Solemn Evensong
for the Feast of the Translation of
St Thomas of Canterbury

Friends’ Day
7th July 2023
5.30pm
Quire
Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Service

The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral was founded in 1927. We are admirers of the building, its history, and its community. We are part of the Cathedral and have been working together for 96 years to cherish it forever.

Over the years, The Friends have given more than £18 million* towards various projects to enhance and preserve our Cathedral. One such gift is the Becket Copes worn in today’s Service.

Membership of The Friends starts at just £30 and includes many benefits. If you are not already a Friend, please ask a Steward for one of our leaflets and find out more about our active community – the Cathedral’s fan club!

https://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/get-involved/become-a-friend/

*expressed in 2022 value

Livestreaming

This service will be livestreamed and you may be seen on camera, although we will not deliberately take any close-ups of the congregation.

By attending you agree to be seen in this way.

If you have any concerns please speak to a member of the clergy.

As part of our commitment to the care of the environment in our world, this Order of Service is printed on unbleached 100% recycled paper

Please ensure that mobile phones are switched off. No form of visual or sound recording, or any form of photography, is permitted during Services. Thank you for your co-operation.

An induction loop system for the hard of hearing is installed in the Cathedral. Hearing aid users should adjust their aid to T.

Large print orders of service are available from the stewards and virgers. Please ask.

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ORDER OF SERVICE

All stand as the choir and clergy enter

Introit

Justorum animae in manu Dei sunt, et non tanget illos tormentum mortis. Visi sunt oculis insipientium mori, illi autem sunt in pace.  
The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and the torment of death shall not touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die; but they are in peace.

Words: Offertory for All Saints Day: Wisdom 3:1-2a,3b.  
Music: Matthew Martin (b. 1976)

Welcome

The Cantor and choir sing the Preces

O Lord, open thou our lips.  
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

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

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.

Music: Philip Moore (b. 1943)

Sit as the choir sings

Psalm 37. 1-22

Fret not thyself because of the ungodly: neither be thou envious against the evil-doers.

For they shall soon be cut down like the grass: and be withered even as the green herb.

Put thou thy trust in the Lord, and be doing good: dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Delight thou in the Lord: and he shall give thee thy heart’s desire.

Commit thy way unto the Lord, and put thy trust in him: and he shall bring it to pass.

He shall make thy righteousness as clear as the light: and thy just dealing as the noon-day.
Hold thee still in the Lord, and abide patiently upon him: but grieve not thyself at him whose way doth prosper, against the man that doeth after evil counsels.

Leave off from wrath, and let go displeasure: fret not thyself, else shalt thou be moved to do evil.

Wicked doers shall be rooted out: and they that patiently abide the Lord, those shall inherit the land.

Yet a little while, and the ungodly shall be clean gone: thou shalt look after his place, and he shall be away.

But the meek-spirited shall possess the earth: and shall be refreshed in the multitude of peace.

The ungodly seeketh counsel against the just: and gnasheth upon him with his teeth.

The Lord shall laugh him to scorn: for he hath seen that his day is coming.

The ungodly have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow: to cast down the poor and needy, and to slay such as are of a right conversation.

Their sword shall go through their own heart: and their bow shall be broken.

A small thing that the righteous hath: is better than great riches of the ungodly.

For the arms of the ungodly shall be broken: and the Lord upholdeth the righteous.

The Lord knoweth the days of the godly: and their inheritance shall endure for ever.

They shall not be confounded in the perilous time: and in the days of dearth they shall have enough.

As for the ungodly, they shall perish; and the enemies of the Lord shall consume as the fat of lambs: yea, even as the smoke shall they consume away.

The ungodly borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous is merciful and liberal.

Such as are blessed of God shall possess the land: and they that are cursed of him shall be rooted out.

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.

Sit
Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Stand to sing

When life in all its fullness brings
A joy which never ends
We know its source in him who says
That he has called us friends.

In farewell words of precious worth
His new commandment mends
Our fractured natures with the love
Of one who calls us friends.

By this shall all the world perceive
The power which now descends
From Christ who sends his Spirit down
To those he calls his friends.

In strong self-giving love we know
The priceless gift he sends
To those who follow on the way
Of him who calls them friends.
On firm commitment, faith and hope
The church’s life depends,
Bound with the ties of mutual love
In those he calls his friends.

To make God’s kingdom known on earth
That task to us extends
Who sing the song of those who know
That Jesus calls us friends.

Words and music: Robert Willis (b 1947)  
Tune: SEATON MEADOWS

Remain standing as the choir sings

Magnificat

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.

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.

Music: Philip Moore (b. 1943) Second Service

Sit
New Testament Reading  

James 5. 1-11

Come now, you rich people, weep and wail for the miseries that are coming to you. Your riches have rotted, and your clothes are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evidence against you, and it will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure for the last days. Listen! The wages of the labourers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on the earth in luxury and in pleasure; you have fattened your hearts on a day of slaughter. You have condemned and murdered the righteous one, who does not resist you.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Indeed we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

Stand as the choir sings

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.

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.

Music: Philip Moore (b. 1943) Second Service
We say together 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 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.

The Cantor and choir sing the Versicles and Responses

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Sit or kneel

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

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. Amen.
O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.  
*And grant us thy salvation.*

O Lord, save the King.  
*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.*

Music: Philip Moore (b. 1943)

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The Collects

O God, by whose favour we celebrate the Consecration of the Shrine of Thomas, thy martyr bishop; regard, we beseech thee, his merits and prayers, and bring us from ill to good, and from our prison-house to thy kingdom; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who livest and reignest with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

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.*

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.*
We stand to sing

**Processional Hymn**

during which the congregation is invited to follow the clergy and choir to the site of the shrine, directed by the stewards

For all the saints who from their labours rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesu, be forever blest. *Alleluia.*

2Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness, still their one true light. *Alleluia.*

3O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win, with them, the victor's crown of gold. *Alleluia.*

4O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. *Alleluia.*

5And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph-song,
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. *Alleluia.*

6The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest:
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. *Alleluia.*

7But lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day;
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of glory passes on his way. *Alleluia.*

8From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost. *Alleluia.*

*Words:* W Walsham How (1823-97)  *Tune:* SINE NOMINE  *AM 296*
Censing of the site of the Shrine

during which the choir sings

Anthem

Opem nobis, O Thoma, porrige. Rege stantes, jacentes erige, mores, actus et vitam corrige, et in pacis nos viam dirige.

Grant us help, O Thomas. Rule those who stand, raise up those who are brought low, correct our morals, deeds and lives, and guide us into the way of peace.

Music: Giovanni da Palestrina (c.1525-8–1594)

Prayers at the site of the Shrine

Almighty God, who didst suffer thy martyr Thomas to be cruelly slain by the swords of men, and yet madest him in his death to become a sword of witness to the might of things unseen: Grant to us that we may be ever mindful of his example, and shew forth our thankfulness in loyalty to thy Church, and in strong confidence and faith in thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

O Lord, who didst give to thy servant Saint Thomas grace to lay aside all earthly fear, and to be faithful even unto death; Grant that we, disregarding worldly esteem, may fight all wrong, uphold thy rule, and serve thee to our lives’ end; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

O God, who hast made us heirs of all victories of faith, and joint-heirs with Christ of thy glory, if so be that we suffer with him; Arm us with such trust in the truth that is invincible, that we may ask no rest from its demands and have no fear in its service; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.
The Friends’ Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ,
in whose name our Cathedral Church is dedicated,
grant that its life and worship
may ever abound to your greater glory;
and that as Friends we may do our part,
by prayer and offering,
to strengthen its witness to all the world;
who with the Father and the Holy Spirit
live and reign, ever one God, world without end.
Amen.

We say together

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.

Blessing

May Almighty God bless you with his grace
and grant you the joys of eternal life;
and unto the fellowship of the citizens in heaven
may the King of Angels bring us all.
Amen.

Organ Voluntary

The choir and clergy depart

Please follow the directions of the stewards – There will be a retiring collection for The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral

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