



**MORNING PRAYER:
A SERVICE OF THE WORD**

Sunday 9th May 2021

11.00am

**The Sixth Sunday of Easter: Rogation Sunday
And in the Week which marked the Centenary of the
Creation of Northern Ireland**

**Please take your seat
within the Quire Area of the Cathedral**

*In due course we hope to resume congregational singing.
However, unfortunately, due to ongoing Public Health concerns,
we ask members of the congregation
not to sing the hymns during this morning's service.*

*Welcome to the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast. Please follow the instructions from the Churchwardens. We ask you to wear a face covering throughout your visit. Under government guidance for the purposes of keeping Contact Tracing Records it is essential that you complete the following information. Please leave this service sheet **ON YOUR SEAT** 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 Prelude: Allegro Risoluto (from the 'Plymouth Suite') Percy Whitlock (1903-46)

Please stand for the **OPENING HYMN: ICH 278**

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead had been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

In the grave they laid him, Love by hatred slain,
thinking that he never would awake again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for the three days in the grave had lain,
quick from the dead, my risen Lord is seen:

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
then your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts, that dead and bare have been:

Words: John M.C. Crum (1872-1958)

Tune: NOEL NOUVELET French traditional carol melody

Please sit

The congregation is welcomed

THE GREETING

Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it. *Psalm 24:1*

As we mark the centenary of the opening of the Northern Ireland Parliament on this Rogation Sunday, let us pray for the flourishing of justice and peace, healing and hope:

Almighty God, you call us into a common fellowship of solidarity and love; as we remember the foundation of Northern Ireland one hundred years ago, and reflect on the hopes and disappointments of the past century; draw near to us, and move us to work for peace and justice in the world around us; in the name of him who is the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PENITENCE

Let us confess to God our share of the sins and shortcomings of the world, its pride, its selfishness, its greed, its evil divisions and hatreds. Let us confess our share in what is wrong, and our failure to seek and establish that peace which God wills for his children.

Please kneel or sit

Most merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

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

O 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.

Please remain standing to say the PSALM: 98

Sing to the Lord a new song, ♦
for he has done marvellous things.

His own right hand and his holy arm ♦
have won for him the victory.

The Lord has made known his salvation; ♦
his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness towards the house of Israel, ♦

and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth; ♦

break into singing and make music.

Make music to the Lord with the lyre, ♦

with the lyre and the voice of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn ♦

sound praises before the Lord, the King.

Let the sea thunder and all that fills it, ♦

the world and all that dwell upon it.

Let the rivers clap their hands ♦

and let the hills ring out together before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world ♦

and the peoples with equity.

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.

Please sit for the **FIRST READING:** Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to say the **CANTICLE:** Deus Misereatur (*Psalm 67*)

God be merciful unto us, and bless us ♦

and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us;

That thy way may be known upon earth ♦

thy saving health among all nations.

Let the people praise thee, O God ♦

yea, let all the people praise thee.

**O let the nations rejoice and be glad ♦
for thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations
upon earth.**

**Let the people praise thee, O God ♦
let all the people praise thee.**

**Then shall the earth bring forth her increase ♦
and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.**

**God shall bless us ♦
and all the ends of the world shall fear him.**

**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.**

Please sit for the **SECOND READING:** John 15:9-17

Jesus said to the eleven, 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON by Gillian McGaughey, Diocesan Reader

ANTHEM:

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.

Words: John 13:34-35, 1 John 4:7-9

Music: Richard Hubbard (b. 1971)

Please stand to say 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 our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.**

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to God our creator, who has given us the earth's goodness for our delight and entrusted it to our care and tenderness, that we may work for peace and embody Christ's ministry of reconciliation:

For all who live in captivity to debt, whose lives are cramped by fear from which there is no turning except through abundant harvest; for those whose discipleship brings them into places of conflict and risk and those who help to demolish walls of mistrust and prejudice;

Lord, we pray: **may those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.**

For all who depend on the earth for their daily food and fuel, whose forests are destroyed for the profit of a few; for all who display courage in upholding justice and in promoting peace throughout the world;

Lord, we pray: **may those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.**

For those who labour in poverty, are oppressed by unjust laws, are prevented from speaking the truth, and long for a harvest of justice; for all who stand alongside victims of hatred and sectarianism, and for all who work for the resolution of conflict in our society and beyond;

Lord, we pray: **may those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.**

For all who are captive to greed and waste and boredom, whose harvest joy is choked with things they do not need; for those who bear physical and psychological scars from the past;

Lord, we pray: **may those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.**

Save us from all that holds us captive, restore our vision, that our mouth may be filled with laughter and our tongue with songs of joy. We pray for our MLAs and members of the Northern Ireland Executive, that the leaders of this and of all nations may be given the courage to choose good and reject evil in accordance with your will;

Lord, we pray: **may those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.**

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 in this country and across the world. Stand with those who grieve. Give your strength to all who work in hospitals and nursing homes, and those who give care in the community. Guide scientists tracking the new variants of the infection, and those who administer the vaccines in every country. Give wisdom to those who have responsibility in church, politics and society for leading our nation. This we ask in the name of the one who spent himself in service of others with no thought for himself, even our Lord, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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

Please stand for the **CLOSING HYMN: ICH 350***

For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,

*Christ our God, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
pleasures pure and undefiled,

For each perfect gift of thine,
to the world so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven.

Words: F.S. Pierpoint (1835-1917)

Tune: ENGLAND'S LANE David Evans (1874-1948)

THE BLESSING

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, raise you up to walk with him in the newness of his risen life: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Organ Voluntary:

Fuga g-moll BWV 542 J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Soloist: Katie Lyons

Organist: Jack Wilson

*Please remain in your place until the Churchwardens direct you to move.
We ask that members of the congregation exit the cathedral via the Treasury Door,
down the stairs or lift, and through the Cathedral Hall.*

Thank you.

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



Sunday 16th May 2021: The Seventh Sunday of Easter

11.00am Morning Prayer: A Service of the Word

Preacher: Canon Mark Niblock

This service will be held in the Quire of the Cathedral. Please enter via the Parish Hall Entrance and not the West Doors.

We encourage you to join us in person for this service in the cathedral.

For those who cannot do so, there will be a livestream

on the Belfast Cathedral Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/BelfastCathedral/>

Please remember that you can continue to make your FWO contribution to the Cathedral via On-line Banking:

Bank Details for the Cathedral Account which you will need to make an on-line Banking Transfer are as follows:

Cathedral Bank Branch: **Bank of Ireland, City Centre Branch,
1 Donegall Square South, Belfast, BT1 5LR.**

Name of Account: **Parochial No 1 Current Account**

Sort Code: **90-21-27**

Account Number: **10006051**

Please give your own name (and FWO number) as the Payment Reference.

Thank you for your continuing financial support for Belfast Cathedral

In 2021, for the fifty days between Easter Sunday (4th April 2021) and Pentecost Sunday (23rd May, 2021), we invite members of the cathedral family, and those across the churches to join in partnership with

Corrymeela's #CouragePentecost programme.

Each day we are called, prayerfully and courageously, to make a small change to our daily attitudes or actions, which can lead to a major change in our worldview and the situations of ongoing sectarianism in our land.

There is a separate action or call to change for each day. To follow this programme please connect with Corrymeela's Courage Pentecost Website at <https://www.couragepentecost.com/actions>