



BELFAST  
CATHEDRAL

**CHORAL EVENSONG**  
**The Fifth Sunday before Advent**  
**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

**Welcome to the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast.**

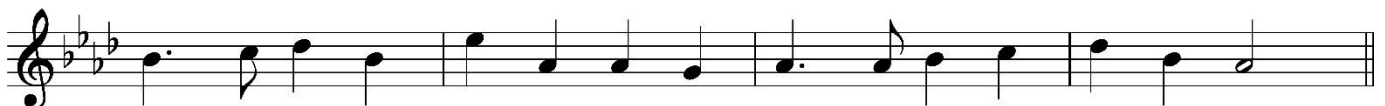
Face coverings **must be worn** when entering and exiting the building, and when singing the hymns. We request members of the congregation to wear face coverings throughout the service. Please follow the instructions from the Churchwardens. Under government guidance for the purposes of keeping Contact Tracing Records it is essential that you complete the following information. These will be retained for 21 days, after which they will be destroyed. Thank you.

PLEASE PLACE THIS SERVICE SHEET IN THE BOX AT THE WEST END OF THE  
CATHEDRAL AS YOU LEAVE

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

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

Please stand for the entrance of the choir and clergy and to sing **HYMN 660:**



**Thine for ever! God of love,  
hear us from thy throne above;  
thine for ever may we be,  
here and in eternity.**

**Thine for ever! Lord of life,  
shield us through our earthly strife;  
thou the Life, the Truth, the Way,  
guide us to the realms of day.**



**Thine for ever! O how blessed  
they who find in thee their rest!  
Saviour, Guardian, heavenly Friend,  
O defend us to the end.**

**Thine for ever! Thou our guide,  
all our wants by thee supplied,  
all our sins by thee forgiven,  
lead us, Lord, from earth to heaven.**

*Words: Mary F. Maude (1819-1913)*

*Tune: NEWINGTON William D. Maclagan (1826-1910)*

*Please remain standing for the **OPENING RESPONSES:***

*Versicle: O Lord, open thou our lips.*

*Response: And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.*

*Versicle: O God, make speed to save us.*

*Response: O Lord, make haste to help us.*

*Versicle: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost.*

*Response: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world  
without end. Amen.*

*Versicle: Praise ye the Lord.*

*Response: The Lord's name be praised.*

*Setting: Plainsong*

*Please remain standing to say **PSALM 119:1-8:***

**Blessed are those that are undefiled in the way:  
and walk in the law of the Lord.**

**Blessed are they that keep his testimonies:  
and seek him with their whole heart.**

**For they who do no wickedness:  
walk in his ways.**

**Thou hast charged:  
that we shall diligently keep thy commandments.**

O that my ways were made so direct:  
that I might keep thy statutes!

**So shall I not be confounded:**

**while I have respect unto all thy commandments.**

I will thank thee with an unfeigned heart:

when I shall have learned the judgements of thy righteousness.

**I will keep thy ceremonies:**

**O forsake me not utterly.**

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 LESSON:** Ecclesiastes 11-12

Send out your bread upon the waters,  
for after many days you will get it back.

Divide your means seven ways, or even eight,  
for you do not know what disaster may happen on earth.

When clouds are full,

they empty rain on the earth;

whether a tree falls to the south or to the north,  
in the place where the tree falls, there it will lie.

Whoever observes the wind will not sow;

and whoever regards the clouds will not reap.

Just as you do not know how the breath comes to the bones in the mother's womb, so you do not know the work of God, who makes everything.

In the morning sow your seed, and at evening do not let your hands be idle;  
for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or whether both alike  
will be good.

Light is sweet, and it is pleasant for the eyes to see the sun.

Even those who live for many years should rejoice in them all; yet let them  
remember that the days of darkness will be many. All that comes is vanity.

Rejoice, young man, while you are young, and let your heart cheer you in the  
days of your youth. Follow the inclination of your heart and the desire of  
your eyes, but know that for all these things God will bring you into  
judgement.

Banish anxiety from your mind, and put away pain from your body; for youth and the dawn of life are vanity.

Remember your creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come, and the years draw near when you will say, 'I have no pleasure in them'; before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars are darkened and the clouds return with the rain; on the day when the guards of the house tremble, and the strong men are bent, and the women who grind cease working because they are few, and those who look through the windows see dimly; when the doors on the street are shut, and the sound of the grinding is low, and one rises up at the sound of a bird, and all the daughters of song are brought low; when one is afraid of heights, and terrors are in the road; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags itself along and desire fails; because all must go to their eternal home, and the mourners will go about the streets; before the silver cord is snapped, and the golden bowl is broken, and the pitcher is broken at the fountain, and the wheel broken at the cistern, and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the breath returns to God who gave it. Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher; all is vanity.

Besides being wise, the Teacher also taught the people knowledge, weighing and studying and arranging many proverbs. The Teacher sought to find pleasing words, and he wrote words of truth plainly.

The sayings of the wise are like goads, and like nails firmly fixed are the collected sayings that are given by one shepherd. Of anything beyond these, my child, beware. Of making many books there is no end, and much study is a weariness of the flesh.

The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God, and keep his commandments; for that is the whole duty of everyone. For God will bring every deed into judgement, including every secret thing, whether good or evil.

*Please remain seated for the **MAGNIFICAT**:*

Magnificat anima mea Dominum;  
Et exultavit spiritus meus in Deo  
salutari meo,  
Quia respexit humilitatem  
ancillae suae;  
ecce enim ex hoc beatam me  
dicent omnes generationes.  
Quia fecit mihi magna  
qui potens est,  
et sanctum nomen ejus,

*My soul doth magnify the Lord,  
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my  
Saviour.  
Because He hath regarded the humility  
of his handmaid:  
for behold from henceforth all  
generations shall call me blessed.  
Because He that is mighty hath done  
great things to me,  
and holy is His name.*

Et misericordia ejus a progenie  
in progenies timentibus eum.  
Fecit potentiam in bracchio suo;  
Dispersit superbos  
mente cordis sui.  
Deposuit potentes de sede,  
et exaltavit humiles.  
Esurientes implevit bonis,  
et divites dimisit  
inanes.  
Suscepit Israel, puerum suum,  
recordatus misericordiae suae,  
Sicut locutus est ad patres  
nostros, Abraham  
et semini ejus in saecula.

*And His mercy is from generation unto  
generations to them that fear Him.  
He hath shewed might in His arm:  
He hath scattered the proud in the  
conceit of their heart.  
He hath put down the mighty from their  
seat, and hath exalted the humble.  
He hath filled the hungry with good  
things, and the rich He hath sent  
empty away.  
He hath received Israel His servant,  
being mindful of His mercy.  
As He spoke to our fathers;  
to Abraham  
and his seed forever.*

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

Gloria Patri, et Filio,  
et Spiritui Sancto,  
sicut erat in principio, et nunc,  
et semper:  
et in Saecula saeculorum. Amen.

*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.*

*Setting: Magnificat quarti toni (organ alternatim), Girolamo Cavazzoni (c1525-c77)*

*Please sit for the **SECOND LESSON: 2 Timothy 2:1-7***

You then, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; and what you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well. Share in suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one serving in the army gets entangled in everyday affairs; the soldier's aim is to please the enlisting officer. And in the case of an athlete, no one is crowned without competing according to the rules. It is the farmer who does the work who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in all things.

*Please remain seated for the **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.

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.

*Setting: Tone IV*

Standing, we face east to recite 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.**

*Versicle:* The Lord be with you.

*Response:* And with thy spirit.

*Versicle:* Let us pray.

*Please kneel or sit*

*Versicle:* Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Response:* Christ, have mercy upon us.

*Versicle:* Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Cantor:*

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.

*Versicle:* O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

*Response:* And grant us thy salvation.

*Versicle:* O Lord, save the Queen.

*Response:* And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

*Versicle:* Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

*Response:* And make thy chosen people joyful.

*Versicle:* O Lord, save thy people.

*Response:* And bless thine inheritance.

*Versicle:* Give peace in our time, O Lord.

*Response:* Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

*Versicle:* O God, make clean our hearts within us.

*Response:* And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

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

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them, that by patience, and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

*Sung Response:* 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.

*Sung Response:* 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.

*Sung Response:* Amen.

*Please kneel or sit for the **PRAYERS**, which conclude with **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.

*All respond: **Amen.***

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

All respond: **Amen.**

Please stand to sing **HYMN 566:**



**Fight the good fight with all thy might!  
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right;  
lay hold on life, and it shall be \_  
thy joy and crown eternally.**

**Run the straight race through God's good grace,  
lift up thine eyes, and seek his face;  
life with its path before us lies;  
Christ is the way, and Christ the prize.**

**Cast care aside, lean on thy guide;  
his boundless mercy will provide;  
trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove  
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.**

**Faint not nor fear, his arms are near;  
he changeth not, and thou art dear;  
only believe, and thou shalt see  
that Christ is all in all to thee.**

*Words: John S.B. Monsell (1811-75) based on 1 Timothy 6:11-12*

*Tune: DUKE STREET melody from H. Boyd's Psalm and Hymn Tunes (Glasgow, 1793) later attrib. John L. Hatton (d. 1793)*

Please remain standing for **THE BLESSING:**

The peace of God which passeth 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 amongst you and remain with you always.

Response: **Amen.**

Please remain standing as the choir and clergy depart and exit as directed by the Cathedral Wardens. There is a Retiring Collection at this service.