SOLEMN CHORAL EVENSONG FOR THE FEAST OF PENTECOST



June 5, 2022 6:30 p.m. All stand as the Minister enters.

A sentence of Scripture appropriate to the day is read.

The Minister then says:

DEARLY beloved brethren, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying after me:

A general Confession to be said of the whole Congregation, all kneeling.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father,

We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, We have offended against thy holy laws,

We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, And we have done those things which we ought not to have done, And there is no health in us:

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders; Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults, Restore thou them that are penitent,

According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord:

And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen. The Absolution or Remission of sins to be pronounced by the Priest alone, standing: the people still kneeling.

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness, and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins:

He pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel.

Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him, which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure, and holy;

so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then the Minister shall kneel, and say the Lord's Prayer: the people also kneeling, and repeating it with him.

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.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.

Priest: O Lord, open thou our lips.

Answer: And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Priest: O God, make speed to save us.Answer: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Here, all standing up, the Priest shall say,

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.

Preces and Responses: Michael Gibson (b. 1939)

Then shall be sung the Psalm as be appointed, by the choir. The people sit.

PSALM 33 Exultate Justi

- I Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous: for it becometh well the just to be thankful.
- 2 Praise the Lord with harp: sing praises unto him with the lute, and instrument of ten strings.
- 3 Sing unto the Lord a new song: sing praises lustily unto him with a good courage.
- 4 For the word of the Lord is true: and all his works are faithful.
- 5 He loveth righteousness and judgement: the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.
- 6 By the word of the Lord were the heavens made: and all the hosts of them by the breath of his mouth.
- 7 He gathereth the waters of the sea together, as it were upon an heap: and layeth up the deep, as in a treasure-house.
- 8 Let all the earth fear the Lord: stand in awe of him, all ye that dwell in the world.
- 9 For he spake, and it was done: he commanded, and it stood fast.
- 10 The Lord bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: and maketh the devices of the people to be of none effect, and casteth out the counsels of princes.
- II The counsel of the Lord shall endure for ever: and the thoughts of his heart from generation to generation.
- 12 Blessed are the people, whose God is the Lord Jehovah: and blessed are the folk, that he hath chosen to him to be his inheritance.

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.

Chant: Ross Brooks

Then a Lesson of the Old Testament, as is appointed.

Here begins the IIth chapter of the prophecy of Isaiah:

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

Isaiah 11: 1-9

Here ends the first lesson.

The people stand for the Office Hymn:

Veni Creator Spiritus

- Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire, And lighten with celestial fire; Thou the anointing Spirit art, Who doest thy sev'nfold gifts impart:
- 2. Thy blessèd unction from above Is comfort, life, and fire of love; Enable with perpetual light The dullness of our blinded sight.
- 3. Anoint and cheer our soilèd face With the abundance of thy grace: Keep far our foes, give peace at home; Where thou art guide no ill can come.
- 4. Teach us to know the Father, Son, And thee of both to be but One, That through the ages all along This may be our endless song:

Praise to thy eternal merit, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Words: John Cosin (1594–1672) based on Veni Creator Spiritus Music: Veni Creator (Mechlin), Mode vii

And after that Magnificat (or the Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary) is sung by the choir in English, as followeth, all still standing.

[This Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary is her response when she learns that she is to become the 'Godbearer' (the 'Theotokos'), the one in and through whom the Son of God first comes to earth. As we repeat her joyful words, we cense the altar, recognising that the Risen Son of God continues to come to and meet with us in the most holy sacrament of the altar at each eucharist. We then cense the clergy and people — as we, now, by the power of the Spirit, become 'Godbearers to the world.]

MAGNIFICAT

MY soul doth magnify the Lord:

and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded:

the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

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.

Setting: Peter Klatzow (1945–2021)

Then a Lesson of the New Testament, as it is appointed.

Here begins the 18th verse of the 8th chapter of the letter of Paul to the Church in Rome:

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but

we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long;

we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8: 18-39

Here ends the second lesson.

And after that Nunc dimittis (or the Song of Simeon), as followeth, all standing.

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:

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: Peter Klatzow (1945–2021)

Then shall be said or sung the Apostles' Creed, by the Minister and the people standing, and facing east.

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
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 Ghost;
The holy Catholick Church;
The Communion of Saints;
The Forgiveness of sins;
The Resurrection of the body,
And the Life everlasting. Amen.

And after that these Prayers following, all devoutly kneeling: the Minister first pronouncing with a loud voice,

Minister: The Lord be with you.

Answer: And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

All kneel

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Then the Minister, Clerks, and people shall say the Lord's Prayer with a loud voice:

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.

Then the Priest standing up shall say:

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

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

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Then shall follow three Collects: The first of the day: The second for Peace: The third for Aid against all Perils, as hereafter followeth: which two last Collects shall be daily said at Evening Prayer without alteration.

The Collect for the Feast of Pentecost

GOD, who as at this time didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by the sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit:
Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The Second Collect at Evening Prayer

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. **Amen.**

The Third 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. **Amen.**

In Quires and places where they sing here followeth the Anthem

A sound came from heaven,
A sound like a strong wind, a strong wind blowing.
From heaven, too, tongues of fire.
They were fill'd with the Holy Spirit.
Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Thy faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Thy love.

Words: from Acts 2 Music: Douglas Mews (1918–93)

Minister: Let us pray.

All kneel

A Prayer for the Queen's Majesty.

O LORD, our heavenly Father, high and mighty, King of kings, Lord of lords, the only Ruler of princes, who dost from thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth: Most heartily we beseech thee with thy favour to behold our most gracious Sovereign Lady, Queen *ELIZABETH*; and so replenish her with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, that she may alway incline to thy will, and walk in thy way. Endue her plenteously with heavenly gifts; grant her in health and wealth long to live; strengthen her that she may vanquish and overcome all her enemies; and finally after this life she may attain everlasting joy and felicity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for the Royal Family.

ALMIGHTY God, the fountain of all goodness, we humbly beseech thee to bless *Charles* Prince of *Wales*, and all the Royal Family: Endue them with thy Holy Spirit; enrich them with thy heavenly grace; prosper them with all happiness; and bring them to thine everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for the Clergy and People.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who alone workest great marvels: Send down upon our Bishops, [specially Philip, Bishop of this Diocese] and Curates, and all Congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

A Prayer of Saint [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 of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

All stand

Hymn

- I. Holy Spirit, come, confirm us
 In the truth that Christ makes known;
 We have faith and understanding
 Through your promised light alone.
- Holy Spirit, come, console us, Come as Advocate to plead, Loving Spirit from the Father, Grant in Christ the help we need.
- 3. Holy Spirit, come, renew us,

 Come yourself to make us live,

 Holy through your loving presence,

 Holy through the gifts you give.
- 4. Holy Spirit, come, possess us, You the love of Three in One, Holy Spirit of the Father, Holy Spirit of the Son.

Words: Brian Foley (1919–??)
Music: All for Jesus, John Stainer (1840–1901)

The Sermon

After the Sermon, all stand to sing the following hymn, during which the priest receives the offerings of the people and blesses them.

Offertory Hymn

- I. Love of the Father, love of God the Son, From whom all came, in whom was all begun; Who formest heavenly beauty out of strife, Creation's whole desire and breath of life.
- 2. Spirit all-holy, thou supreme in might,
 Thou dost give peace, thy presence maketh right;
 Thou with thy favour all things dost enfold,
 With thine all-kindness free from harm wilt hold.
- 3. Hope of all comfort, splendour of all aid, That dost not fail nor leave the heart afraid: To all that cry thou dost all help accord, The angels' armour, and the saints' reward.
- 4. Purest and highest, wisest and most just,
 There is no truth save only in thy trust;
 Thou dost the mind from earthly dreams recall,
 And bring through Christ to him for whom are all.

Words: Robert Bridges (1844-1930) based on a 12th century Latin hymn Music: Song 22, Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625)

Following the hymn, the priest moves to the Easter Candle

Blessed are you, sovereign God, overflowing in love. With Pentecost dawns the age of the Spirit.

Now the flame of heaven rests on every believer.

Strong and weak, women and men tell out your word; the young receive visions, the old receive dreams.

With the new wine of the Spirit they proclaim your reign of love.

Amid the birth pangs of the new creation the way of light is made known.

Source of freedom, giver of life, blessed are you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

My sisters and brothers,

for fifty days we have celebrated the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over the powers of sin and death.

We have proclaimed God's mighty acts and we have prayed that the power that was at work when God raised Jesus from the dead might be at work in us. As part of God's Church here in *Malvern*, I call upon you to live out what you proclaim.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, will you dare to walk into God's future, trusting the Spirit to be your guide?

All By the Spirit's power, we will.

Will you dare to embrace each other and grow together in love? All We will.

Will you dare to pray for each other until your hearts beat with the longings of God?

All We will.

Will you dare to carry the light of Christ into the world's dark places?

All We will.

The Paschal Candle is then ceremonially extinguished. Given that, by the power of the Spirit we now carry the Light of the Risen Christ to the world within us, the Paschal Candle will only be relit for baptisms and funerals.

The Priest says

The Lord is here.

All His Spirit is with us.

Today we have remembered the coming of God's power on the disciples and we invite that same Spirit to drive us out into the wild places of the world.

The people are then blessed:

May the Spirit,

who hovered over the waters when the world was created, breathe into you the life he gives.

All Amen.

May the Spirit,

who overshadowed the Virgin when the eternal Son came among us, make you joyful in the service of the Lord.

All Amen.

May the Spirit,

who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost, bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.

All Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Please remain standing as the choir and ministers depart.

Postlude: Tongues of Fire: Alfred V Fedak (b. 1953)

Please join us for refreshments in the Parish Hall at the conclusion of the service.