

Westminster Abbey



A National Scout and Guide Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving



Saturday 3rd November 2018

Noon

HISTORICAL NOTE

Following the death of The Chief Scout of the World, The Lord Baden-Powell OM GCMG GCVO KCB DL, in 1941, a memorial stone was unveiled in Westminster Abbey on 23rd April 1947. From then until 1955, Scouting Headquarters staff and some members held an annual wreathlaying and a small service in the Abbey. In 1957, the centenary of Baden-Powell's birth, the service was attended by members of the Royal Family. In years thereafter it was referred to as a Service of Thanksgiving, and became a much bigger celebration.

From 1959 onwards, the service was held on the nearest Saturday to 22nd February and from 1978, following the death of Lady Baden-Powell GBE the previous year, this annual service changed in style and name to a joint celebration of Thinking Day and Founder's Day. In 1981, a memorial was dedicated to Lord and Lady Baden-Powell in Westminster Abbey. In 2011, the arrangements for the service were reviewed and changed in the light of increasing local opportunities to celebrate these special occasions. The current arrangement nevertheless maintains the tradition of the annual service at Westminster Abbey, now known as the National Scout and Guide Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving and focuses on thanking the adult volunteer leaders and supporters for their service and dedication.



WESTMINSTER ABBEY

We cannot say with certainty when Westminster Abbey was founded, but we know that around the year 960 Benedictine monks settled on the marshy north bank of the Thames, in a place called Thorney Island. In the mid eleventh century the Anglo-Saxon King Edward established his palace there and became an enthusiastic patron of the monks. He built an entirely new church for them which was consecrated on 28th December 1065 and then became the King's own burial place in January 1066. Later that year William the Conqueror defeated King Harold at the Battle of Hastings and made his way to London. He was crowned in Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day and a further thirty-seven coronations have taken place within the Abbey's walls in the subsequent centuries.

After the canonisation of King Edward as St Edward the Confessor in 1161 the Abbey became a place of pilgrimage. With a royal residence and the principal seat of government alongside it, the monastery developed into one of the most important and influential religious houses in medieval England. In 1245 King Henry III resolved to rebuild the Abbey church in the Gothic style and to provide a magnificent new shrine for the Confessor's remains. After fifteen years the eastern portion of the church, its side chapels, and the two transepts were complete. Numerous craftsmen worked to decorate the interior with stained glass, paintings, and sculpture of the finest quality. On 13th October 1269 the church was consecrated and St Edward's remains were transferred to their new shrine, east of the high altar, where they remain to this day.

After his death in 1272 Henry III's own tomb was placed near to the Shrine and was joined in due course by the tombs of several of his successors. Among them was Richard II under whom construction of the Gothic Abbey resumed in the latter part of the fourteenth century. Owing to a decision to continue the work in the original architectural style the whole building has a remarkable unity of design, even though the very west end of the nave was not finally vaulted until the early 1500s. The western towers intended by the medieval masons remained unfinished, barely rising above the level of the vault of the nave, and were only finally completed (to a design of Nicholas Hawksmoor) in 1745.

The early sixteenth century also saw the construction of the new Lady Chapel of King Henry VII at the Abbey's east end. It was consecrated in 1516 and the fan-vaulted interior is one of the architectural glories of the Abbey. Within its walls are the tombs of Henry VII himself and of Queen Elizabeth I, Mary Queen of Scots, and many other members of the Tudor, Stuart, and Hanoverian royal houses.

The Benedictine monastery was dissolved in 1540. A period of change and uncertainty followed, but in May 1560 Queen Elizabeth I established the Abbey by royal charter as 'the Collegiate Church of St Peter'. The new foundation consisted of a dean and twelve prebendaries (canons), minor canons, and additional lay officers. It was charged with two main duties: to continue the tradition of daily worship (for which a musical foundation of organist, choristers, and singing men was provided) and to maintain a school for the education of forty 'Queen's Scholars'. Abbey and School flourished as a single institution until the Public Schools Act of 1868 made the School independent of the Dean and Chapter (though a close association between the two remains).

The arrival of Arthur Penrhyn Stanley as Dean in 1864 brought new vigour to the Abbey's life. He wrote extensively about its history, gave permission for the burial of national figures such as Dickens and Livingstone, and did much to establish the idea of the Abbey as a place in which every citizen of the nation and Empire had a share. In particular Stanley saw the nation's history reflected in the Abbey's monuments and memorials. In monastic times burials in the church had been limited to royalty and to a few highly favoured nobles and churchmen, but after the Reformation the side chapels, transepts, and nave began to be filled with tombs and memorials. Today there are some 600 monuments and memorials which seem to fill almost every available space. They add to the rich historical and artistic interest of the Abbey which is now also a leading visitor attraction, visited by more than one million people each year.

In the aftermath of the First World War, and particularly with the burial of the Unknown Warrior in November 1920, the Abbey acquired a wider role as the setting for occasions of national celebration or sorrow. Not least among these were the four twentieth-century coronations with their pomp and pageantry; the weddings of Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, and of The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh; and a developing tradition of special services, some of which, such as the Commonwealth Observance and the Battle of Britain Service, are now a regular part of the Abbey's calendar. Other services mark significant anniversaries or events, such as the visit of Pope Benedict XVI in September 2010.

This rich and varied mission, firmly rooted in the Abbey's long history but always responding to changing and current needs, continues to place Westminster Abbey at the very centre of the nation's life.

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 Westminster Abbey Special Service Choir, conducted by Peter Holder, Sub-Organist.

The organ is played by Matthew Jorysz, Assistant Organist.

Alexander Hamilton, Organ Scholar, plays

*Tocatta, Adagio, and Fugue in C BWV 564 Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)*

Adagio from Symphonie III Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

Postlude in G Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

A Fancy William Harris (1883–1973)

The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Westminster and Deputy High Steward, Councillor Lindsey Hall, is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. Presentations are made. All stand as she is conducted to her seat, and then sit.

ORDER OF SERVICE

All stand. The choir sings

THE INTROIT

KEEP me as the apple of an eye :
hide me under the shadow of thy wings.

Humphrey Clucas (b 1941)

Psalm 17: 8

All sing

THE HYMN

during which the choir and clergy move to their places in Quire and the Sacrarium, and flags are presented at the High Altar



PRAISE, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour to our fathers in distress;	Father-like, he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows;
praise him still the same for ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless.	in his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him! Praise him!	Praise him! Praise him!
glorious in his faithfulness.	widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him;
dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace.

Praise, my soul 436 NEH
John Goss (1800–80)

Henry Lyte (1793–1847)
after Psalm 103

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

THE WELCOME

All sit for

THE TESTIMONIES

by

Clementine Crowther, Guide

and

Bella Roberts, Explorer Scout

The choir sings

JUBILATE DEO

O BE joyful in the Lord, all ye lands :
serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his
presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God :

it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his
courts with praise :

be thankful unto him, and speak good of his name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting :

and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

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.

Benjamin Britten (1913–76) in C

Psalm 100

From the Great Lectern Ioannis Lei Konstantiou, Explorer Scout, reads

THE FIRST READING

MY child, do not forget my teaching,
but let your heart keep my commandments;
for length of days and years of life
and abundant welfare they will give you.

Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you;
bind them round your neck,
write them on the tablet of your heart.
So you will find favour and good repute
in the sight of God and of people.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.
In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.
Do not be wise in your own eyes;
fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.
It will be a healing for your flesh
and a refreshment for your body.

Happy are those who find wisdom,
and those who get understanding,
for her income is better than silver,
and her revenue better than gold.
She is more precious than jewels,
and nothing you desire can compare with her.
Long life is in her right hand;
in her left hand are riches and honour.
Her ways are ways of pleasantness,
and all her paths are peace.
She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her;
those who hold her fast are called happy.

Proverbs 3: 1–8, 13–18

All stand to sing

THE HYMN



IMMORTAL, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest—to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish—but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

St Denio 377 NEH
from John Roberts's Caniadau y Cyssegr 1839

Walter Smith (1824–1908)

All sit. From the Nave Pulpit Bryony Jones, Guide, reads

THE SECOND READING

WHEN Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

‘Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

‘Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

‘Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

‘Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.’

St Matthew 5: 1–12

THE ADDRESS

by

The Dean

The choir sings

THE ANTHEM

LET the people praise thee, O God :
yea, let all the people praise thee.

O let the nations rejoice and be glad :
for thou shalt judge the folk righteously,
and govern the nations upon earth.

Let the people praise thee, O God :
yea, let all the people praise thee.

Then shall the earth bring forth her increase :
and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.

God shall bless us :
and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

God be merciful unto us, and bless us :
and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us;

That thy way may be known upon earth :
thy saving health among all nations.

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.

William Mathias (1934–92)

Psalm 67

The Reverend Jennifer Petersen, Minor Canon and Chaplain, introduces

THE PRAYERS

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

All kneel or remain seated. Cassie Mason, Explorer Scout, says

WE give thanks to God for our founders Robert, Olave, and Agnes Baden-Powell: for their visionary ambition and dedication towards Scouting and Guiding, and their commitment to helping young people develop and grow.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Emma Knight, Guide, says

WE give thanks to God for all who have inspired and encouraged us within the Guiding and Scouting movements: for those who have been influential in our lives and who have helped us to become the people and leaders we are.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Louis Icke, Scouts Young Leader, says

WE give thanks for Scouting and Guiding around the world: for the joy of friendship between Guides and Scouts of different nations; for all that strengthens the bond we share.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alice Flower, Guide, says

LET us pray for those parts of the world where it is hard to belong to the Scouts or Guides, where there is persecution, animosity, or a lack of tolerance: for greater freedom and understanding, and an awareness and appreciation of the good that can be achieved.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Rosa Francesca Boyd, Explorer Scout, says

LET us pray for those who are called to leadership within our movement: for vision, imagination, and inspiration to continue the work of our founders; that they may encourage those committed to their care, and raise up leaders for the future.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Ruby Foster, Guide, says

LET us pray that Guides and Scouts may continue to be a force for good in this world: that we may always do our best to serve our communities; to foster cohesion where there is division, to influence change, and build resilience.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

The Chaplain concludes

All these our prayers and praises let us now present before our heavenly Father, in the words our Saviour Christ has 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 stand to sing

THE HYMN



NOW thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours to-day.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessèd peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the One eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore. Amen.

Nun danket 413 NEH
in Johann Crüger's
Praxis pietatis melica 1647

Nun danket alle Gott Martin Rinkart (1586–1649)
translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827–78)

All remain standing for

THE RENEWAL OF PROMISES

The Scouts, led by Tim Kidd, UK Chief Commissioner, renew their Promise with these, or their own words

**On my honour, I promise that I will do my best
To do my duty to God and to The Queen,
To help other people,
And to keep the Scout Law.**

Members of Girlguiding, led by Amanda Medler, Chief Guide, renew their Promise with these words

**I promise that I will do my best:
To be true to myself and develop my beliefs,
To serve The Queen and my community,
To help other people,
And to keep the Guide Law.**

All remain standing. The Dean pronounces

THE BLESSING

GO forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no-one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; 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.

All remain standing as the clergy and choir move to the west end of the church.

Music after the service

Toccatà

Théodore Dubois (1837–1924)

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