

Westminster Abbey



Matins

attended in Civic State by

The Lord Mayor of Westminster
Councillor Ruth Bush

and

Councillors of the City of Westminster



Sunday 7th July 2019
11.00 am

MATINS

Daily prayer has been offered in this place for over a thousand years and your participation in today's service is warmly welcomed. At Matins most of the service is sung by the choir on our behalf. We participate through our presence and our listening, that the words and the music might become a prayer within us and lift us to contemplate God's beauty and glory.

The service always includes one or more psalms. These ancient prayers, taken from the Old Testament, reflect the full range of human emotions and experiences; from the depths of anger, resentment, and abandonment to the heights of ecstatic joy and praise. They were used by Jesus, and have always been at the heart of the Church's daily prayer.

THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER

Westminster first achieved the status of a city in 1540 when, for only ten years, it became a bishopric. Its first recorded civic administration dates from 1585, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, when an Act authorised the establishment of a Court of Burgesses 'for the good government of the City of Westminster'.

While Queen Elizabeth I was creating mayors elsewhere in England, she was concerned that a mayor in Westminster might challenge the authority of the monarch in her own capital city, and she therefore appointed instead the High Steward of Westminster Abbey as Chairman of her newly created Court of Burgesses. The first High Steward to chair the new Court of Burgesses was the Queen's First Minister, William Cecil, Lord Burleigh.

The Court of Burgesses was an administrative body which dealt with public health and morality, planning permissions, the prevention and punishment of crime, and the regulation of weights and measures. It comprised twelve Burgesses appointed by the Dean—one for each ward.

However, when the London Government Act of 1899 created twenty-eight Metropolitan Borough Councils, each having an

elected Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors, the authority of the Dean and the High Steward in secular affairs ceased.

The last High Steward who was also effectively Mayor was Lord Salisbury, who was then also Prime Minister. The Duke of Norfolk was the first Mayor of Westminster. On 29th October 1900, a Royal Charter confirmed the status of Westminster as a city.

Since 1935, in order to preserve this historic link between Westminster Abbey and the City Council, the High Steward (the Abbey's senior Lay Officer) has each year appointed the current Mayor of Westminster as Deputy High Steward of Westminster.

The new City of Westminster, incorporating the Boroughs of Paddington and St Marylebone, was constituted by Royal Charter on 1st April 1965. The following year, the Queen granted the First Citizen the style and dignity of Lord Mayor.

To recognise these links between Westminster Abbey and the City Council, the Dean and Chapter welcomes annually the new Lord Mayor of Westminster, the Deputy High Steward, in State to the Civic Service.

THE LORD MAYOR

Councillor Ruth Bush was elected Lord Mayor of Westminster in May 2019. She has been a Westminster City Councillor, representing the Harrow Road Ward, since 2005.

Ruth has sought to support residents in difficult situations and involve herself closely in much needed regeneration activity in the ward, particularly around the Maida Hill Marketplace. She has served on a number of Scrutiny Committees and has been a longstanding Planning Committee member. She is Chair of Westminster Faith Exchange, the Council's connection with the City's faith organisations, and will retain this position as Lord Mayor and seek to extend and deepen connections with the faith communities, as part of her commitment to drawing people together, and representing the City to all who play a part in it.

Her working life has been varied, first in the local voluntary sector, as a community worker and teacher. She obtained a Social Science degree at the University of York as a mature student then returned to North Paddington, running a hostel for homeless young women, after which she worked in Parliament and subsequently set up her own parliamentary consultancy targeting smaller voluntary sector organisations.

Music plays an important part in her life and she initiated the establishment of All Sing! Harrow Road Community Choir. Lord Mayoral duties mean that she has had to take time out from regularly playing the organ at Trinity Methodist Church, Fernhead Road W9.

Ruth has inaugurated the Lord Mayor's STOMP: Speak To One More Person—her strapline for the year—to encourage everyone to enhance wellbeing across Westminster by just having a word with someone they don't already know.

THE LORD MAYOR'S CHARITIES

Young Westminster Foundation's vision is for all young people in Westminster to grow up healthy, safe and happy with the best opportunities for brighter futures. It is a cross-sector partnership which connects members (youth clubs and children's charities), funding partners, businesses and strategic partners to shape opportunities, broker new funds, and create the best services for children and young people in Westminster. This impacts young people in Westminster with better outcomes around health and resilience, staying safe, with success in employment, education, and better social mobility.

THE LORD MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN

The Reverend Dr Paul Hill is the son of a Derbyshire coal miner. Following a BA in Social Sciences and work in corporate finance, he responded to God's call upon his life to become a Methodist Minister. He trained at The Queen's Theological College,

Birmingham, where he received his BD from the University of Birmingham.

In 2008, he was awarded his PhD from the University of Birmingham for his thesis regarding Christianity and organisations working with homeless people.

Since 2016, he has been the Superintendent Minister of the London Mission (North West) Methodist Circuit with particular pastoral charge of Trinity Methodist Church, Fernhead Road W9. Presently, he is also Deputy Chair of the London District of the Methodist Church.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

An architectural masterpiece of the 13th to 16th centuries, Westminster Abbey also presents a unique pageant of British history—the shrine of St Edward the Confessor, the tombs of kings and queens, and countless memorials to the famous and the great. It has been the setting for every Coronation since 1066, and for numerous other royal occasions. Today it is still a church dedicated to regular worship and to the celebration of great events in the life of the nation. Neither a cathedral nor a parish church, Westminster Abbey is a Royal Peculiar under the jurisdiction of a Dean and Chapter, subject only to the Sovereign.

In the 1040s, King Edward (later St Edward the Confessor), last of the Anglo-Saxon kings, established his royal palace by the banks of the River Thames on land known as Thorney Island, re-endowing the existing Benedictine monastery of the island, and building a large Romanesque church. This church became known as the ‘west minster’ to distinguish it from St Paul’s Cathedral (the east minster) in the City of London.

Edward’s Abbey survived for two centuries until the middle of the 13th century, when King Henry III decided to rebuild it in the new Gothic style of architecture. Westminster Abbey was designed to be not only a great monastery and place of worship, but also a place for the coronation and burial of monarchs.

It was natural that Henry III should wish to translate the body of the saintly Edward the Confessor into a more magnificent tomb behind the High Altar. This shrine survives, and around it are buried a cluster of medieval kings and their consorts. The Abbey contains some 600 monuments and wall tablets—the most important collection of monumental sculpture anywhere in the country—and over three thousand people are buried here.

Little remains of the original medieval stained glass, once one of the Abbey's chief glories. The great west window and the rose window in the North Transept date from the early 18th century, but the remainder of the glass dates from the 19th century onwards.

Queen Elizabeth I, buried in the Lady Chapel, refounded the Abbey in 1560 as a Collegiate Church, a Royal Peculiar exempt from the jurisdiction of bishops and with the Sovereign as its Visitor. In place of the monastic community, a Collegiate body of a Dean and Prebendaries, Minor Canons, and a lay staff was established and charged with the task of continuing the tradition of daily worship (for which a musical foundation of choristers, singing men and organist was provided), and with the education of forty Scholars who formed the nucleus of what is now Westminster School (one of the country's leading independent schools). In addition, the Dean and Chapter were responsible for much of the civil government of Westminster, a role which was only fully relinquished in the early 20th century. Thus the Abbey was reshaped and newly patterned to discharge a distinctive, yet worshipful role in a modern age.

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

Photography, filming, and sound recording are not allowed in the Abbey at any time. Please ensure that mobile telephones and other electronic devices are switched off.

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.

Before the service, Alexander Hamilton, Organ Scholar, plays:

Marche héroïque Herbert Brewer (1865–1928)

Prelude on 'Rhosymedre' Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

Adagio in E Frank Bridge (1879–1941)

Postlude Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)
on a theme of Orlando Gibbons

Before the service the 'Laetatus Bell' is tolled. Its inscription runs:

LAETATUS SUM
FLOREAT CIVITAS: FLOREAT SENATUS

I was glad (Psalm 122: 1)
May the city flourish: May Parliament flourish

The Guard of Honour is commanded by Warrant Officer Roland Mackenzie, Officer Commanding 291 (Westminster and Chelsea) Squadron ATC and includes cadets representing a variety of Westminster's uniformed organisations.

Prior to the arrival of the Lord Mayor, a Procession comprising the Representative Deputy Lieutenant for the London Borough of Westminster; HM Senior Coroner for Inner West London; the Chief Executive, Westminster City Council; the Vice Chancellor of the University of Westminster; the Chief Executive, Reserve Forces and Cadets Association; and the City of Westminster Waterman, moves to places in Quire.

The Lord Mayor of Westminster, who attends the service in Civic State, is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. All stand.

The procession of the Lord Mayor and Councillors of the City of Westminster moves to places in Quire by way of the South Quire Aisle. All remain standing.

ORDER OF SERVICE

All remain standing. The choir sings

THE INTROIT

O TASTE and see how gracious the Lord is :
blest is the man that trusteth in him.

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

Psalm 34: 8

All sing

THE HYMN

*during which the clergy and choir
move to places in Quire and the Sacrament*



LOVE Divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Blaenwern 408i NEH
William Rowlands (1860–1937)

Charles Wesley (1707–88)

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

THE WELCOME

The Reverend Mark Birch, Minor Canon and Sacrist, says

A SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

The Sacrist and choir sing

THE RESPONSES

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.

Richard Ayleward (1626–69)

All sit. The choir sings

VENITE, EXULTEMUS DOMINO

O COME, let us sing unto the Lord :
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving :
and shew ourselves glad in him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God :
and a great King above all gods.
In his hands are all the corners of the earth :
and the strength of the hills is his also.
The sea is his, and he made it :
and his hands prepared the dry land.
O come, let us worship, and fall down :
and kneel before the Lord our maker.
For he is the Lord our God :
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.
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 95: 1-7

PSALM 33

REJOICE in the Lord, O ye righteous :
for it becometh well the just to be thankful.
Praise the Lord with harp :
sing praises unto him with the lute,
and instrument of ten strings.
Sing unto the Lord a new song :
sing praises lustily unto him with a good courage.
For the word of the Lord is true :
and all his works are faithful.
He loveth righteousness and judgement :
the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.
By the word of the Lord were the heavens made :
and all the hosts of them by the breath of his mouth.

He gathereth the waters of the sea together,
as it were upon an heap :
and layeth up the deep, as in a treasure-house.
Let all the earth fear the Lord :
stand in awe of him, all ye that dwell in the world.
For he spake, and it was done :
he commanded, and it stood fast.
The Lord bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought :
and maketh the devices of the people to be of none effect,
and casteth out the counsels of princes.
The counsel of the Lord shall endure for ever :
and the thoughts of his heart from generation to generation.
Blessed are the people, whose God is the Lord Jehovah :
and blessed are the folk that he hath chosen to him
to be his inheritance.
The Lord looked down from heaven,
and beheld all the children of men :
from the habitation of his dwelling
he considereth all them that dwell on the earth.
He fashioneth all the hearts of them :
and understandeth all their works.
There is no king that can be saved by the multitude of an host :
neither is any mighty man delivered by much strength.
A horse is counted but a vain thing to save a man :
neither shall he deliver any man by his great strength.
Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him :
and upon them that put their trust in his mercy;
to deliver their soul from death :
and to feed them in the time of dearth.
Our soul hath patiently tarried for the Lord :
for he is our help and our shield.
For our heart shall rejoice in him :
because we have hoped in his holy name.
Let thy merciful kindness, O Lord, be upon us :
like as we do put our trust in thee.

All 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.

Edward Cutler (1831–1916)

All sit. Councillor Nickie Aiken, Leader of the Council, reads

THE FIRST LESSON

THUS says the Lord:

Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard.
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
The Lord will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.

Isaiah 58: 6–11

All stand. The choir sings

TE DEUM LAUDAMUS

WE praise thee, O God : we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship thee : the Father everlasting.
To thee all angels cry aloud : the heavens, and all the powers therein.
To thee cherubin, and seraphin : continually do cry,
Holy, holy, holy : Lord God of Sabaoth;
heaven and earth are full of the majesty : of thy glory.
The glorious company of the apostles : praise thee.
The goodly fellowship of the prophets : praise thee.
The noble army of martyrs : praise thee.
The holy Church throughout all the world : doth acknowledge thee;
the Father : of an infinite majesty;
thine honourable, true : and only Son;
also the Holy Ghost : the Comforter.
Thou art the King of glory : O Christ.
Thou art the everlasting Son : of the Father.
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man :
thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death :
thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
Thou sittest at the right hand of God : in the Glory of the Father.
We believe that thou shalt come : to be our Judge.
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants :
whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with thy saints : in glory everlasting.
O Lord, save thy people : and bless thine heritage.
Govern them : and lift them up for ever.
Day by day : we magnify thee;
and we worship thy name : ever world without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord : to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us : have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us : as our trust is in thee.
O Lord, in thee have I trusted : let me never be confounded.

Benjamin Britten (1913–76) in C

All sit. The Lord Mayor of Westminster reads

THE SECOND LESSON

JESUS entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.' So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, 'He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.' Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, 'Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.'

St Luke 19: 1-10

All stand. The choir sings

JUBILATE DEO

OBE 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 in C

Psalm 100

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

The Sacrist and choir sing

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

All kneel or sit for

THE LESSER LITANY

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE RESPONSES

O LORD, shew thy mercy upon us.
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save The Queen.
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.

THE COLLECTS

of the Day, for Peace, and for Grace to live well

O LORD, we beseech thee mercifully to hear us; and grant that we, to whom thou hast given an hearty desire to pray, may by thy mighty aid be defended and comforted in all dangers and adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Richard Ayleward

The Sacrist says

THE PRAYERS

for the Royal Family, and for the Members of the Order of the Bath

ALMIGHTY God, the fountain of all goodness, we humbly beseech thee to bless our most gracious Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth, Philip Duke of Edinburgh, Charles Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family: endue them with thy Holy Spirit; enrich them with thy heavenly grace; prosper them with all happiness; and bring them to thine everlasting kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God save our Gracious Sovereign, and all the Brotherhood of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath living and departed. **Amen.**

All sit. The choir sings

THE ANTHEM

FOR the beauty of the earth,
For the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies,
*Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise.*

For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flower,
Sun and moon and stars of light,

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild,

For each perfect gift of thine,
To our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine,
Flowers of earth and buds of heaven,
*Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise.*

John Rutter (b 1945)

Follitt Pierpoint (1835–1917)

The Sacrist leads

THE PRAYERS

Let us pray in faith to God, the only true keeper of the house and builder of the city.

All kneel or remain seated.

FOR this city, its communities, its leaders, and for all who care for the welfare of its inhabitants,

we pray in faith and hope.

We pray for the nations from which we each come: for their leaders, for their citizens at home and overseas; for families and friends parted from us by distance; and for the work of our several Embassies and High Commissions.

We pray in faith and hope.

The Reverend Anthony Ball, Canon in Residence, says

We pray for all who live and work in Westminster: may they be guided by righteousness and justice, so that our city may become a community of kindness and care. We pray for our Queen and our national government, whose home is in our city: may they share in this same spirit of goodness and grace so that both our city and our nation may be filled with compassion, hope, and peace.

We pray in faith and hope.

Liza Begum, Victoria Muslim community, says

In the name of God, the Lord of mercy, the giver of mercy. Praise belongs to God, Lord of all worlds, the Lord of mercy, the giver of mercy, Master of the day of judgement. It is you we worship; it is you we ask for help: guide us to the straight path, the path of those you have blessed, those who incur no anger, and who have not gone astray. Our Lord, you are the most forgiving, so forgive us;

you are our guardian, so guide us, love us, and envelope us in your mercy; place in our hearts peace and tranquillity. Our Lord, we are truly in need of whatever good that you bestow on us. Grant us patience and wisdom and keep us from harm.

We pray in faith and hope.

Gwénaëlle Mallet, Church of Notre Dame de France, says

For all in need and those who care for them; for refugees and those without shelter or work; for the sick, the lonely, the despairing, the aged, and the distressed; for all who suffer through violence, warfare, crime, exploitation, prejudice, or neglect.

We pray in faith and hope.

Pastor Edford Hall, United Pentecostal Church of Great Britain and Ireland (Westminster Branch), says

Our heavenly Father, we come before you this day with thanksgiving, praise, and worship for allowing us to be in your divine presence on this special occasion. Let your Holy Spirit move amongst us in this congregation, irrespective of our age, beliefs, or culture, that we may be one in purpose, pursuing all that is good for our country, city, and communities.

We pray in faith and hope.

Rabbi Helen Freeman, West London Synagogue, says

We remember those who have gone from us: former members of the City Council, benefactors of this city and its institutions, and those who have quietly laboured for the welfare of this place. We thank God for their lives and all we have received from them. We shall not forget them; their good deeds are their living witness.

יִזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים אֶת נַשְׁמוֹתֵיהֶם

May God remember them, and may they be at peace in their place of rest.

We pray in faith and hope.

Vamsidharidasa, ISKCON-London, Soho, says

Let us move together; let us sing together; let us understand each other's minds together; let us share together in the footsteps of the sages of the past. May our intentions come together; may our hearts become inseparable; may our minds become as one to truly know one another; may we all unite in togetherness.

We pray in faith and hope.

The Venerable Ru Hai, Fo Guang Temple, says

O great, compassionate Buddha, please listen to our sincerest prayer. We sincerely wish that in this world there be no jealousy, only admiration; no hatred, only harmony; no greed, only generosity; no harm, only achievements. Let people of different ages live in harmony; let people of different social stations have mutual respect; let people of different professions work in cooperation; let people of different religions practise with tolerance.

We pray in faith and hope.

The Sacrist says

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy name thou wilt grant their requests: fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

St John Chrysostom (c 347–407)

All stand to sing

THE HYMN



I, THE Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?
*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone;
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide,
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord 470 CP
Daniel Schutte (b 1947)*

*Daniel Schutte
after Isaiah 6*

THE SERMON

by

The Reverend Dr Paul Hill

*Superintendent Minister, London Mission (North West) Methodist
Circuit, and Chaplain to The Lord Mayor of Westminster*

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

*during which a collection is taken, by request of The Lord Mayor,
for the Young Westminster Foundation*

Verse 4 begins here.

THERE'S a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in his justice
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgement given.

For the love of God is broader
than the measure of man's mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
But we make his love too narrow
by false limits of our own;
and we magnify his strictness
with a zeal he will not own.

There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.
There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that upper home of bliss.

If our love were but more simple,
we should take him at his word;
and our lives would be all gladness
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

Corvedale 598i CP
Maurice Bevan (1921–2006)

461 NEH
Frederick Faber (1814–63)

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 faint-hearted; 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

Music after the service

Carillon de Westminster Op 54 no 6 *Louis Vierne (1870–1937)*

The procession moves through Quire and the Nave to the west end of the Abbey Church

The Procession of The Lord Mayor and Councillors moves to College Garden, with invited guests following. The Lord Mayor will greet departing members of the congregation at the Great West Door

The bells of the Abbey Church are rung

**Members of the congregation are requested to remain
in their places until directed to move by the Honorary Stewards**