Evensong

with Dedication and Blessing of a Heritage Edition of The Saint John’s Bible

Saturday 11th November 2023

5.30pm

Quire
Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Service

Cover Image: The west elevation of Canterbury Cathedral

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.

Some material included in this service is copyright:
© The Archbishops' Council 2000
© The Crown/Cambridge University Press:
The Book of Common Prayer (1662)

Hymns and songs reproduced under CCLI number: 1031280

Produced by the Music & Liturgy Department:
precentor@canterbury-cathedral.org
01227 865281
www.canterbury-cathedral.org
ORDER OF SERVICE

Stand as the procession enters the Quire

The Dean welcomes the congregation

The Minor Canon 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: William Smith (1603-45)

Sit as the choir sings

Psalms 59-61

Psalms

Psalm 59

Deliver me from mine enemies, O God:
defend me from them that rise up against me.

O deliver me from the wicked doers:
and save me from the blood-thirsty men.

For lo, they lie waiting for my soul:
the mighty men are gathered against me,
without any offence or fault of me, O Lord.

They run and prepare themselves without my fault:
ariseth thou therefore to help me, and behold.

Stand up, O Lord God of hosts, thou God of Israel, to visit all the heathen:
and be not merciful unto them that offend of malicious wickedness.

They go to and fro in the evening:
they grin like a dog, and run about through the city.

Behold, they speak with their mouth, and swords are in their lips:
for who doth hear?

But thou, O Lord, shalt have them in derision:
and thou shalt laugh all the heathen to scorn.

My strength will I ascribe unto thee:
for thou art the God of my refuge.

God sheweth me his goodness plenteously:
and God shall let me see my desire upon mine enemies.
Slay them not, lest my people forget it:
but scatter them abroad among the people,
and put them down, O Lord, our defence.

For the sin of their mouth, and for the words of their lips,
they shall be taken in their pride:
and why? their preaching is of cursing and lies.

Consume them in thy wrath, consume them, that they may perish:
and know that it is God that ruleth in Jacob, and unto the ends of the world.

And in the evening they will return:
grin like a dog, and will go about the city.

They will run here and there for meat:
and grudge if they be not satisfied.

As for me, I will sing of thy power,
and will praise thy mercy betimes in the morning:
for thou hast been my defence and refuge in the day of my trouble.

Unto thee, O my strength, will I sing:
for thou, O God, art my refuge, and my merciful God.

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.

Psalm 60

O God, thou hast cast us out, and scattered us abroad:
thou hast also been displeased; O turn thee unto us again.

Thou hast moved the land, and divided it:
heal the sores thereof, for it shaketh.

Thou hast shewed thy people heavy things:
thou hast given us a drink of deadly wine.

Thou hast given a token for such as fear thee:
that they may triumph because of the truth.

Therefore were thy beloved delivered:
help me with thy right hand, and hear me.

God hath spoken in his holiness, I will rejoice, and divide Sichem:
and mete out the valley of Succoth.

Gilead is mine, and Manasses is mine:
Ephraim also is the strength of my head; Judah is my law-giver;

Moab is my wash-pot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe:
Philistia, be thou glad of me.

Who will lead me into the strong city:
who will bring me into Edom?

Hast not thou cast us out, O God:
wilt not thou, O God, go out with our hosts?
O be thou our help in trouble:
for vain is the help of man.

Through God will we do great acts:
for it is he that shall tread down our enemies.

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.

Psalm 61
Hear my crying, O God:
give ear unto my prayer.

From the ends of the earth will I call upon thee:
when my heart is in heaviness.

O set me up upon the rock that is higher than I:
for thou hast been my hope, and a strong tower for me against the enemy.

I will dwell in thy tabernacle for ever:
and my trust shall be under the covering of thy wings.

For thou, O Lord, hast heard my desires:
and hast given an heritage unto those that fear thy Name.

Thou shalt grant the King a long life:
that his years may endure throughout all generations.

He shall dwell before God for ever:
O prepare thy loving mercy and faithfulness, that they may preserve him.

So will I always sing praise unto thy Name:
that I may daily perform my vows.

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

First Lesson  Daniel 4.1-18
Read by Abbot John Klassen, OSB

King Nebuchadnezzar to all peoples, nations, and languages that live throughout
the earth: May you have abundant prosperity! The signs and wonders that the
Most High God has worked for me I am pleased to recount. How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting
kingdom, and his sovereignty is from generation to generation.
I, Nebuchadnezzar, was living at ease in my home and prospering in my palace. I
saw a dream that frightened me; my fantasies in bed and the visions of my head
terrified me. So I made a decree that all the wise men of Babylon should be
brought before me, in order that they might tell me the interpretation of the
dream. Then the magicians, the enchanters, the Chaldeans, and the diviners
came in, and I told them the dream, but they could not tell me its interpretation. At last Daniel came in before me—he who was named Belteshazzar after the name of my god, and who is endowed with a spirit of the holy gods—and I told him the dream: 'O Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, I know that you are endowed with a spirit of the holy gods and that no mystery is too difficult for you. Hear the dream that I saw; tell me its interpretation. Upon my bed this is what I saw; there was a tree at the centre of the earth, and its height was great. The tree grew great and strong, its top reached to heaven, and it was visible to the ends of the whole earth. Its foliage was beautiful, its fruit abundant, and it provided food for all. The animals of the field found shade under it, the birds of the air nested in its branches, and from it all living beings were fed. 'I continued looking, in the visions of my head as I lay in bed, and there was a holy watcher, coming down from heaven. He cried aloud and said: “Cut down the tree and chop off its branches, strip off its foliage and scatter its fruit. Let the animals flee from beneath it and the birds from its branches. But leave its stump and roots in the ground, with a band of iron and bronze, in the tender grass of the field. Let him be bathed with the dew of heaven, and let his lot be with the animals of the field in the grass of the earth. Let his mind be changed from that of a human, and let the mind of an animal be given to him. And let seven times pass over him. The sentence is rendered by decree of the watchers, the decision is given by order of the holy ones, in order that all who live may know that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdom of mortals; he gives it to whom he will and sets over it the lowliest of human beings.”

'This is the dream that I, King Nebuchadnezzar, saw. Now you, Belteshazzar, declare the interpretation, since all the wise men of my kingdom are unable to tell me the interpretation. You are able, however, for you are endowed with a spirit of the holy gods.’

Remain seated

The Dedication and Blessing of the Bible

The Dean moves to stand before High Altar, while Elaine and Bruce Culver are led by a Virger to stand before him.

Elaine and Bruce Culver say

We present to you this Bible to be set apart for the service of Christ’s holy Church.

All things come from you, O Lord;
And from your own gifts do we give to you.
Prosper the work of our hands;
Prosper our handiwork.
Show your servants your works;
And your splendour to their children
Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you that you have put it into the hearts of your people to make offerings for your service, and have been pleased to accept their gifts. Be with us now and + bless us as we set apart this Bible to your praise and glory and through the generosity of the Catharine Elizabeth Laney Trust: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We bless your Name, O Lord, because it has pleased you to enable your servants Elaine and Bruce Culver to offer this gift for your worship. Remember them for good, and grant that all who benefit from this gift may show their thankfulness to you by using it in accordance with your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

Jesus opened their minds:

To understand the Scriptures.

O heavenly Father, whose blessed Son taught the disciples in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself: + Accept this Bible which we dedicate here today, and grant that we may so diligently search your holy Word that we may find in it the wisdom that leads to salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All stand 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 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: Lennox Berkley (1903-89) Chichester Service
The Second Lesson  Revelation 4

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, ‘Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.’ At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal.

Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, ‘Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.’ And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing, ‘You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.’

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: Lennox Berkley (1903-89) Chichester Service
Turn East and say together the

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty,
make 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 Minor Canon and choir sing the Versicles and Responses

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Sit or kneel

Let us pray.

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: William Smith (1603-45)

The Collects

O God, our refuge and strength, who art the author of all godliness: Be ready, we beseech thee, to hear the devout prayers of thy Church; and grant that those things which we ask faithfully we may obtain effectually; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Sit as the choir sings

Anthem For, lo, I raise up

For, lo, I raise up that bitter and hasty nation, which march through the breadth of the earth, to possess the dwelling places that are not theirs. They are terrible and dreadful, their judgment and their dignity proceed from themselves. Their horses also are swifter than leopards, and are more fierce than the evening wolves. And their horsemen spread themselves, yea, their horsemen come from far. They fly as an eagle that hasteth to devour, they come all of them for violence; their faces are set as the east-wind, and they gather captives as the sand. Yea, he scoffeth at kings, and princes are a derision unto him. For he heapeth up dust and taketh it. Then shall he sweep by as a wind that shall pass over, and be guilty, even he, whose might is his God. Art not thou from everlastimg, O Lord, my God, mine Holy One?

We shall not die. O Lord, thou hast ordained him for judgement, and thou, O Rock, hast established him for correction. I will stand upon my watch and set me upon the tower, and look forth to see what he will say to me, and what I shall answer concerning my complaint. And the Lord answered me and said: The vision is yet for the appointed time, and it hasteth toward the end, and shall not lie: though it tarry, wait for it, because it will surely come. For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea. But the Lord is in his holy temple: Let all the earth keep silence before Him.

Words: Habakkuk 1.6–12, 2.1–3,14,20 Music: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)
Prayers concluding with

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

Stand to sing during which a collection will be taken

Thou, whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard, and took their flight; hear us, we humbly pray, and where the gospel-day sheds not its glorious ray let there be light.

Thou, who didst come to bring on thy redeeming wing healing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the inly blind, O now to humankind let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love, life-giving, holy Dove, speed forth thy flight; move on the water’s face, bearing the lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest place let there be light.

Holy and blessèd Three, glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might; boundless as ocean's tide rolling in fullest pride, through the world far and wide let there be light.

Organ Voluntary