

JOURNALISTS' COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE Under Pressure

ST BRIDE'S CHURCH

Tuesday 8th November 2022 at 6:30pm

St Bride's Church Fleet Street, London EC4



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Arshad Sharif

INTRODUCTION

As consumers of news in a fast-changing world, we demand a great deal of our journalists, correspondents, photographers, sound-crew and camera-crew. We expect them to keep us informed and enlightened about difficult and complex situations in the trouble spots of the world, often at great personal risk, and sometimes, tragically, they pay the ultimate price.

So it is important that, as representatives of the media industry, we honour their memory in this service and remind ourselves of the sacrifice they make in order to bring us the truth.

We commemorate and support, too, the support staff – drivers, translators, fixers – who make it possible for them to carry out their work.

But we also come together in this spiritual home of the media – local, regional, national and international – to celebrate the industry, its people and its achievements.

ORDER OF SERVICE

INTROIT

Ubi caritas – Maurice Duruflé

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

The Rector

Almighty Father, in whose perfect realm no sword is drawn but the sword of justice, and no strength known but the strength of love: guide and protect all who seek to bear witness to the truth of your troubled world; all who seek to give a voice to the voiceless, and to tell stories that would otherwise remain untold. We remember especially this day all members of this profession who have died, or whose fate is unknown, that you may bless their work, and strengthen and sustain those who love them. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

HYMN

O praise ye the Lord

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height; rejoice in his word, ye angels of light; ye heavens adore him by whom ye were made, and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him upon earth, in tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth; praise him who hath brought you his grace from above, praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.

O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound; each jubilant chord re-echo around; loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone, and, sweet harp, the story of what he has done.

O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song to him be outpoured all ages along: for love in creation, for heaven restored, for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!

Amen.

FIRST READING

Ephesians 4. 25-32

Read by Shamaan Freeman-Powell Correspondent, Sky News & Fellow, John Schofield Trust

CHOIR

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem – John Blow

SECOND READING

An extract from an Address at St Bride's on 10th November 2010 by Marie Colvin, former Foreign Correspondent, Sunday Times

> Read by Danielle Sheridan Defence Editor, Daily Telegraph

CHOIR

Both sides now – Joni Mitchell arr. Evan Ramos

THIRD READING

Best wishes, Elizabeth R

Read by Rebecca English Royal Editor, Daily Mail

HYMN

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us o'er the world's tempestuous sea; guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us, for we have no help but thee; yet possessing every blessing, if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us: all our weakness thou dost know; thou didst tread this earth before us, thou didst feel its keenest woe; lone and dreary, faint and weary, through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending, fill our hearts with heavenly joy, love with every passion blending, pleasure that can never cloy: thus provided, pardoned, guided, nothing can our peace destroy.

ADDRESS

John Irvine Senior International Correspondent, ITV News

CHOIR

Who shall separate us? - James MacMillan

During which candles will be lit for those

- who have lost their lives
- who are missing or held captive
- who continue to report at great risk

PRAYERS

The Rector

Eternal God, the Father of all mankind: we hold before you the needs of our broken and troubled world. We pray for peace between peoples and nations, and for peace in our hearts. We pray for all victims of violence, civil unrest, or natural disaster; for all migrants and refugees; and we pray for those who seek to come to their aid, and to draw attention to their plight.

Lord, hear us. All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Loving God, we remember with thanksgiving our brothers and sisters whose lives we commemorate at this service, in sorrow at their loss, and mindful of all that we have received from them. May the example of their dedication and service be an inspiration to us all, that we may strive to build on their achievements, and commit ourselves in loving service to one another and to you.

Lord, hear us. All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Comfort, O Lord we pray, all those who mourn the loss of loved ones, or who feel the pain of separation at this time. Be with us in our sorrow, support us in our loneliness, and help us all to look to the future with steadfastness and hope.

Lord, hear us. All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Heavenly Father, we pray for all journalists and for those who work in the media the world over. Watch over those whose work places them in situations of personal danger, and bring them safely home.

Almighty God, strengthen and direct, we pray, the will of all whose work it is to write what many read, and to speak where many listen. May we be bold in confronting evil and injustice, and compassionate in our understanding of human weakness, rejecting alike the half-truth that deceives, and the slanted word that corrupts. May the power that is ours, for good or ill, always be used with honesty and courage, with respect and integrity; so that when all here has been written, said, and done, we may, unashamed, meet Thee face to face, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

HYMN

Tell out, my soul

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name! Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done; his mercy sure, from age to age the same; his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might! Powers and dominions lay their glory by. Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight, the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word! Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord to children's children and for evermore!

BLESSING

The Rector

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be amongst you and remain with you now and always.

Amen.

Organ Voluntary

Fuga sopra il Magnificat, BWV 733 – Johann Sebastian Bach

A retiring collection will be taken and shared between **St Bride's Church**, the spiritual home of journalists throughout the world, and the **John Schofield Trust**, which helps aspiring and early career journalists access and navigate the profession by providing world-class mentoring and training.

> There will be a reception after the service at the Humble Grape, 1 St Bride's Passage, London EC4Y 8EJ

Our thanks go to a number of organisations who have helped to make this service possible:

News UK

dmg media

Telegraph Media Group

Guardian News & Media

Financial Times

Evening Standard

Independent Digital News & Media

Daily Mirror and Sunday Mirror

Cover picture: A Palestinian journalist records the rubble of the severely damaged Al-Jawhara Tower in Gaza City on 12th May 2021 after it was hit by Israeli airstrikes amid the escalating flare-up of Israeli-Palestinian violence. Momen Faiz/NurPhoto via Getty Images

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PRINTED BY

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