



**MORNING PRAYER: A SERVICE OF THE WORD**  
**The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

*Welcome to the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast.  
Please follow the instructions from the Churchwardens.  
Under government guidance for the purposes of keeping  
Contact Tracing Records  
it is essential that you complete the following information  
with the pen provided, or one of your own.  
Please leave this service sheet in the box at the West End  
when you leave at the end of the service.  
These will be retained for 21 days, after which they will be destroyed.  
Thank you.*

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone contact:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Organ voluntary:** Six Occasional Preludes Op. 132, no. VI *Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)*

*Please stand for the entrance of the clergy.*

*The Dean welcomes the congregation.*

*Please remain standing as the choir sings the **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 (1825-78)*

*Tune: MELITA John Bacchus Dykes (1823-76)*

## **THE GREETING**

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

In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself. *2 Corinthians 5:19*

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.

Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

*Please kneel or sit*

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; by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. 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.**

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.**

*Please stand*

#### **PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD**

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

○ God, make speed to save us.  
**○ 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.**

*Please sit as the choir sings PSALM 105:1-15 (chant by Attwood)*

Give thanks unto the Lord, and call upon his Name:  
tell the people what things he hath done.

○ let your songs be of him, and praise him:  
and let your talking be of all his wondrous works.

Rejoice in his holy Name:  
let the heart of them rejoice that seek the Lord.

Seek the Lord and his strength:

seek his face evermore.

Remember the marvellous works that he hath done:

his wonders, and the judgements of his mouth,

O ye seed of Abraham his servant:

ye children of Jacob his chosen.

He is the Lord our God:

his judgements are in all the world.

He hath been alway mindful of his covenant and promise:

that he made to a thousand generations;

Even the covenant that he made with Abraham:

and the oath that he sware unto Isaac;

And appointed the same unto Jacob for a law:

and to Israel for an everlasting testament;

Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan:

the lot of your inheritance;

When there were yet but a few of them:

and they strangers in the land;

What time as they went from one nation to another:

from one kingdom to another people;

He suffered no man to do them wrong:

but reprov'd even kings for their sakes;

Touch not mine Anointed:

and do my prophets no harm.

*Please stand for the **GLORIA:***

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.

*Please sit for the **FIRST READING:** Exodus 16:2-15*

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, 'If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.'

Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.’ So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, ‘In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?’ And Moses said, ‘When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.’

Then Moses said to Aaron, ‘Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, “Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.”’ And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked towards the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, ‘I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, “At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.”’

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, ‘What is it?’ For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, ‘It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.’

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please remain seated as the choir sings the **CANTICLE:** Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah, Luke 1:68-79) from the service in C Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)*

Blessèd be the Lord God of Israel:

for he hath visited and redeemed his people,  
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us:  
in the house of his servant David;  
As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets:  
which have been since the world began;  
That we should be saved from our enemies:  
and from the hands of all that hate us,

To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers:  
and to remember his holy covenant;  
To perform the oath which he swore to our forefather Abraham:  
that he would give us,  
That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies:  
might serve him without fear,  
In holiness and righteousness before him:  
all the days of our life.  
And thou child shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest:  
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;  
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people:  
for the remission of their sins,  
Through the tender mercy of our God:  
whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us,  
To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death:  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Please stand for the **GLORIA:***

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.

*Please sit for the **SECOND READING:** Matthew 20:1-16*

Jesus said to his disciples, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of

the day and the scorching heat.” But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” So the last will be first, and the first will be last.’

This is the word of the Lord.

### **Thanks be to God**

*Please remain seated as the choir sings the* **ANTHEM:** Oh! for a closer walk with God *Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)*

O for a closer walk with God,  
A calm and heavenly frame;  
A light to shine upon the road  
That leads me to the lamb!

Return, O holy dove, return,  
Sweet messenger of rest;  
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,  
And drove thee from my breast.

So shall my walk be close with God,  
Calm and serene my frame;  
So purer light shall mark the road  
That leads me to the lamb.

**SERMON** *by the Reverend Janice Elsdon*

*Please stand as the choir sings the* **HYMN:** ICH 639

O Thou who camest from above,  
the pure celestial fire to impart,  
kindle a flame of sacred love  
on the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn  
with inextinguishable blaze,  
and trembling to its source return  
in humble prayer and fervent  
praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart’s desire  
to work, and speak, and think for  
thee;  
still let me guard the holy fire,  
And still stir up thy gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will,  
my acts of faith and love repeat,  
till death thy endless mercies seal,  
and make the sacrifice complete.

*Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88)  
Tune: HEREFORD S.S. Wesley (1810-76)*

*Please remain standing and face east for 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.

*Please kneel or sit*

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, 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**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel; that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **COLLECTS AT MORNING PRAYER**

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life, and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us in all assaults of our enemies, that we, surely trusting in your protection, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everliving God, we give you thanks for bringing us safely to this day: Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger, and in all things guide us to know and do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **INTERCESSIONS**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, for you have given us a good earth and a wonderful life. May we use the resources of the earth aright to respect all of creation, relieve the needs of the poor and give you the glory. Blessed are you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Creating and loving God, we thank you for the beauty and balance with which the world was created. May your Church help to witness that the world belongs to you, and that the justice of your Kingdom extends to the entire created order. In a world where forests burn, ice caps melt and lives are lost in the face of disasters, we pray for those who proclaim God's salvation to the land and Good News in places of deprivation. We ask your blessing upon all who preach the gospel by their words and those who preach the gospel by their example.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creating and loving God, we ask you to bless with wisdom all who are employers and all who direct companies large and small. May they not abuse

or treat their workforce with injustice, but be fair and reasonable in all their policies and decisions. We pray for all who seek to bring about fair trade. We remember all who are facing unemployment or do not have enough resources for healthy living, especially at this time of stress and uncertainty. Remember for good the weak, the oppressed and those exposed to greatest risk by virtue of poverty.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creating and loving God, we thank you for our homes and loved ones. Help us to respect all who work to supply us with the necessities and comforts of our lives. We pray for all who work in the farming, retail and hospitality industries. May we always be aware that all good comes from you. We ask your blessing upon those who are homeless, malnourished and those who feel unloved.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creating and loving God, we remember all ill and suffering people. We pray for those who are struggling to survive, all who are oppressed by war, violence and tyranny, especially asking for your blessing upon all who have been injured or who have suffered from acts of violence. We pray for those who are at greater risk of Coronavirus due to reduced immunity or underlying conditions, and we pray for all health workers across the spectrum of service.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creating and loving God, you give us all that we have and you offer us life eternal. We rejoice in the fellowship of your saints, commending all our loved ones departed, the whole of creation, and ourselves to your unfailing love.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father, **accept these our prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

#### **A PRAYER DURING THIS TIME OF CORONAVIRUS**

O Heavenly Father, who by your Son Jesus Christ has taught us the glory of self-sacrifice and service: bless all who care for the sick, and those suffering from or recovering from Coronavirus. Give your strength to all who work in nursing homes, and all who give care in the community. Protect those who are face renewed restrictions, and give a deeper sense of responsibility to

those whose actions may lead to the infection of others. We pray for our own cathedral family, gathered here or still at home. Protect our community from new infection, we pray, and give wisdom to all who have responsibility in church and society for leading us forward. This we ask in the name of the one who spent himself in service for others with no thought for himself, even our Lord, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Please stand as the choir sings the **HYMN: ICH 593\****

○ Jesus, I have promised  
to serve thee to the end;  
be thou for ever near me,  
my Master and my Friend.  
I shall not fear the battle  
if thou art by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway  
if thou wilt be my guide.

○ Jesus, thou hast promised  
to all who follow thee,  
that where thou art in glory,  
there shall thy servant be;  
and, Jesus, I have promised  
to serve thee to the end;  
○ give me grace to follow,  
my Master and my Friend.

○ let me see thy foot-marks,  
and in them plant mine own;  
my hope to follow duly  
is in thy strength alone.  
○ guide me, call me, draw me,  
uphold me to the end;  
and then in heaven receive me,  
my Saviour and my Friend.

*Words: John E. Bode (1816-74)*

*Tune: MISSIONARY Lowell Mason (1792-1872)*

## **THE BLESSING**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your 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 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.**

*Please stand as the clergy depart and sit for the **Organ Voluntary: 6 Short Preludes and Postludes Op. 105, no. VI Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)***

Please remain seated until the end of the Voluntary, and exit in rows from the back to the front, as directed by the Cathedral Wardens.



We regret that flower arrangements are not being placed in the cathedral at present. Today the flowers would have been donated by Mrs Esther Miller in memory of her husband Grahame.



## NOTICES



Please join us for Choral Evensong  
this afternoon at 3.30pm.

### **Services Sunday 27 September 2020:**

11.00am Service of the Word

3.30pm Choral Evensong in Celebration of Music with the Down, Dromore and  
Connor Organ Scholarship Board

### **Annual General Vestry Notice**

The Annual General Vestry Meeting (usually Easter Vestry) for Belfast Cathedral  
will be held following the Morning Service  
**from 11.50am on Sunday 4 October 2020**  
in the Cathedral Nave.

This year is a Triennial year, with the election of representatives to the  
Cathedral Board, as Parochial Nominators  
and as Representatives to Diocesan Synod.

*Please plan to attend and vote if you are a Registered as a General Vestry member.*

### **Blessing of Pets on the Cathedral Steps Sunday 4 October at 2.00- 3.00pm**

This year we are unable to host a Pets Service within the cathedral.  
However, marking the feast day of St Francis of Assisi on 3 October, we encourage owners  
to bring their pets or working animals to the steps of the cathedral for a Blessing and in  
Thanksgiving for the aid these animals give to mental health.

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> at 3.30pm – Service of Choral Evensong**

*Bible passages in this service are from the New Revised Standard Version.*

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