



BELFAST
CATHEDRAL

**A SERVICE OF EVENING PRAYER
FOR USE AT HOME
Sunday 21st June 2020
The Second Sunday after Trinity**

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

HYMN: ICH 712

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.

*Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b.1926) based on the Canticle 'Magnificat' (Luke 1:46-55)
Tune: WOODLANDS Walter Greatorex (1877-1949)*

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.

OPENING RESPONSES:

O Lord, open thou our lips
and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

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 Spirit;
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.

PSALM: 106

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious:
and his mercy endureth for ever.

Who can express the noble acts of the Lord:
or shew forth all his praise?

Blessed are they that always keep judgement:
and do righteousness.

Remember me, O Lord, according to the favour that thou bearest unto thy people:

O visit me with thy salvation;
That I may see the felicity of thy chosen:
and rejoice in the gladness of thy people, and give thanks with thine inheritance.

We have sinned with our fathers:

we have done amiss, and dealt wickedly.

Our fathers regarded not thy wonders in Egypt, neither kept they thy great goodness in remembrance:

but were disobedient at the sea, even at the Red sea.

Nevertheless, he helped them for his Name's sake:

that he might make his power to be known.

He rebuked the Red sea also, and it was dried up:
so he led them through the deep, as through a wilderness.
And he saved them from the adversary's hand:
and delivered them from the hand of the enemy.
As for those that troubled them, the waters overwhelmed them:
there was not one of them left.
Then believed they his words:
and sang praise unto him.
But within a while they forgot his works:
and would not abide his counsel.
But lust came upon them in the wilderness:
and they tempted God in the desert.
And he gave them their desire:
and sent leanness withal into their soul.
They angered Moses also in the tents:
and Aaron the saint of the Lord.
So the earth opened, and swallowed up Dathan:
and covered the congregation of Abiram.
And the fire was kindled in their company:
the flame burnt up the ungodly.
They made a calf in Horeb:
and worshipped the molten image.
Thus they turned their glory:
into the similitude of a calf that eateth hay.
And they forgot God their Saviour:
who had done so great things in Egypt;
Wondrous works in the land of Ham:
and fearful things by the Red sea.
So he said, he would have destroyed them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the gap:
to turn away his wrathful indignation, lest he should destroy them.
Yea, they thought scorn of that pleasant land:
and gave no credence unto his word;
But murmured in their tents:
and hearkened not unto the voice of the Lord.
Then lift he up his hand against them:
to overthrow them in the wilderness;
To cast out their seed among the nations:
and to scatter them in the lands.
They joined themselves unto Baalpeor:
and ate the offerings of the dead.
Thus they provoked him to anger with their own inventions:
and the plague was great among them.
Then stood up Phinees and prayed:
and so the plague ceased.
And that was counted unto him for righteousness:
among all posterities for evermore.
They angered him also at the waters of strife:
so that he punished Moses for their sakes;
Because they provoked his spirit:
so that he spake unadvisedly with his lips.
Neither destroyed they the heathen:
as the Lord commanded them;
But were mingled among the heathen:
and learned their works.

Insomuch that they worshipped their idols, which turned to their own decay:
yea, they offered their sons and their daughters unto devils;
And shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters:
whom they offered unto the idols of Canaan; and the land was defiled with blood.
Thus were they stained with their own works:
and went a whoring with their own inventions.
Therefore was the wrath of the Lord kindled against his people:
insomuch that he abhorred his own inheritance.
And he gave them over into the hand of the heathen:
and they that hated them were lords over them.
Their enemies oppressed them:
and had them in subjection.
Many a time did he deliver them:
but they rebelled against him with their own inventions, and were brought down in their
wickedness.
Nevertheless, when he saw their adversity:
he heard their complaint.
He thought upon his covenant, and pitied them, according unto the multitude of his mercies:
yea, he made all those that led them away captive to pity them.
Deliver us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the heathen:
that we may give thanks unto thy holy Name, and make our boast of thy praise.
Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting, and world without end:
and let all the people say, Amen.

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.

FIRST LESSON: I Samuel 24: 1–17

When Saul returned from following the Philistines, he was told, 'David is in the wilderness of En-gedi.' Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to look for David and his men in the direction of the Rocks of the Wild Goats. He came to the sheepfolds beside the road, where there was a cave; and Saul went in to relieve himself. Now David and his men were sitting in the innermost parts of the cave. The men of David said to him, 'Here is the day of which the LORD said to you, "I will give your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it seems good to you."' Then David went and stealthily cut off a corner of Saul's cloak. Afterwards David was stricken to the heart because he had cut off a corner of Saul's cloak. He said to his men, 'The LORD forbid that I should do this thing to my lord, the LORD's anointed, to raise my hand against him; for he is the LORD's anointed.' So David scolded his men severely and did not permit them to attack Saul. Then Saul got up and left the cave, and went on his way.

Afterwards David also rose up and went out of the cave and called after Saul, 'My lord the king!' When Saul looked behind him, David bowed with his face to the ground, and did obeisance. David said to Saul, 'Why do you listen to the words of those who say, "David seeks to do you harm"? This very day your eyes have seen how the LORD gave you into my hand in the cave; and some urged me to kill you, but I spared you. I said, "I will not raise my hand against my lord; for he is the LORD's anointed." See, my father, see the corner of your cloak in my hand; for by the fact that I cut off the corner of your cloak, and did not kill you, you may know for certain that there is no wrong or treason in my hands. I have not sinned against you, though you are hunting me to take my life. May the LORD judge between me and you! May the LORD avenge me on you; but my hand shall not be against you. As the ancient proverb says, "Out of the wicked comes forth wickedness"; but my hand shall not be against you. Against whom has the king of Israel come out? Whom do you pursue? A dead dog? A single flea? May the LORD therefore be judge, and give sentence between me and you. May he see to it, and plead my cause, and vindicate me against you.'

When David had finished speaking these words to Saul, Saul said, 'Is that your voice, my son David?' Saul lifted up his voice and wept. He said to David, 'You are more righteous than I; for you have repaid me good, whereas I have repaid you evil.'

THE CANTICLE 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.

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.

SECOND LESSON: Luke 14: 12–24

Jesus said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

One of the dinner guests, on hearing this, said to him, 'Blessed is anyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!' Then Jesus said to him, 'Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, "Come; for everything is ready now." But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, "I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my apologies." Another said, "I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please accept my apologies." Another said, "I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come." So the slave returned and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, "Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame." And the slave said, "Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room." Then the master said to the slave, "Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those who were invited will taste my dinner."'

THE CANTICLE 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.

**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 Spirit, 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 Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord be with you
and with thy Spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**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. Amen.**

○ Lord, show thy mercy upon us
and grant us thy salvation.

○ Lord, save the Queen
and mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness
and make thy chosen people joyful.

○ Lord, save thy people
and bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, ○ Lord,
because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, ○ God.

○ God, make clean our hearts within us
and take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

○ Lord, who never failest to help and govern them whom thou dost bring up in thy steadfast fear and love; Keep us, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence, and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PEACE

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.**

COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS

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.**

OCCASIONAL PRAYERS

The blessings of life

Is not sight a jewel? Is not hearing a treasure? Is not speech a glory? O my Lord, pardon my ingratitude and pity my dullness who am not sensible of these gifts. The freedom of your bounty has deceived me. These things were too near to be considered. You presented me with your blessings, and I was not aware. But now I give thanks and adore and praise you for your inestimable favours.

Rulers and leaders

Lord God, in our prayers for our country and world we remember especially the men and women who powerfully influence the life of society: those who fashion our politics; those who frame and administer our laws; those who mould public opinion through the press, radio and television; those who write what many read. May all such recognise their responsibility to you, to the nation and to all humanity, that people may be influenced for what is good, not evil; for what is true, not false; for what is kind, not vindictive; for what is generous, not mean-spirited; for the glory of your name.

Peace and reconciliation (a prayer of the Corrymeela Community)

God, we believe that you have called us together to broaden our experience of you and of each other. We believe that we have been called to help in healing the many wounds of society and in reconciling us to one another, and to God. Help us, as individuals or together, to work in love, for peace, and never to lose heart. We commit ourselves to each other- in joy and sorrow. We commit ourselves to all who share our belief in reconciliation- to support and stand by them. We commit ourselves to the way of peace- in thought and deed. We commit ourselves to you- as our guide and friend.

Homes and families

Most gracious Father, bless our homes and families, wherever they may be. Let your peace rest upon us and your love abide in us: love of one another, love of humankind, love of life itself, and love of you. Remind us continually that, as many hands build a house, so many hearts make a family, and draw us together in ever closer bonds of love and care; for Christ's sake.

Those without work

Our Father, we bring to you all who at this time find themselves without work or facing the prospect of changes to their working patterns. Be a source of strength and encouragement to them and to their families. May they not grow despondent or come to regard themselves as useless, but help them to employ their skills and gifts in other directions and to find a measure of fulfilment in the services of the church or community in which they are set, until more regular employment comes their way again. We pray for all businesses and organisations undergoing financial stress; for grace, vision, hope and decency in the face of hard and testing times; in Christ's name.

Unselfishness

I'm glad to be alive- to breathe and feel; to laugh and cry; to see life's beauty and its grandeur. I know, too, its beastliness and squalor; its poverty, disease and hate. As I give thanks for all my blessings, give me, Lord, the will to share with others what I have to undeservedly been given. Make me loving, courteous, considerate; give me a listening ear, a compassionate heart and a generous mind. Let me live my life in your sight for others so that they, too, may find you and give thanks.

A PRAYER OF ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

THE GRACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

HYMN: ICH 20

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine for ever.

with thee, dear Lord, beside me:

thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight,
thy unction grace bestoweth,
and O, what transport of delight,
from thy pure chalice floweth!

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.
In death's dark vale I fear no ill

And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.

*Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-77) metrical version of Psalm 23
Tune: ST COLUMBA Irish traditional melody (Petrie Collection)*

PRAYER OF BLESSING

May the peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep our 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 us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

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 this morning's online Cathedral Service
and for up to date news and online prayer resources.

You can also listen to the morning service on our Telephone Audio facility.

Please dial: **028 95 320 355**
and follow the instructions.

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