

Westminster Abbey



Service

attended by
the Lord Chancellor
and Secretary of State for Justice,
the Lord Chief Justice,
the President and Justices
of the Supreme Court,
and other Judges and Members
of the Legal Profession

Monday 1st October 2018
11.30 am

Members of the congregation are kindly requested to refrain from using private cameras, video, or sound recording equipment. Please ensure that mobile telephones and other electronic devices are switched off.

The church is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.

The service is conducted by The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster.

The service is sung by the Choir of Westminster Abbey, conducted by James O'Donnell, Organist and Master of the Choristers.

The organ is played by Peter Holder, Sub-Organist.

Music before the service

Komm, Heiliger Geist, Herre Gott BWV 651

*Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)*

ORDER OF SERVICE

All stand for

THE PROCESSION

All sit when the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chief Justice, the Heads of Divisions, and the Justices of the Supreme Court have taken their seats. The remaining members of the procession enter, taking their seats upon reaching their places.

All stand as the clergy and choir move to places in Quire and the Sacrarium.

All remain standing. The choir sings

THE INTROIT

LORD, for thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge, but forgive that is past; and give us grace to amend our sinful lives, to decline from sin, and incline to virtue, that we may walk in a perfect heart, before thee now and evermore. Amen.

attributed to Richard Farrant (c 1525–80)

*from Henry Bull's
Christian Prayers and Holy Meditations 1566*

All remain standing. The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster, gives

THE BIDDING

AT the beginning of the legal year, we gather in the presence of almighty God, who is the judge of all and who knows the secrets of our hearts, to renew our commitment to the service of the Crown and of all the people in the cause of justice.

We acknowledge our high calling to reflect the justice and mercy of God. We seek God's strength and guidance that we might remain true to the highest legal traditions, subtle as we apply ourselves to the causes before us, and wise as we influence the development of the law.

We pray for the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, The Right Honourable David Gauke, for The Right Honourable The Lord Burnett, Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, and for all who make and administer the law, both in the United Kingdom and in the European Union, and in the other legal jurisdictions represented here today.

We ask God to sustain us in our duties, to grant us humility and sound judgement, to forgive our errors, and to inspire us in our service. Here on earth may we serve more faithfully that heavenly justice in which alone we can in the end trust.

So let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom on earth, saying, as Jesus taught 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. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

All sit. The Right Honourable David Gauke MP, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, reads

THE FIRST LESSON

NOW you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: 'Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?' Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel? And you, mortal, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not save them when they transgress; and as for the wickedness of the wicked, it shall not make them stumble when they turn from their wickedness; and the righteous shall not be able to live by their righteousness when they sin. Though I say to the righteous that they shall surely live, yet if they trust in their righteousness and commit iniquity, none of their righteous deeds shall be remembered; but in the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, though I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die', yet if they turn from their sin and do what is lawful and right— if the wicked restore the pledge, give back what they have taken by robbery, and walk in the statutes of life, committing no iniquity—they shall surely live, they shall not die. None of the sins that they have committed shall be remembered against them; they have done what is lawful and right, they shall surely live.

Yet your people say, 'The way of the Lord is not just', when it is their own way that is not just. When the righteous turn from their righteousness, and commit iniquity, they shall die for it. And when the wicked turn from their wickedness, and do what is lawful and right, they shall live by it. Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, I will judge all of you according to your ways!

Ezekiel 33: 10–20

All stand to sing

THE HYMN



O THOU who camest from above,
the pure celestial fire to impart,
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze,
and trembling to its source return
in humble prayer, and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work, and speak, and think for thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up thy gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat,
till death thy endless mercies seal,
and make my sacrifice complete.

*Hereford 431 NEH
Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–76)*

Charles Wesley (1707–88)

All sit. The Right Honourable The Lord Burnett of Maldon, Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, reads

THE SECOND LESSON

EVERY priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, 'he sat down at the right hand of God', and since then has been waiting 'until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.' For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

'This is the covenant that I will make with them
after those days, says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds',

he also adds,

'I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.'

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds.

Hebrews 10: 11-24

The choir sings

THE ANTHEM

I WAS glad when they said unto me :
We will go into the house of the Lord.
Our feet shall stand in thy gates :
O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem is builded as a city :
that is at unity in itself.
O pray for the peace of Jerusalem :
they shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls :
and plenteousness within thy palaces.

Hubert Parry (1848-1918)

Psalms 122: 1-3, 6-7

THE SERMON

by
The Dean

All stand to sing

THE HYMN



TEACH me, my God and King,
in all things thee to see;
and what I do in anything
to do it as for thee!

A man that looks on glass,
on it may stay his eye;
or if he pleaseth, through it pass,
and then the heaven espy.

All may of thee partake;
nothing can be so mean,
which with this tincture, 'for thy sake',
will not grow bright and clean.

A servant with this clause
makes drudgery divine;
who sweeps a room, as for thy laws,
makes that and the action fine.

This is the famous stone
that turneth all to gold;
for that which God doth touch and own
cannot for less be told.

Sandys 456 NEH
from William Sandys' Christmas Carols Ancient and Modern 1833

The Elixir
George Herbert
(1593–1633)

The Reverend Christopher Stoltz, Minor Canon and Precentor, leads

THE PRAYERS

Let us pray.

All kneel or sit.

LET us pray for this United Kingdom, for its unity, peace, and concord; for Elizabeth our Queen, and for all members of the Royal Family; for both houses of Parliament, and all who bear responsibility in the ordering of our society; that justice, truth, and integrity may direct our common life.

Lord, in thy mercy
hear our prayer.

The Venerable Sheila Watson, Preacher of Lincoln's Inn, says

LET us remember both the victims of crime and its perpetrators. Let us pray for those held prisoner, whether convicted or on remand, and for communities where there is anxiety and the fear of crime; praying for all that encourages social cohesion, resilience, and the development of virtue.

Lord, in thy mercy
hear our prayer.

The Right Reverend Michael Doe, Preacher of Gray's Inn, says

LET us pray for all who administer justice in this realm; for all judges and the tribunals judiciary, magistrates, jurors, and ombudsmen; for clerks and court officials; for barristers, solicitors, chartered legal executives, and all whose profession or expertise is the law. Let us pray for the police, the armed forces, the probation and the prison services, and those who sustain order in our land; that our nation may live in peace and security.

Lord, in thy mercy
hear our prayer.

The Reverend Robin Griffith-Jones, Master of the Temple, says

LET us pray for our fellow nations within the European Union and the Council of Europe; for all who make and administer law within their legal jurisdictions; and for those who labour in these fields of European law.

Lord, in thy mercy
hear our prayer.

The Reverend Mark Hatcher, Reader of the Temple, says

O GOD, the just and merciful Judge of all mankind, look down from heaven, we beseech thee, on these thy servants, who are set by thy appointment to minister justice in this land. Grant unto them thy Holy Spirit, the Spirit of uprightness, the Spirit of discernment, and the Spirit of love, that they may boldly, discreetly, and mercifully fulfil their sacred duties, to the good of thy people and the glory of thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Right Reverend John Sherrington, Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster, says

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, whose word alone lights the paths of justice, send down upon our judges 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.**

All stand to sing

THE HYMN



PRAISE to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise,
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!
when all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight
and to the rescue came.

O wisest love! that flesh and blood,
which did in Adam fail,
should strive afresh against their foe,
should strive and should prevail;

and that a higher gift than grace
should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence and his very self,
and essence all-divine.

O generous love! that he who smote
in Man for man the foe,
the double agony in Man
for man should undergo;

and in the garden secretly,
and on the cross on high,
should teach his brethren, and inspire
to suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise,
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.

Gerontius 439i NEH
John Dykes (1823–76)

John Henry Newman (1801–90)

All remain standing. The Dean pronounces

THE BLESSING

GOD grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, The Queen, the Commonwealth, and all mankind, peace and concord; and to us sinners, life everlasting; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

All sing

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

GOD save our gracious Queen,
long live our noble Queen,
God save The Queen.
Send her victorious,
happy and glorious,
long to reign over us:
God save The Queen.

Thy choicest gifts in store
on her be pleased to pour,
long may she reign.
May she defend our laws,
and ever give us cause
to sing with heart and voice:
God save The Queen.

All remain standing as the Procession leaves the Abbey Church.

Music after the service

Imperial March

*Edward Elgar (1857–1934)
arranged by George Martin (1844–1916)*

The bells of the Abbey Church are rung.

Members of the congregation are kindly requested to remain in their seats until invited to move by the Honorary Stewards.

Printed by
Barnard & Westwood Ltd
23 Pakenham Street, London WC1X 0LB
By Appointment to HM The Queen, Printers and Bookbinders
& HRH The Prince of Wales, Printers
Printers to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster
