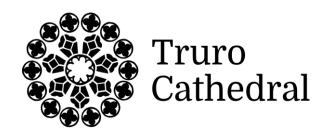
EVENSONG for Sexagesima sung by St Mary's Singers



The Preces

sung by the Officiant and the Choir to a setting by Bernard Rose (1916 - 1996)

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.

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.

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.

Psalm 147 sung by the Choir

Please sit as the choir chants the Psalm but stand for the singing of the Gloria.

O praise the Lord, for it is a good thing to sing praises unto our God: yea, a joyful and pleasant thing it is to be thankful. The Lord doth build up Jerusalem: and gather together the out-casts of Israel. He healeth those that are broken in heart: and giveth medicine to heal their sickness. He telleth the number of the stars: and calleth them all by their names. Great is our Lord, and great is his power: yea, and his wisdom is infinite. The Lord setteth up the meek: and bringeth the ungodly down to the ground. O sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving: sing praises upon the harp unto our God; Who covereth the heaven with clouds, and prepareth rain for the earth: and maketh the grass to grow upon the mountains, and herb for the use of men:

Who giveth fodder unto the cattle: and feedeth the young ravens that call upon him.

He hath no pleasure in the strength of an horse:

neither delighteth he in any man's legs.

But the Lord's delight is in them that fear him:

and put their trust in his mercy.

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem: praise thy God, O Sion.

For he hath made fast the bars of thy gates: and hath blessed thy children within thee.

He maketh peace in thy borders:
and filleth thee with the flour of wheat.
He sendeth forth his commandment upon earth:
and his word runneth very swiftly.
He giveth snow like wool: and scattereth the hoar-frost like ashes.
He casteth forth his ice like morsels: who is able to abide his frost?
He sendeth out his word, and melteth them:
he bloweth with his wind, and the waters flow.
He sheweth his word unto Jacob:
his statutes and ordinances unto Israel.
He hath not dealt so with any nation:
neither have the heathen knowledge of his laws.
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.

Please sit

The First Lesson Genesis 1: 1 - 2: 3

Here begins the first chapter of the book of Genesis.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The earth brought

forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saving, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.' So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

Here ends the first lesson.

Please stand

Magnificat

sung by the choir to the setting 'Collegium Magdalene Oxoniense' by Kenneth Leighton (1929 - 1988)

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 shewed 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.

Please sit

The Second Lesson Matthew 6: 25-end

Here begins the twenty fifth verse of the sixth chapter of the gospel according to St Matthew.

Jesus taught the crowds: 'I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.'

Here ends the second lesson.

Please stand

Nunc Dimittis sung by the 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.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, ΑII 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.

The Responses

sung by the Officiant and the Choir

The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit.

Please kneel

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us. Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come;
Thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who 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.

The Collect for Sexagesima

O Lord God, who seest that we put not our trust in any thing that we do: mercifully grant that by thy power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Collect for peace

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. Amen.

The Collect for help in danger

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. Amen.

Anthem 'Ascribe unto the Lord' by Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810 - 1876)

sung by the choir

Ascribe unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the people:

ascribe unto the Lord worship and power.

Ascribe unto the Lord the honour due unto his Name.

Let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

Tell it out among the heathen that the Lord is King:

and that he shall judge the people righteously.

Let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Sing to the Lord, and praise his Name: be telling of his salvation from day to day, and his wonders unto all people.

As for the gods of the heathen, they are but idols.

Their idols are silver and gold:

even the work of men's hands.

They have mouths, and speak not:

eyes have they, and see not.

They have ears, and hear not:

noses have they, and smell not.

They have hands, and handle not; feet have they, and walk not: neither speak they through their throat.

They that make them are like unto them:

and so are all such as put their trust in them.

As for our God, he is in heaven:

he hath done whatsoever pleased him.

The Lord hath been mindful of us, and he shall bless us : he shall

bless the house of Israel, he shall bless the house of Aaron.

He shall bless them that fear the Lord: both small and great.

Ye are the blessed of the Lord: you and your children.

Ye are the blessed of the Lord: who made heaven and earth.

Words: Psalms 96 and 115

The Sermon and Prayers

The Dean

Please stand

Hymn

Lord of our life, and God of our salvation, Star of our night, and hope of every nation, Hear and receive thy Church's supplication, Lord God Almighty.

See round thine ark the hungry billows curling; See how thy foes their banners are unfurling; Lord, while their darts envenomed they are hurling, Thou canst preserve us.

Lord, thou canst help when earthly armour faileth, Lord, thou canst save when deadly sin assaileth; Christ, o'er thy rock nor death nor hell prevaileth; Grant us thy peace, Lord.

Peace in our hearts, our evil thoughts assuaging; Peace in thy Church, where brothers are engaging; Peace, when the world its busy war is waging: Calm thy foes' raging.

Grant us thy help till backward they are driven, Grant them thy truth, that they may be forgiven; Grant peace on earth, and, after we have striven, Peace in thy heaven.

The 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, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Organ Voluntary

'Paean' by Kenneth Leighton (1929 - 1988)

Please remain standing as the choir and clergy depart.

Please take this order of service away with you.

