

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Round the throne of God, day and night they never cease to sing, 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come.' *Revelation 4:8*

Beloved in Christ, we come together to offer to Almighty God our worship and praise and thanksgiving, to confess our sins and to receive God's forgiveness, to hear his holy word proclaimed, to bring before him our needs and the needs of the world, and to pray that in the power of his Spirit we may serve him and know the greatness of his love.

God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit. Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and malice, and confess our sins to God our redeemer.

cf Ephesians 4:30, 32

Silence is kept.

Father, you come to meet us when we return to you: Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Jesus, you died on the cross for our sins: Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Spirit, you give us life and peace: Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth will proclaim your praise.

God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

Praise the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

PSALM: 8

O Lord our governor, ♦

how glorious is your name in all the world!

Your majesty above the heavens is praised ♦

out of the mouths of babes at the breast.

You have founded a stronghold against your foes, ♦

that you might still the enemy and the avenger.

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, ♦

the moon and the stars that you have ordained,

What is man, that you should be mindful of him; ♦

the son of man, that you should seek him out?

You have made him little lower than the angels ♦

and crown him with glory and honour.

You have given him dominion over the works of your hands ♦

and put all things under his feet,

All sheep and oxen, ♦

even the wild beasts of the field,

The birds of the air, the fish of the sea ♦

and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea.

O Lord our governor, ♦

how glorious is your name in all the world!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son;

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now,

and shall be for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:12-17, 27-31

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand

and marked off the heavens with a span,

enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure,

and weighed the mountains in scales

and the hills in a balance?

Who has directed the spirit of the LORD,

or as his counsellor has instructed him?

Whom did he consult for his enlightenment,

and who taught him the path of justice?

Who taught him knowledge,

and showed him the way of understanding?

Even the nations are like a drop from a bucket,

and are accounted as dust on the scales;

see, he takes up the isles like fine dust.

Lebanon would not provide fuel enough,

nor are its animals enough for a burnt-offering.

All the nations are as nothing before him;

they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.

Why do you say, O Jacob,

and speak, O Israel,

'My way is hidden from the LORD,

and my right is disregarded by my God'?

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

CANTICLE: Gloria in Excelsis

**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 sin 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 God the Father.
Amen.**

SECOND READING: Matthew 28:16-20

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

REFLECTION *by the Reverend Janice Elsdon*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**The Lord be with you
and also with you.**

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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, and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen
and grant her government wisdom.

Let your ministers be clothed with righteousness
and let your servants shout for joy.

O Lord, save your people
and bless those whom you have chosen.

Give peace in our time, O Lord,
and let your glory be over all the earth.

O God, make clean our hearts within us
and renew us by your Holy Spirit.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; for you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

COLLECTS AT MORNING PRAYER

Go before us, Lord, in all our doings, with your most gracious favour, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name, and finally by your mercy attain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray that your Holy Spirit may so guide and govern us that in all the cares and occupations of our daily life, we may never forget your presence but may remember that we are always walking in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS

We come boldly to the throne of grace, praying to the almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for mercy and grace.

We plead before your throne in heaven.

Father of heaven, whose love profound a ransom for our souls has found: we pray for the world, created by your love, for its nations and governments. We pray especially at this time for those affected by the race riots and protests in the USA. Extend to them your peace, pardoning love, mercy and grace.

We plead before your throne in heaven.

Almighty Son, incarnate Word, our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord: we pray for the Church, created for your glory, for its ministry to reflect those works of yours. We pray for those with leadership responsibility, and those called to declare the faith of the Church so that we might understand and worship aright. Extend to us your salvation, growth, mercy and grace.

We plead before your throne in heaven.

Eternal Spirit, by whose breath the soul is raised from sin and death: we pray for families and individuals, created in your image, for the lonely, the bereaved, the sick and the dying. We pray for those who struggle with loneliness during this time, and for those who feel that their lives have been put on hold. Breathe on them the breath of life and bring them to your mercy and grace.

We plead before your throne in heaven.

Thrice holy! Father, Spirit, Son, Mysterious Godhead, Three in One: we pray for ourselves, for your Church, for all whom we remember before you with gratitude and love and for those whom we name before you in silence... Bring us all to bow before your heavenly throne, to receive life and pardon, mercy and grace for all eternity, as we worship you, saying,

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Amen.**

A PRAYER FOR CARE WORKERS:

O Heavenly Father, who by your Son Jesus Christ has taught us the glory of self-sacrifice and service: bless all doctors, nurses, anaesthetists and hospital personnel who are called to care for the sick, especially those suffering from the Coronavirus. Give your strength to all who work in Nursing homes, and who attend those in need of care in the community. Protect all who work in essential shops, businesses and supply companies. Help each to remember that they are fellow-workers with you; and give them such patience, skill and love that they may bring healing and comfort to those who they serve, and their loved ones. Guard them in their work from themselves contracting the virus, and watch over their families and loved ones in their anxiety for them. We ask this in the name of the one who spent himself for others with no thought for himself, even our Great Healer, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

CLOSING ACCLAMATIONS

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts:
the whole earth is full of his glory.

Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength; ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name.
The whole earth is full of his glory.

The Lord shall give strength to his people;
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts:
the whole earth is full of his glory.

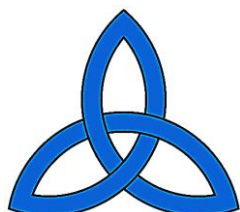
THE BLESSING

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



HYMNS APPROPRIATE TO THE DAY:

ICH 321:

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty,
early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty;
God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the
glassy sea:
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
God everlasting through eternity.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,
though the sinful human eye thy glory may not
see,
only thou art holy: there is none beside thee
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty,
all thy works shall praise thy name in earth and
sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty;
God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Words: Reginald Heber (1781-1826) based on Revelation 4:8-11; Isaiah 6:1-8

Tune: NICAEA John Bacchus Dykes (1823-76)

ICH 323*:

The God of Abraham praise
Who reigns enthroned above,
Ancient of everlasting days,
And God of love:
To him uplift your voice,
At whose supreme command
From earth we rise and seek the joys
At his right hand.

Before the great Three-One
They all exulting stand,
And tell the wonders he has done
Throughout the land:
The listening spheres attend,
And swell the growing fame,
And sing in songs which never end
The wondrous name.

The God who reigns on high
The great archangels sing,
And 'Holy, holy, holy' cry
'Almighty King!
Who was, and is the same,
And evermore shall be:
Eternal Father, great I AM,
We worship thee.'

The whole triumphant host
Give thanks to God on high:
'Hail, Father, Son and Holy Ghost'
They ever cry:
Hail, Abraham's God and mine!
(I join the heavenly lays)
All might and majesty are thine,
And endless praise.

Words: Thomas Olivers (1725-1799) based on the Jewish Yigdal

*Tune: LEONI Hebrew melody noted by Thomas Olivers (1725-1799) from the singing of Meyer Lyon of the London
Great Synagogue, adpt. c.1770*

Belfast Cathedral Closure

We regret that, due to current restrictions
as a result of the Covid-19 virus, Belfast Cathedral is closed to
services, tourism, events and as a public gathering venue.

However, please continue to watch the cathedral website (www.belfastcathedral.org) or
our Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/BelfastCathedral/> for the

on-line streaming to today's Cathedral Morning Service

and for up to date news and online prayer resources.

You can also listen to our

Phone-line Audio Version of this service

by dialling **028 95 3203555**

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