

# Choral Evensong

5.30pm Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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

Te Lucis ante terminum (Op. 38/5) – Marcel Dupré  
*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 (*Lucas*)

*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!*

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,  
to his feet thy tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
who like me his praise should sing?  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour  
to our fathers in distress;  
praise him still the same as ever,  
slow to chide and swift to bless:  
Praise him! Praise him!  
glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us,  
well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hands he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes:  
Praise him! Praise him!  
widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;  
ye behold him face to face;  
sun and moon, bow down before him,  
dwellers all in time and space:  
Praise him! Praise him!  
praise with us the God of grace.

## Listening for the Word from God

### Psalm 45 *Please sit.*

MY HEART is inditing of a good matter : I speak of the thing which I have made unto the King.  
My tongue is the pen : of a ready writer.  
Thou art fairer than the children of men: full of grace are thy lips, because God hath blessed thee for ever.  
Gird thee with thy sword upon thy thigh, O thou most Mighty : according to thy worship and renown.  
Good luck have thou with thine honour : ride on, because of the word of truth , of meekness, and righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things.  
Thy arrows are very sharp, and the people shall be subdued unto thee : even in the midst among the King's enemies.  
Thy seat, O God, endureth for ever : the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre.  
Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity :

wherefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

All thy garments smell of myrrh, aloes, and cassia : out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad.

Kings' daughters were among thy honourable women : upon thy right hand did stand the queen in a vesture of gold, wrought about with divers colours.

Hearken, O daughter, and consider, incline thine ear ; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house. So shall the King have pleasure in thy beauty : for his is thy Lord God, and worship thou him.

And the daughter of Tyre shall be there with a gift : like as the rich also among the people shall make their supplication before thee.

The King's daughter is all glorious within : her clothing is of wrought gold.

She shall be brought unto the King in raiment of needlework : the virgins that be her fellows shall bear her company, and shall be brought unto thee.

With joy and gladness shall they be brought : and shall enter into the King's palace.

Instead of thy fathers thou shalt have children : whom thou mayest make princes in all lands.

I will remember thy Name from one generation to another : therefore shall the people give thanks unto thee, world without end.

*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

### Song of Solomon 4.16 - 5.2, 8.6-7

Awake, O north wind, and come, O south wind! Blow upon my garden that its fragrance may be wafted abroad. Let my beloved come to his garden, and eat its choicest fruits. I come to my garden, my sister, my bride; I gather my myrrh with my spice, I eat my honeycomb with my honey, I drink my wine with my milk. Eat, friends, drink, and be drunk with love.

Another dream. I slept, but my heart was awake. Listen! my beloved is knocking. 'Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my perfect one; for my head is wet with dew, my locks with the drops of the night.' Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm; for love is strong as death, passion fierce as the grave. Its flashes are flashes of fire, a raging flame.

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it. If one offered for love all the wealth of one's house, it would be utterly scorned.

Here ends the Old Testament reading.

## Canticle of Praise *(Sumsion in A)*

### 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 3.14-end

'To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the origin of God's creation:

'I know your works; you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were either cold or hot. So, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I am about to spit you out of my mouth. For you say, "I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing." You do not realize that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.

'Therefore I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire so that you may be rich; and white robes to clothe you and to keep the shame of your nakedness from being seen; and salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see. I reprove and discipline those whom I love. Be earnest, therefore, and repent.

'Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me. To the one who conquers I will give a place with me on my throne, just as I myself conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. 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 *(Lucas)*

*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

God our redeemer, you have delivered us  
from the power of darkness  
and brought us into the kingdom of thy Son:  
grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life,  
so by his continual presence in us  
he may raise us to eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ thy Son our 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 (*Balfour Gardiner*)

Thee, Lord, before the close of day,  
Maker of all things, Thee we pray  
For Thy dear loving kindness' sake  
To guard and guide us in Thy way.

Banish the dreams that terrify,  
And night's fantastic company:  
Keep us from Satan's tyranny:  
Defend us from unchastity.

Protect us, Father, God ador'd,  
Thou too, co-equal Son and Lord,  
Thou, Holy Ghost, our Advocate,  
Whose reign can know nor bound nor date.  
Amen.

## Intercession

Lord, come to bless us; **And fill us with your Spirit.**

**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.*

Thy hand, O God, has guided  
thy flock, from age to age;  
the wondrous tale is written  
full clear, on every page  
our fathers owned thy goodness,  
and we their deeds record;  
and both of this bear witness:  
One Church, one faith, one Lord.

Thy heralds brought glad tidings  
to greatest, as to least;  
they bade men rise and hasten  
to share the great King's feast;  
and this was all their teaching,  
in every deed and word,  
to all alike proclaiming  
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

Through many a day of darkness,  
through many a scene of strife,  
the faithful few fought bravely  
to guard the nation's life.  
Their gospel of redemption,  
sin pardoned, man restored,  
was all in this enfolded,  
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

And we, shall we be faithless?  
shall hearts fail, hands hang down?  
shall we evade the conflict,  
and cast away our crown?  
Not so: in God's deep counsels  
some better thing is stored;  
we will maintain unflinching  
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

Thy mercy will not fail us,  
nor leave thy work undone;  
with thy right hand to help us,  
the victory shall be won;  
and then by men and angels,  
thy name shall be adored,  
and this shall be their anthem:  
One Church, one faith, one Lord.

## 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.*

Lucis Creator optime (Op. 38/13) – Marcel Dupré

*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:*

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