

ORDER OF SERVICE
To celebrate
CHRIST THE KING

22nd November 2020

READING MINSTER
of St. Mary the Virgin



Trio in C - Johann Vierling (1750-1813)

THE GATHERING

Priest In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

Priest The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

All sit

All Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Priest May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins, and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Choir Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of the God the Father. Amen.

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, rex coelestis. Deus pater omnipotens, Domine fili unigente Jesu Christe. Domine Deus, agnus Dei, filius patris. Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram patris, miserere nobis. Quoniam tu solus sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe. Cum sancto spiritu, in Gloria Dei patris. Amen.

The Collect for Christ the King.

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 1. 15 - end

At the end of the reading:

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Priest Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and

he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family,^[a] you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

Matthew 25.31 - end

At the end:

Priest This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, O Christ.

All sit

SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

Priest We declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All stand

All We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the

All The peace of the Lord be always with you:
and also with you.

Priest Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Although we are not able to share the peace in person, we have a moment to bring to mind people to whom we prayerfully offer peace.

Priest Blessed be God, who enthrones us with Christ in the heavenly realms. May we feed upon the bread of God and drink the royal wine of heaven.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Priest The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Priest It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For with the oil of gladness you have anointed Christ the Lord, your only Son, to be our great high priest and king of all creation. As priest, he offered himself once for all upon the altar of the cross and redeemed the human race by this perfect sacrifice of peace. As king he claims

dominion over all your creatures, that he may bring before your infinite majesty a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace. And so with angels and archangels and all the heavenly host, we proclaim your glory and join in their unending hymn of praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Osanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Osanna in excelsis.

All sit or kneel

Priest Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who in the same night he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus.

All **Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life: Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Priest Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise.

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Priest As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but**

deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Priest Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you but only say the word and I shall be healed.

Priest Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,
All we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Watching or listening from home will be a very strange experience where we are invited to Communion not through the physical bread and wine we can touch but a Spiritual Communion with the God who always comes to meet us wherever we are.

There are no special words or prayers for this, all the Church has ever thought necessary is true desire, lively faith and genuine love.

Come honestly before God the way you know how. You may like to pray quietly one of these prayers to help you.

*Lord Jesus, you are the bread of life.
By faith I receive that spiritual food:
I receive the affirming love of God the
Father.*

*I receive the healing compassion of
God the Son.*

*I receive the transforming power of
God the Spirit.*

*I receive the eternal life of God, Father,
Son and Holy Spirit. Amen*

*Lord, you stand at the door
of my heart and knock. You
wait for me and only I can
let you in. I believe and trust
in you and ask you now to
fill me with your presence.
Feed me with your body and
unite me in your blood, that I
may be your blessing to a
world in need. Amen.*

All remain sitting or kneeling while the choir sings

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have
mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the
sin of the world, grant us peace.**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona nobis pacem.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good
works, may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The congregation then offers this prayer

All **Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen**

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Priest Christ our exalted King pour upon you his abundant gifts and bring you to reign with him in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Postlude in C - Henry Smart (1813-1879)

