



BELFAST CATHEDRAL

**MORNING PRAYER:
A SERVICE OF THE WORD
Sunday 6th June 2021
11.00am
The First Sunday after Trinity**

*In response to relaxations of Covid restrictions,
the congregation may now join in singing the hymns.
Please ensure that your face covering is in place, and sing softly.*

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: Folk Tune from 'Five Short Pieces' Percy Whitlock (1903-46)

Please stand for the **OPENING HYMN: ICH 86***



**Christ is the King! O friends rejoice;
brothers and sisters, with one voice
let the world know he is your choice.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Christ through all ages is the same:
place the same hope in his great name;
with the same faith his word proclaim.**

**Let love's unconquerable might
your scattered companies unite
in service to the Lord of light.**

**So shall God's will on earth be done,
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun,
and the whole Church at last be one.**

Words: G.K.A. Bell (1883-1958)

Tune: VULPIUS (GELOBT SEI GOTT) Melody from Melchior Vulpius' Gesangbuch (Jena, 1609)

Please sit

The congregation is welcomed

Please stand

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Jesus said: 'You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;
and you will be my witnesses. Acts 1:8

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 remain standing to say the PSALM: 138

I will give thanks to you, ○ Lord, with my whole heart; ♦
before the gods will I sing praise to you.

I will bow down towards your holy temple and praise your name, because of your love and faithfulness; ♦

for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

In the day that I called to you, you answered me; ♦

you put new strength in my soul.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, ♦

for they have heard the words of your mouth.

They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, ♦

that great is the glory of the Lord.

Though the Lord be high, he watches over the lowly; ♦

as for the proud, he regards them from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you will preserve me; ♦

you will stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;

your right hand will save me.

The Lord shall make good his purpose for me; ♦

your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever; forsake not the work of your hands.

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:** 1 Samuel 8:4-20

All the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, and said to him, 'You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations.' But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, 'Give us a king to govern us.' Samuel prayed to the LORD, and the LORD said to Samuel, 'Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. Now then, listen to their voice; only—you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.'

So Samuel reported all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king. He said, 'These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots; and he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plough his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive

orchards and give them to his courtiers. He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and his courtiers. He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle and donkeys, and put them to his work. He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves; but the LORD will not answer you in that day.'

But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, 'No! but we are determined to have a king over us, so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Please stand to say the **CANTICLE: Benedictus** (The Song of Zechariah Luke 1:68-79)*

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,

who has come to his people and set them free.

The Lord has raised up for us a mighty saviour,

born of the house of his servant David.

Through the holy prophets God promised of old

to save us from our enemies, from the hands of those who hate us,

to show mercy to our forebears,

and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the hand of our enemies.

Free to worship him without fear,

holy and righteous before him all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation

by the forgiveness of all their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God

the dawn from on high shall break upon us.

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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:** Mark 3:20-35

The crowd came together again, so that Jesus and the apostles could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, 'He has gone out of his mind.' And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, 'He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.' And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, 'How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

'Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin'— for they had said, 'He has an unclean spirit.'

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, 'Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.' And he replied, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' And looking at those who sat around him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON by the Reverend Dr Maithrie White

ANTHEM:

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness,
make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou, Lord, only,
that makest me dwell in safety.

Words: Psalm 5:8; 4:9
Music: S.S. Wesley (1810-76)

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, and 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, the strength of all those who put their trust in you: mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you, both in will and deed; 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

Let us pray to God, the glorious Trinity in unity:

Lord, grant unity to the Church, and strengthen her witness to the gospel faith. May all who confess the salvation brought by Christ share his love as sisters and brothers in his name. May we comfort the troubled and trouble the comfortable, that your loving goodness be our ultimate message.

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

Bring unity among the nations, for an end of conflict and distrust. Grant that the power which casts out evil shall cause justice to prevail in all places of authority and that the whole world shall know the only source of peace. We pray for all who suffer because of national or international tension, and for the weakest and most vulnerable who are most at risk.

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

Bless us in our families with love for one another that does not fail in times of trouble or disagreement. Bless our community with desire for the good of all and the relief of distress. May the work of charitable and voluntary organisations who offer compassionate care flourish and express your love to those most in need of it.

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

We pray for all who are troubled with addictions or evil passions and are unable to help themselves. Grant them release and restoration to a good life. Have mercy on families that are divided and bring them back to the love they have lost.

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

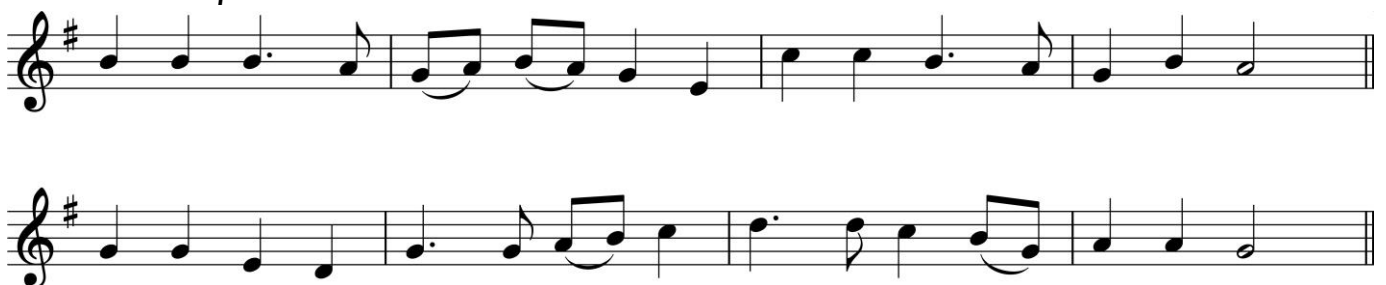
We give thanks for those who have had fellowship in Christ in life and have now entered the fellowship of the saints. May the love which they knew on earth be made perfect in the love of heaven, and may we in our time be made perfect in that same love.

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

A PRAYER DURING THIS TIME OF CORONAVIRUS

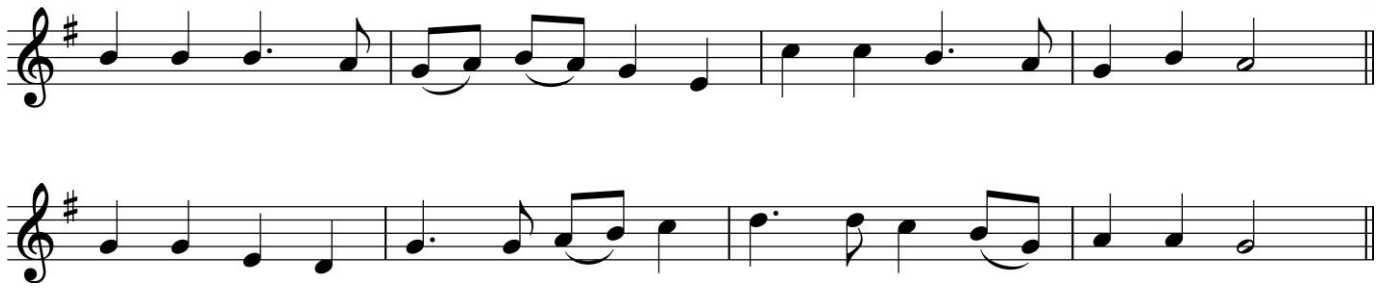
O Heavenly Father, who by your Son Jesus Christ has taught us the glory of self-sacrifice and service: bless all who care for the sick, and those suffering from or recovering from Coronavirus in this country and across the world. Stand with those who grieve. Give your strength to all who work in hospitals 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.**

Please stand for the **CLOSING HYMN: ICH 645**



**Father, hear the prayer we offer:
not for ease that prayer shall be,
but for strength, that we may ever
live our lives courageously.**

**Not for ever in green pastures
do we ask our way to be;
but the steep and rugged pathway
may we tread rejoicingly.**



**Not for ever by still waters
would we idly rest and stay;
but would smite the living fountains
from the rocks along our way.**

**Be our strength in hours of weakness,
in our wanderings be our guide;
through endeavour, failure, danger,
Father, be thou at our side.**

Words: Maria Willis (1824-1908)

Tune: SUSSEX English traditional melody coll. & adpt. R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Please remain standing

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.

Organ Voluntary: Lantata from 'Plymouth Suite' Percy Whitlock (1903-46)

*Please remain in your place until the Churchwardens direct you to move.
We ask that members of the congregation exit the cathedral
without gathering at the West steps.*

Thank you.

Soloist: Susie Hunter
Organist: Jack Wilson

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



Sunday 13th June 2021: The Second Sunday after Trinity

11.00am Morning Prayer: A Service of the Word

Preacher: The Reverend Janice Elsdon

3.30pm Choral Evensong

We encourage you to join us in person for these services.

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

on the Belfast Cathedral Facebook page:

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

**If you have a donation for Christian Aid,
please place your red envelope in the collection basket
on your way out of the cathedral at the table near the Stairs.**

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

Bank Details 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