



BELFAST  
CATHEDRAL

**A SERVICE OF EVENING PRAYER FOR USE AT HOME**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

**The Seventh Sunday after Trinity**

**THE GREETING**

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

**HYMN: ICH 346**

Angel-voices ever singing  
Round thy throne of light,  
Angel-harps, forever ringing,  
Rest not day nor night;  
Thousands only live to bless thee  
And confess thee  
Lord of might.

Yea, we know that thou rejoicest  
O'er each work of thine  
Thou didst ears and hands and voices  
For thy praise design;  
Craftsman's art and music's measure  
For thy pleasure  
All combine.

In thy house, great God, we offer  
Of thine own to thee;  
And for thine acceptance proffer,  
All unworthily,  
Hearts and minds and hands and voices  
In our choicest  
Psalmody.

Honour, glory, might, and merit  
Thine shall ever be,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
Blessed Trinity.  
Of the best which thou hast given  
Earth and heaven  
Render Thee.

*Words: Francis Pott (1832-1909)*

*Tune: ANGEL VOICES E.G. Monk (1819-1900)*

**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: 119:145-176**

I call with my whole heart \*  
hear me, O Lord, I will keep thy statutes.  
Yea, even unto thee do I call \*  
help me, and I shall keep thy testimonies.  
Early in the morning do I cry unto thee \*  
for in thy word is my trust.  
Mine eyes prevent the night-watches \*  
that I might be occupied in thy words.  
Hear my voice, O Lord, according unto thy loving-kindness \*  
quicken me, according as thou art wont.  
They draw nigh that of malice persecute me \*  
and are far from thy law.  
Be thou nigh at hand, O Lord \*  
for all thy commandments are true.

As concerning thy testimonies, I have known long since \*  
that thou hast grounded them for ever.  
O consider mine adversity, and deliver me \*  
for I do not forget thy law.  
Avenge thou my cause, and deliver me \*  
quicken me, according to thy word.  
Health is far from the ungodly \*  
for they regard not thy statutes.  
Great is thy mercy, O Lord \*  
quicken me, as thou art wont.  
Many there are that trouble me, and persecute me \*  
yet do I not swerve from thy testimonies.  
It grieveth me when I see the transgressors \*  
because they keep not thy law.  
Consider, O Lord, how I love thy commandments \*  
O quicken me, according to thy loving-kindness.  
Thy word is true from everlasting \*  
all the judgements of thy righteousness endure for evermore.  
Princes have persecuted me without a cause \*  
but my heart standeth in awe of thy word.  
I am as glad of thy word \*  
as one that findeth great spoils.  
As for lies, I hate and abhor them \*  
but thy law do I love.  
Seven times a day do I praise thee \*  
because of thy righteous judgements.  
Great is the peace that they have who love thy law \*  
and they are not offended at it.  
Lord, I have looked for thy saving health \*  
and done after thy commandments.  
My soul hath kept thy testimonies \*  
and loved them exceedingly.  
I have kept thy commandments and testimonies \*  
for all my ways are before thee.  
Let my complaint come before thee, O Lord \*  
give me understanding according to thy word.  
Let my supplication come before thee \*  
deliver me, according to thy word.  
My lips shall speak of thy praise \*  
when thou hast taught me thy statutes.  
Yea, my tongue shall sing of thy word \*  
for all thy commandments are righteous.  
Let thine hand help me \*  
for I have chosen thy commandments.  
I have longed for thy saving health, O Lord \*  
and in thy law is my delight.  
O let my soul live, and it shall praise thee \*  
and thy judgements shall help me.  
I have gone astray like a sheep that is lost \*  
O seek thy servant, for I do not forget thy commandments.

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: 1 Kings 6:11-14, 23-28**

Now the word of the LORD came to Solomon, 'Concerning this house that you are building, if you will walk in my statutes, obey my ordinances, and keep all my commandments by walking in them, then I will establish my promise with you, which I made to your father David. I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake my people Israel.'

So Solomon built the house, and finished it.

In the inner sanctuary he made two cherubim of olive wood, each ten cubits high. Five cubits was the length of one wing of the cherub, and five cubits the length of the other wing of the cherub; it was ten cubits from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other. The other cherub also measured ten cubits; both cherubim had the same measure and the same form. The height of one cherub was ten cubits, and so was that of the other cherub. He put the cherubim in the innermost part of the house; the wings of the cherubim were spread out so that a wing of one was touching one wall, and a wing of the other cherub was touching the other wall; their other wings towards the centre of the house were touching wing to wing. He also overlaid the cherubim with gold.

**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: Acts 12:1-17**

King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him.

The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, 'Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.' He did so. Then he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.' Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came

before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

As soon as he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many had gathered and were praying. When he knocked at the outer gate, a maid named Rhoda came to answer. On recognizing Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed that, instead of opening the gate, she ran in and announced that Peter was standing at the gate. They said to her, 'You are out of your mind!' But she insisted that it was so. They said, 'It is his angel.' Meanwhile, Peter continued knocking; and when they opened the gate, they saw him and were amazed. He motioned to them with his hand to be silent, and described for them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he added, 'Tell this to James and to the believers.' Then he left and went to another place.

#### **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.**

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us  
**and grant us thy salvation.**

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

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

O Lord, save thy people  
**and bless thine inheritance.**

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

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

#### **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Lord of all power and might, who art the author and giver of all good things; graft in our hearts the love of thy Name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of thy great mercy keep us in the same; 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.**

#### **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 612**

Eternal Father, strong to save,  
whose arm doth bind the restless wave,  
who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep  
its own appointed limits keep:  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O Saviour, whose almighty word  
the winds and waves submissive heard,  
who walkedst on the foaming deep  
and calm amid its rage didst sleep:  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who didst sweep  
across the dark and formless deep  
to bid its angry tumult cease,  
and give, for wild confusion, peace:  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power,  
sustain us all in danger's hour;  
through wreck and tempest, grief and loss,  
renew the triumph of the Cross:  
and ever let there rise to thee  
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Words: William Whiting (1825-1878)  
Tune: MELITA John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

#### **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, the cathedral is **open for Private Prayer from 12 noon to 2pm on Sundays and Wednesdays for the month of July.**  
*(Social distancing and Covid-19 hygiene restrictions will apply)*

Please continue to watch the cathedral website ([www.belfastcathedral.org](http://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.

The morning service is also available on the Belfast Cathedral YouTube Channel Search for "Belfast Cathedral" on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

You can also listen to the morning service on our Telephone Audio facility. Please dial: **028 95 320 355** and follow the instructions.