THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

CHORAL EVENSONG WITH SERMON IN MUSIC

28TH JUNE 2020, 5:30PM

ST BRIDE’S CHURCH
Processional Hymn

Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing:
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o’er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Tune: Down Ampney by R Vaughan Williams 1872-1958
Words: Italian, Bianco da Siena d 1434
Tr. R F Littledale 1833-90
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
Reading

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 50: 1-15

Old Testament Lesson
1 Samuel 28: 3-19 (KJV) read by Michelle Blond

Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away those that had familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land.

And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and pitched in Shunem: and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they pitched in Gilboa.

And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled.

And when Saul enquired of the Lord, the Lord answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets.

Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and enquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor.

And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee.

And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die?
And Saul sware to her by the Lord, saying, As the Lord liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing.

Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel.

And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul.

And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth.

And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself.

And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do.

Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the Lord is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy?

And the Lord hath done to him, as he spake by me: for the Lord hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbour, even to David:

Because thou obeyedst not the voice of the Lord, nor executedst his fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath the Lord done this thing unto thee this day.
Moreover the Lord will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and to morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me: the Lord also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Magnificat

Evening Service 'Collegium Regale' – Howells

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  
Luke 17: 20-37 (KJV) read by Matthew Morley

And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

And he said unto the disciples, The days will come, when ye shall desire to see one of the days of the Son of man, and ye shall not see it.

And they shall say to you, See here; or, see there: go not after them, nor follow them.

For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one part under heaven, shineth unto the other part under heaven; so shall also the Son of man be in his day.

But first must he suffer many things, and be rejected of this generation.

And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.

They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.
Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;

But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.

Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back.

Remember Lot's wife.

Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it.

I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left.

Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

And they answered and said unto him, Where, Lord? And he said unto them, Wheresoever the body is, thither will the eagles be gathered together.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.
Nunc Dimittis
Evening Service 'Collegium Regale' – Howells

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
Reading

Minister The Lord be with you,
Choir and with thy spirit.

Minister Let us pray.

Please kneel or sit

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 Queen,
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 hast broken the tyranny of sin  
      and hast sent the Spirit of thy Son  
      into our hearts whereby we call thee Father:  
      give us grace to dedicate our freedom to thy service  

that the whole world may be brought  
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;  
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,  
who liveth and reigneth with thee,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

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**

_Hear my prayer_ – Mendelssohn

(Please see notes at end of service)

**Prayers of Intercession**

The Revd Canon Dr Alison Joyce, _Rector of St Bride’s Church_

This response may be used

Lord, in thy mercy

All hear our prayer.

And at the end

Merciful Father,

All accept these prayers
for the sake of thy Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
_Amen._
Offertory Hymn

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
the darkness falls at thy behest;
to thee our morning hymns ascended,
thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank thee that thy Church unsleeping,
while earth rolls onward into light,
through all the world her watch is keeping,
and rests not now by day or night.

As o’er each continent and island
the dawn leads on another day,
the voice of prayer is never silent,
nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun that bids us rest is waking
our brethren ’neath the western sky,
and hour by hour fresh lips are making
thy wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it, Lord: thy throne shall never,
like earth’s proud empires, pass away;
thy kingdom stands, and grows forever,
till all thy creatures own thy sway.

Tune: St Clement by C Scholefield 1839–1904
Words: J Ellerton 1826–93
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
Fugue from Sonata No 6 – Mendelssohn (played by Julian Collings)
Hear my Prayer – Mendelssohn

Felix Mendelssohn, who lived from 1809 to 1847, is famous principally as a composer of popular symphonies, concertos and orchestral music, much of which he wrote as a very young man. However, he had a lifelong love of choral music and was responsible for a revival of interest in the music of Bach, giving the first performance of the ‘St. Matthew Passion’ in Germany for almost 100 years. This led him to attempt choral composition himself towards the end of his life, culminating in the two great Biblical oratorios, ‘St Paul’ and ‘Elijah’ (written for performance in England, where he was a frequent visitor).

He wrote a number of psalm settings of which ‘Hear my prayer’, a setting of verses from Psalm 55, is the most well-known. It was made famous by a recording of the Temple Church in the 1920s, but it was originally intended for a soprano soloist and an adult choir.

Hear my prayer, O God, incline Thine ear;
Thyself from my petition do not hide.
Take heed to me,
Hear how in prayer I mourn to Thee;
Without Thee all is dark, I have no guide.
The enemy shouteth, the godless come fast,
Iniquity, hatred, upon me they cast.
The wicked oppress me, Ah where shall I fly?
Perplexed and bewilder’d, O God, hear my cry!
My heart is sorely pain’d within my breast,
My soul with deathly terror is oppress’d.
Trembling and fearfulness upon me fall,
With horror overwhelmed, Lord, hear me call!
O for the wings of a dove, far away would I rove.
In the wilderness build me a nest,
And remain there for ever at rest.
Thank You

Our doors are now open for private prayer, but our ability to raise funds to maintain our ministry and building is still severely impacted.

We shall continue to offer our online worship - even though this requires additional investment - because no service from St Bride’s would be complete without the wonderful music which our choir provides.

These freelance professional musicians have been severely affected and we have been supporting them financially while they are not able to perform.

We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to all who have continued to support us during this crisis through regular giving and those who have made donations online via JustGiving and by text following our online services. This financial support is vital to our on-going ministry.

If you would like to make a donation to support the work of St Bride’s, please do so at:
www.justgiving.com/stbrideschurchfleetstreet

Alternatively, in the UK:
text 5STBRIDES to 70470 to donate £5
text 10STBRIDES to 70470 to donate £10
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Thank you for your support