

The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

Saint Luke the Evangelist



Solemn Choral Evensong and Benediction

Sunday 18th October 2020

5.30 pm

¶ Keeping everyone safe at St Matthew's

If you have any of the recognised Covid-related symptoms, please self-isolate immediately and seek a test.

*For all others, and in accordance with Government guidance and local decision,
we respectfully request and require you to:*

Go directly to a chair where there is an order of service booklet, and remain there. Please fill up the available chairs in the centre of the nave and transepts first. Do not move from chair to chair, or remove a booklet from another chair. (NB - some chairs in the side aisles have a restricted view).

Please do not move the chairs, or handle any other furniture. Soft furnishings such as church kneelers (hassocks) cannot be used.

You are required to **wear a face covering throughout** unless you belong to one of the medically exempted groups. This must cover both your mouth and your nose. (Plastic visors do not protect others).

At communion - you are asked to ensure that your face covering is in place until the words of administration have been spoken by the priest and you have responded by saying 'Amen'.

After the service - you may wish to light a candle. Please departed via the north door. A monetary offering for your booklet, candle, and towards parish funds may be made there. Please sanitise your hands as you leave.

* * * * *

Order of Service

*At the sound of the bell, **please stand.** The procession enters*

The Officiant welcomes the congregation

¶ Introduction

Officiant † In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Ghost.

All **Amen.**

The righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance;
the memory of the just is blessed.

Invitation to Confession

Beloved, we are come together in the presence of almighty God and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make confession of our sins; to pray, as well for others as for ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all men such things as their well-being doth require.

Wherefore let us sit in silence, and remember God's presence with us now.

Please be seated

Confession

All **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.

Absolution

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.

All **Amen.**

**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.**

¶ Evening Prayer

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

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

Please stand

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.

Philip Radcliffe (1905-1986)

Choir Praise the Lord, O my soul :
and all that is within me praise his holy Name.
Praise the Lord, O my soul :
and forget not all his benefits;
Who forgiveth all thy sin :
and healeth all thine infirmities;
Who saveth thy life from destruction :
and crowneth thee with mercy and loving-kindness;
Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things :
making thee young and lusty as an eagle.
The Lord executeth righteousness and judgement :
for all them that are oppressed with wrong.
He shewed his ways unto Moses :
his works unto the children of Israel.
The Lord is full of compassion and mercy :
long-suffering, and of great goodness.
He will not always be chiding: neither keepeth he his anger for ever.
He hath not dealt with us after our sins :
nor rewarded us according to our wickednesses.
For look how high the heaven is in comparison of the earth :
so great is his mercy also toward them that fear him.
Look how wide also the east is from the west :
so far hath he set our sins from us.
Yea, like as a father pitieth his own children :
even so is the Lord merciful unto them that fear him.
For he knoweth whereof we are made :
he remembereth that we are but dust.
The days of man are but as grass :
for he flourisheth as a flower of the field.
For as soon as the wind goeth over it, it is gone :
and the place thereof shall know it no more.
But the merciful goodness of the Lord endureth for ever and ever
upon them that fear him :
and his righteousness upon children's children;
Even upon such as keep his covenant :
and think upon his commandments to do them.
The Lord hath prepared his seat in heaven :
and his kingdom ruleth over all.
O praise the Lord, ye angels of his, ye that excel in strength :

ye that fulfil his commandment, and hearken unto the voice of his words.
O praise the Lord, all ye his hosts :
ye servants of his that do his pleasure.
O speak good of the Lord, all ye works of his,
in all places of his dominion :
praise thou the Lord, O my soul.

Please stand

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.

All sit

Old Testament Reading

Ecclesiasticus 38:1-14

Reader A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus.

Honour physicians for their services,
for the Lord created them;
for their gift of healing comes from the Most High,
and they are rewarded by the king.
The skill of physicians makes them distinguished,
and in the presence of the great they are admired.
The Lord created medicines out of the earth,
and the sensible will not despise them.
Was not water made sweet with a tree
in order that its power might be known?
And he gave skill to human beings
that he might be glorified in his marvellous works.
By them the physician heals and takes away pain;
the pharmacist makes a mixture from them.
God's works will never be finished;
and from him health spreads over all the earth.
My child, when you are ill, do not delay,
but pray to the Lord, and he will heal you.
Give up your faults and direct your hands rightly,
and cleanse your heart from all sin.
Offer a sweet-smelling sacrifice, and a memorial portion of choice flour,
and pour oil on your offering, as much as you can afford.

Then give the physician his place, for the Lord created him;
do not let him leave you, for you need him.
There may come a time when recovery lies in the hands of physicians,
for they too pray to the Lord
that he will grant them success in diagnosis
and in healing, for the sake of preserving life.

Here ends the First Reading.

Magnificat (*The Song of Mary*)

All stand

Choir † 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.

Luke 1:46-55

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.

Canticles in A
Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995)

All sit

New Testament Reading

Colossians 4:7-end

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians.

Tychicus will tell you all the news about me; he is a beloved brother, a faithful minister, and a fellow-servant in the Lord. I have sent him to you for this very purpose, so that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts; he is coming with Onesimus, the faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you about everything here.

Aristarchus my fellow-prisoner greets you, as does Mark the cousin of Barnabas, concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, welcome him. And Jesus who is called Justus greets you. These are the only ones of the circumcision among my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. ¹Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you. He is always wrestling in his prayers on your behalf, so that you may stand mature and fully assured in everything that God wills. For I testify for him that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis. Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas greet you. Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters in Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. And when this letter has been read among you, have it read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you read also the letter from Laodicea. And say to Archippus, ‘See that you complete the task that you have received in the Lord.’

I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.

Here ends the Second Reading.

All stand

Nunc Dimittis *(The Song of Simeon)*

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.

Luke 2:29-32

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.

All face the high altar

The Apostles' Creed

All 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 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 catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

The Lesser Litany

Officiant The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

The congregation sit

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Officant

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, O God.*

○ God, make clean our hearts within us.
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant Almighty God,
who calledst Luke the physician,
whose praise is in the gospel,
to be an Evangelist, and physician of the soul;
may it please thee, that,
by the wholesome medicines of the doctrine delivered by him,
all the diseases of our soul may be healed,
through the merits of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The 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.

All **Amen.**

The 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.

All **Amen.**

Anthem

O for a closer walk *C V Stanford (1852-1924)*

¶ Exposition and Benediction

The Priest opens the aumbrey door, and the bell is rung

The Priest transfers the Host to the monstrance, and carries the monstrance to the High Altar.

The monstrance is placed on the altar.

Exposition

The Celebrant honours the Blessed Sacrament with incense whilst the following hymn is sung

○ Salutaris hostia

All **○ saving Victim, opening wide
the gate of heaven to man below;
our foes press hard on every side,
thine aid supply, thy strength bestow.**

**All praise and thanks to thee ascend
for evermore, blest One in Three;
○ grant us life that shall not end,
in our true native land with thee. Amen.**

St Thomas Aquinas (1227-1274)
Tr J M Neale (1818-1866)

Prayer and Adoration

There follow devotions, a litany, and other intercessions.

Silence is maintained throughout.

The devotions may end with The Lord's Prayer, or one of the following:

All 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.

Tantum ergo

At the beginning all bow profoundly whilst still kneeling. The Celebrant once more honours the Blessed Sacrament with incense.

All **Therefore we, before him bending,**
 this great Sacrament revere:
types and shadows have their ending,
for the newer rite is here;
faith, our outward sense befriending,
makes, the inward vision clear.

Glory let us give and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
honour, might and praise addressing,
while eternal ages run;
ever too his love confessing,
who, from both, with both is one. Amen.

St Thomas Aquinas (1227-1274)
Tr: J M Neale (1818-1866)

Celebrant Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ,
we thank you that in a wonderful sacrament
you have given us the memorial of your passion.
Grant us so to reverence
the sacred mysteries of your body and blood
that we may know within ourselves
and show forth in our lives the fruits of your redemption;
who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

*The Celebrant, holding the monstrance with the humeral veil,
slowly traces the sign of the Cross in blessing over the people.*

*Bells are rung, and all bow in reverence.
On feastdays a fanfare may be sounded.*

Reposition

During which the Monstrance is returned to the Lady Chapel

*The Host is transferred to the aumbrey, and bells are rung signifying the end of the
liturgy*

The sanctuary party and choir reverence the altar

Organ Voluntary

Elegy

George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)

The Procession departs

Please take this booklet home with you

You are welcome to light a votive candle,
we suggest a donation of 20p.

Please leave church via the north door.
A monetary offering may be made there

You are most welcome to join us on the green
at the east end of the church
in physically distanced groups of up to six.



A suggested donation towards the production of this booklet