1962), recorded at Durham Cathedral in January 2012*

We praise thee, O God, we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.  
All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.  
To thee all Angels cry aloud, the Heavens, and all the Powers therein.  
To thee Cherubin and Seraphin continually do cry,  
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty of thy glory.  
The glorious company of the Apostles praise thee.

The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise thee.  
The noble army of Martyrs praise thee.  
The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee;  
The Father of an infinite Majesty; Thine honourable, true and only Son;  
Also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.  
Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ. Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.  
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man, thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.  
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,  
thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.  
Thou sittest at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.  
We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge.  
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,  
whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.  
Make them to be numbered with thy Saints in glory everlasting.  
O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage.  
Govern them and lift them up for ever.  
Day by day we magnify thee; And we worship thy Name, ever world without end.  
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.  
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.  
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us as our trust is in thee.  
O Lord, in thee have I trusted, let me never be confounded.

## SECOND READING

*St Peter tells how Christ, though innocent, died on the cross for our salvation*

For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. 'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

*1 Peter 2.19-end*

## JUBILATE

*All stand  
sung to a chant by Jonathan Battishill (1738-1801), recorded by individual members of the church  
choir in online collaboration*

O be joyful in the Lord all ye lands :  
serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God :  
it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; we are his people and the sheep of  
his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise :  
be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting :  
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.  
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.

## CREED

**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 Catholick Church, The Communion of Saints, the Forgiveness of sins, The Resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## LESSER LITANY

*sung by the church choir to the setting by Philip Radcliffe (1905-1986), recorded at Ely Cathedral in January 2015*

*The Lord be with you.  
And with thy spirit.  
Let us pray.*

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.

*O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.  
And grant us thy salvation.  
O Lord, save the Queen.  
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.  
Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.  
And make thy chosen people joyful.  
O Lord, save thy people.  
And bless thine inheritance.  
Give peace in our time, O Lord.  
Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.*

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

#### COLLECT FOR THE DAY

O God, whose blessed Son did manifest himself to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open, we pray thee, the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; through the same 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. Amen.

#### COLLECT FOR PEACE

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### COLLECT FOR GRACE

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### HOMILY

#### HYMN

*Since it is not currently possible to make your offerings to St Peter's and All Saints' churches during worship, please consider making a donation by means of the online giving facility which can be found at <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/7870#!/DonationDetails>.*

There's a wideness in God's mercy  
like the wideness of the sea;  
there's a kindness in his justice  
which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows  
are more felt than up in heaven;  
there is no place where earth's failings  
have such kindly judgement given.

There is grace enough for thousands  
of new worlds as great as this;  
there is room for fresh creations  
in that upper home of bliss.  
If our love were but more simple,  
we should take him at his word;  
and our lives would be all gladness  
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

## PRAYERS

## BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes 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, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Alla Marcia

*J Ireland (1879-1962)*

*played by Michael Leuty at St Peter's in February 2016*