



BELFAST  
CATHEDRAL

**EVENING PRAYER FOR USE AT HOME**  
**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2020**  
**The Second Sunday before Advent**



**CATHEDRAL FLOWERS PROVIDED THIS SUNDAY BY DR. MARION GIBSON  
IN MEMORY OF HER LATE HUSBAND TOM**

**OPENING RESPONSES:**

○ Lord, open thou our lips.  
**And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**

○ God, make speed to save us.  
**○ Lord, make haste to help us.**

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.**

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

**PSALM: 78:1-17**

Hear my law, ○ my people \*  
**incline your ears unto the words of my mouth.**  
I will open my mouth in a parable \*  
**I will declare hard sentences of old;**  
Which we have heard and known \*  
**and such as our fathers have told us;**  
That we should not hide them from the children of the generations to come \*  
**but to shew the honour of the Lord, his mighty and wonderful works that he hath done.**  
He made a covenant with Jacob, and gave Israel a law \*  
**which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children;**  
That their posterity might know it \*  
**and the children which were yet unborn;**  
To the intent that when they came up \*  
**they might shew their children the same;**  
That they might put their trust in God \*  
**and not to forget the works of God, but to keep his commandments;**

And not to be as their forefathers, a faithless and stubborn generation \*

**a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit cleaveth not stedfastly unto God;**

Like as the children of Ephraim \*

**who being harnessed, and carrying bows, turned themselves back in the day of battle.**

They kept not the covenant of God \*

**and would not walk in his law;**

But forgot what he had done \*

**and the wonderful works that he had shewed for them.**

Marvellous things did he in the sight of our forefathers, in the land of Egypt \*

**even in the field of Zoan.**

He divided the sea, and let them go through \*

**he made the waters to stand on an heap.**

In the day-time also he led them with a cloud \*

**and all the night through with a light of fire.**

He clave the hard rocks in the wilderness \*

**and gave them drink thereof, as it had been out of the great depth.**

He brought waters out of the stony rock \*

**so that it gushed out like the rivers.**

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 Kings 1:15-40**

Bathsheba went to the king in his room. The king was very old; Abishag the Shunammite was attending the king. Bathsheba bowed and did obeisance to the king, and the king said, 'What do you wish?' She said to him, 'My lord, you swore to your servant by the Lord your God, saying: Your son Solomon shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne. But now suddenly Adonijah has become king, though you, my lord the king, do not know it. He has sacrificed oxen, fatted cattle, and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the children of the king, the priest Abiathar, and Joab the commander of the army; but your servant Solomon he has not invited. But you, my lord the king—the eyes of all Israel are on you to tell them who shall sit on the throne of my lord the king after him. Otherwise it will come to pass, when my lord the king sleeps with his ancestors, that my son Solomon and I will be counted offenders.'

While she was still speaking with the king, the prophet Nathan came in. The king was told, 'Here is the prophet Nathan.' When he came in before the king, he did obeisance to the king, with his face to the ground. Nathan said, 'My lord the king, have you said, "Adonijah shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne"? For today he has gone down and has sacrificed oxen, fatted cattle, and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the king's children, Joab the commander of the army, and the priest Abiathar, who are now eating and drinking before him, and saying, "Long live King Adonijah!" But he did not invite me, your servant, and the priest Zadok, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and your servant Solomon. Has this thing been brought about by my lord the king and you have not let your servants know who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?'

King David answered, 'Summon Bathsheba to me.' So she came into the king's presence, and stood before the king. The king swore, saying, 'As the Lord lives, who has saved my life from every adversity, as I swore to you by the Lord, the God of Israel, "Your son Solomon shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne in my place", so will I do this day.' Then Bathsheba bowed with her face to the ground, and did obeisance to the king, and said, 'May my lord King David live for ever!'

King David said, 'Summon to me the priest Zadok, the prophet Nathan, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada.' When they came before the king, the king said to them, 'Take with you the servants of your lord, and have my son Solomon ride on my own mule, and bring him down to Gihon. There let the priest Zadok

and the prophet Nathan anoint him king over Israel; then blow the trumpet, and say, "Long live King Solomon!" You shall go up following him. Let him enter and sit on my throne; he shall be king in my place; for I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and over Judah.' Benaiah son of Jehoiada answered the king, 'Amen! May the Lord, the God of my lord the king, so ordain. As the Lord has been with my lord the king, so may he be with Solomon, and make his throne greater than the throne of my lord King David.'

So the priest Zadok, the prophet Nathan, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and the Pelethites, went down and had Solomon ride on King David's mule, and led him to Gihon. There the priest Zadok took the horn of oil from the tent and anointed Solomon. Then they blew the trumpet, and all the people said, 'Long live King Solomon!' And all the people went up following him, playing on pipes and rejoicing with great joy, so that the earth quaked at their noise.

#### **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: Revelation 1:4-18**

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;  
every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him;  
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.  
So it is to be. Amen.

'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

I, John, your brother who share with you in Jesus the persecution and the kingdom and the patient endurance, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, 'Write in a book what you see and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamum, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.'

Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands I saw one like the Son of Man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash across his chest. His head and his hair were white as white wool, white as snow; his eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined as in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and from his mouth came a sharp, two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining with full force.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he placed his right hand on me, saying, 'Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive for ever and ever; and I have the keys of Death and of Hades.'

**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, which art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done,  
In earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
But deliver us from evil. Amen.**

○ Lord, shew 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:**

○ God, whose blessed Son was manifested that he might destroy works of the devil, and make us the sons of God, and heirs of eternal life; grant us, we beseech thee, that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves, even as he is pure; that when he shall appear again with power and great glory, we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where with thee, ○ Father, and thee, ○ Holy Spirit, he liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

#### **COLLECT FOR PEACE**

○ 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, ○ 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.**

#### **PRAYERS**

*A Prayer of the Eastern Church*

Be mindful, ○ Lord, of thy people present here before thee, and of those who are absent through age, sickness, or infirmity. Care for the infants, guide the young, support the aged, encourage the faint-hearted, collect the scattered, and bring back the wandering to thy fold. Travel with the voyagers, defend the widows, shield the orphans, deliver the captives, heal the sick. Succour all who are in tribulation, necessity, or distress. Remember for good all those that love us, and those that hate us, and those that have desired us, unworthy as we are, to pray for them. And those whom we have forgotten, do thou,

O Lord, remember. For thou art the helper of the helpless, the saviour of the lost, the refuge of the wanderer, the healer of the sick. Thou, who knowest the need of each one, and hast heard their prayer, grant unto each according to thy merciful loving-kindness, and thy eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking; have compassion on our weakness, and give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and in our blindness we cannot ask; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord

### **A TIME FOR SILENT REFLECTION**

### **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.**

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

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## NOTICES



Due to a positive case of Covid-19 the cathedral will remain closed until Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

### **Services Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**

#### **The Sunday before Advent: The Kingship of Christ**

There will be **no public worship** in the cathedral, as it remains closed.

Instead, services will be posted on the website ([www.belfastcathedral.org](http://www.belfastcathedral.org)) and Livestreamed on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/BelfastCathedral](https://www.facebook.com/BelfastCathedral)

11.00am Service of the Word Livestreamed  
Evening Prayer Order of Service available on cathedral website for use at home

### **Advent and Christmas Carol Services at Belfast Cathedral**

Due to Coronavirus Regulations the seating capacity of the cathedral is restricted to 150 people per service in the Nave.

For this reason allocated Seating for those attending the Advent and Christmas Carol Services must be pre-booked by sending an e-mail request to [admin@belfastcathedral.org](mailto:admin@belfastcathedral.org)

Members of the Cathedral Congregation and Cathedral Choir are being given **Priority Booking**.

However you must submit your on-line booking request

**by 4pm on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2020.**

After this date, seats will be made available to the general public.

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2020**  
**Advent Carol Service at 6.00pm**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> & Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2020.**  
**Cathedral Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at 7.30pm**

This year, due to the restrictions, there will be no Service of Midnight Holy Communion on Christmas Eve.

However there will be a

**Festival Choral Eucharist for Christmas Morning**  
**at Belfast Cathedral starting at 11.00am.**

Seating for this service will be on a first come, first served basis on the day.

## Hymns suitable for use at home:

### ICH 250

All hail the power of Jesu's name;  
let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem  
to crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, ye martyrs of your God,  
who from his altar call;  
extol him in whose path ye trod,  
and crown him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,  
ye ransomed of the fall,  
hail him who saves you by his grace,  
and crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget  
the wormwood and the gall,  
go spread your trophies at his feet,  
and crown him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe,  
on this terrestrial ball,  
to him all majesty ascribe,  
and crown him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng,  
we at his feet may fall;  
we'll join the everlasting song,  
and crown him Lord of all.

*Words: Edward Perronet (1726-92) and John Rippon (1751-1836) based on Revelation 4:9-11*

*Tune: MILES LANE William Shrubsole (1760-1806)*

### ICH 491

We have a gospel to proclaim,  
good news for all throughout the earth;  
the gospel of a Saviour's name:  
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,  
not in a royal house or hall,  
but in a stable dark and dim:  
the Word made flesh, a light for all.

Tell of his death at Calvary,  
hated by those he came to save,  
in lonely suffering on the cross:  
for all he loved, his life he gave.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn,  
empty the tomb, for he was free;  
he broke the power of death and hell  
that we might share his victory.

Tell of his reign at God's right hand,  
by all creation glorified;  
he sends his Spirit on his Church,  
to live for him, the Lamb who died.

Now we rejoice to name him King:  
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.  
This gospel message we proclaim;  
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

*Words: Edward J. Burns (b.1938)*

*Tune: FULDA (WALTON) William Gardiner (1770-1853) Sacred Melodies (vol. 2, 1815)*