

Choral Evensong

5.30pm Sunday 2nd May 2021

Gathering

Attending this Service in Person in Church

If you are coming to church for this service, please bring this order of service with you if you can, on a device or print the paper copy at home and bring it with you. However people arriving in church without their own order of service will be given a shortened service sheet.

It is required that face coverings should be worn by everyone in church. We welcome this as part making church services as safe as possible for people to attend, and as a sign of our desire to protect others from possible infection.

Logging on to the Live Stream

1. The live stream will start at about 5.27pm in preparation for the service.
2. Go to our website www.stmaryletower.org.uk and find the “**LIVE Streamed Services**” title and click to go to our **Facebook Live** page.
3. Click on the service video. When the video opens you will need to click on the loudspeaker icon to unmute it and hear the sound.

Music before the Service

Organist: William Baldry

Welcome and Introduction

The minister gives any NOTICES, and INTRODUCES the service.

Prayers of Penitence

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 in silence, and remember God's presence with us now.

Please kneel or sit, and we keep a time of quiet for personal reflection.

**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.**

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.**

Opening Responses (Rose)

Please stand.

*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.*

Opening Hymn

Please stand. Due to Coronavirus regulations, it is sadly not currently permitted for the congregation to sing in church. Please follow the words and sing them in your heart. Please join in at home if you wish!

The Lamb's high banquet we await
In snow-white robes of royal state,
And now, the Red Sea's channel past,
To Christ our Prince we sing at last.

Upon the altar of the Cross
His Body has redeemed our loss,
And tasting of his precious Blood,
Our life is hid with Christ in God.

That Paschal eve God's arm was bared,
The devastating angel spared;
By strength of hand our hosts went free
From Pharaoh's ruthless tyranny.

Now Christ our Passover is slain,
The Lamb of God that knows no stain,
And he, the true unleavened Bread,
Is truly our oblation made.

Maker of all, to thee we pray,
Fulfil in s thy joy today;
When death assails, grant, Lord, that we
May share thy Paschal victory.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,
All glory, Lord, thy people give,
All glory to the Father be
And spirit blest, eternally. Amen.

Listening for the Word from God

Psalm 96 *Please sit.*

O SING unto the Lord a new song : sing unto the Lord,
all the whole earth.
Sing unto the Lord, and praise his Name : be telling of
his salvation from day to day.
Declare his honour unto the heathen : and his wonders
unto all people.
For the Lord is great, and cannot worthily be praised :
he is more to be feared than all gods.
As for all the gods of the heathen, they are but idols :
but it is the Lord that made the heavens.
Glory and worship are before him : power and honour
are in his sanctuary.
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 :
bring presents, and come into his courts.
O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness : let the
whole earth stand in awe of him.
Tell it out among the heathen that the Lord is King :
and that it is he who hath made the round world so
fast that it cannot be moved; and how that he shall
judge the people righteously.
Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad : let
the sea make a noise, and all that therein is.
Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it : then shall all
the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord.
For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth : and
with righteousness to judge the world, and the
people with his truth.

Please 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.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60.1-14

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of
the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover
the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord
will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the
brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look
around; they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters
shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall
see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to
you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels
of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall
proclaim the praise of the Lord. All the flocks of Kedar
shall be gathered to you, the rams of Nebaioth shall
minister to you; they shall be acceptable on my altar,
and I will glorify my glorious house. Who are these
that fly like a cloud, and like doves to their windows?
For the coastlands shall wait for me, the ships of
Tarshish first, to bring your children from far away,
their silver and gold with them, for the name of the
Lord your God, and for the Holy One of Israel, because
he has glorified you.

Foreigners shall build up your walls, and their kings shall
minister to you; for in my wrath I struck you down, but
in my favour I have had mercy on you. Your gates shall
always be open; day and night they shall not be shut, so
that nations shall bring you their wealth, with their kings
led in procession. For the nation and kingdom that will
not serve you shall perish; those nations shall be utterly
laid waste. The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, the

cypress, the plane, and the pine, to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will glorify where my feet rest. The descendants of those who oppressed you shall come bending low to you, and all who despised you shall bow down at your feet; they shall call you the City of the Lord, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Here ends the Old Testament reading.

Canticle of Praise ('Gloucester' - Howells)

Magnificat

My soul doth magnify the Lord : and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded : the lowliness of his handmaiden.
 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.

Please 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.

New Testament Reading

Revelation 3.1-13

And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: These are the words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars: 'I know your works; you have a name for being alive, but you are dead. Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is at the point of death, for I have not found your works perfect in the sight of my God. Remember then what you received and heard; obey it, and repent. If you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you.

Yet you have still a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes; they will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. If you conquer, you will be clothed like them in white robes, and I will not blot your name out of the book of life; I will confess your name before my Father and before his angels. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens: 'I know your works. Look, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but are lying - I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and they will learn that I have loved you.

Because you have kept my word of patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth. I am coming soon; hold fast to what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. If you conquer, I will make you a pillar in the temple of my God; you will never go out of it. I will write on you the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem that comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

Here ends the New Testament reading.

Canticle of God's Blessing

Nunc Dimittis

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.

Please 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.

The Apostles' 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 catholic Church;**

**the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Response in Prayer and Praise

Litany *(Rose)*

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

Please kneel or sit.

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.

The Collects

Almighty God, who through thy only-begotten Son
Jesus Christ hast overcome death
and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by thy grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by thy continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Ghost,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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.

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 *(Randall)*

Come, my way, my truth, my life:
such a way, as gives us breath;
such a truth, as ends all strife;
such a life, as killeth death

Come my light, my feast, my strength:
such a light, as shows a feast;
such a feast, as mends in length;
such a strength, as makes his guest.

Come my joy, my love, my heart:
such a joy as none can move;
such a love, as none can part;
such a heart, as joys in love.

Intercession

Jesus, Lord of life, **In your mercy, hear us.**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all, evermore. Amen.**

Sending Out

Mission Hymn

Sung by the choir.

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does his successive journies run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

Blessing abound where'er he reigns;
the prisoner leaps to lose his chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and all the sons of want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring
peculiar honours to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the long Amen.

Blessing

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Organ Voluntary *Please sit.*

Master Tallis's Testament - Herbert Howells

The livestream continues until the end of the voluntary.

After the Service

Under Lockdown Coronavirus Regulations it is not yet permitted for people to gather to chat in church, but it is permitted for groups of six to gather in the churchyard after services.

If you wish to speak to the vicar or another member of staff, it is best to do this currently by phone or email:

Revd Canon Charles Jenkin, Vicar, 07789 633315

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