Westminster Abbey

A Service to celebrate the 750th anniversary of the re-building of Westminster Abbey

Tuesday 15th October 2019
11.30 am
The whole of the church is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn the hearing aid to the setting marked T.

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

The service is sung by the choir of Westminster Abbey, directed by James O’Donnell, Organist and Master of the Choristers.

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

Before the service Matthew Jorysz, Assistant Organist, plays

Pièce d’orgue BWV 572  
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Cathédrales from Pièces de Fantaisie  
Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

Voluntary for Double Organ  
Henry Purcell (1659–95)  
Organist of Westminster Abbey, 1679–95

Chapelle de Guillaume Tell  
Franz Liszt (1811–96)  
from Années de pèlerinage

Fantasia of four parts  
Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625)  
Organist of Westminster Abbey, 1623–25

La cathédrale engloutie  
Claude Debussy (1862–1918)

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Representatives of faith communities and senior visiting clergy process to places in the Lantern and the Sacrarium.

Priests Vicar of Westminster Abbey and Members of College process to places in Quire and the Sacrarium.

Members of the Diplomatic Corps are received by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and conducted to their seats.

Sarah Clarke OBE, Lady Usher of the Black Rod, is received by the Dean and Chapter and conducted to her seat.

The Right Honourable The Lord Fowler, Lord Speaker, is received by the Dean and Chapter and conducted to his seat.

Sir Kenneth Olisa OBE, Her Majesty’s Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London, is received by the Dean and Chapter and conducted to his seat.

Lynn Johansen, the Under Sheriff of Greater London, representing the High Sheriff of Greater London, is received by the Dean and Chapter and conducted to her seat.

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor of Westminster and Deputy High Steward, Councillor Ruth Bush, who attends the service in Civic State, is received by the Dean and Chapter. All stand as she is conducted to her seat, preceded by councillors of the City of Westminster, and then sit.

Her Majesty The Queen, Visitor of the College of St Peter in Westminster, and Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall are received by the Dean and Chapter. All stand.
ORDER OF SERVICE

All sing

THE HYMN

during which the Collegiate Procession, together with The Visitor and
Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall, moves to places in Quire, the Lantern, and
the Sacrarium. The Visitor’s tribute of red roses is placed on the altar in the Shrine of
St Edward by Abigail Wallace, Captain of the Queen’s Scholars, Westminster School

CHRIST is made the sure foundation,
and the precious corner-stone,
who, the two walls underlying,
bound in each, binds both in one,
holy Sion’s help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

All that dedicated city,
dearly loved by God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pours perpetual melody,
God the One, in threefold glory,
singing everlastinglly.

To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of hosts, today;
with thy wonted loving-kindness,
hear thy people as they pray;
and thy fullest benediction
shed within its walls for ay.

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
what they supplicate to gain;
here to have and hold for ever,
those good things their prayers obtain,
and hereafter, in thy glory,
with thy blessèd ones to reign.

Laud and honour to the Father;
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three, and ever One,
consubstantial, co-eternal,
while unending ages run. Amen.

Westminster Abbey 205 NEH
from O God, thou art my God
Henry Purcell (1659–95),
Organist of Westminster Abbey 1679–95

Angularis fundamentum c 7th–8th century
translated by John Mason Neale (1818–66)
THE PROCEDURE OF
THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF SAINT PETER

A Beadle

Cross and Lights

The Banner of St Oswald

The Choir of Westminster Abbey

James O’Donnell
Organist and Master of the Choristers

Gareth Mann
Master of the Queen’s Scholars

James Kazi
Under Master

Patrick Derham
Head Master

The Queen’s Scholars

The Banner of St Martin

The Queen’s Almsmen

Cross of Westminster and Lights

The Banner of St George

The Reverend Mark Birch
Minor Canon and Sacrist

The Reverend Jennifer Petersen
Minor Canon and Chaplain

The Reverend Christopher Stoltz
Minor Canon and Precentor

The Canons’ Verger

The Banner of St Peter

Paul Baumann
Receiver General
Sir Stephen Lamport
Deputy High Bailiff

His Grace The Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry
High Steward

The Reverend Dr James Hawkey
Canon Theologian

The Reverend Anthony Ball
Canon Steward and Almoner

The Banner of St Edward

The Dean’s Verger

The Venerable David Stanton
Sub-Dean, Canon Treasurer, and Archdeacon of Westminster

Her Royal Highness
The Duchess of Cornwall

The Very Reverend Dr John Hall
Dean of Westminster

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
The Visitor
750 years ago, on 13th October 1269, this third Abbey Church was consecrated in the presence of Henry III. The King had decided a quarter of a century earlier to replace the second Church, which had been built at the command of Edward the Confessor and been consecrated on 28th December 1065.

St Edward, who died on 5th January 1066, was canonised in 1161 and re-buried above ground on 13th October 1163, rests still in his Shrine and Tomb behind the High Altar, and has today been honoured with The Queen’s gift of roses, offered by the Captain of the Queen’s Scholars of St Peter’s College, Westminster School.

We give thanks for the integrity of Henry III, whose imagination and commitment made this Abbey Church in the French Gothic style strikingly beautiful and fitted for its royal and monastic purpose.

Today we celebrate the history of this Abbey and its Church and mark its continuing significance as a place of worship and of memorial, standing firmly for faith at the heart of our nation and Commonwealth and of the wider world.

All sit for

THE PROCESSION OF ABBEY TREASURES

A Beadle

Anglo-Saxon Royal Charter

* a late 10th-century document, recording the restoration of land
  by St Dunstan to the first Benedictine Abbey, circa 960

* carried by
  Matthew Payne
  Keeper of the Muniments

Fragment of the Shroud

* from the Shrine of St Edward the Confessor, who ordered
  the building of the second Abbey Church, consecrated 1065

* carried by
  Father Andrew Gallagher
  Precentor of Westminster Cathedral

The Litlyngton Missal

* created by order of Nicholas Litlyngton,
  Abbot of Westminster, 1362–1386,
  for use at the High Altar of the third Abbey Church

* carried by
  Dr Tony Trowles
  Head of the Abbey Collection and Librarian
During the procession the choir sings

U
RBS Jerusalem beata,  
Dicta pacis visio,  
Quae construitur in caelis  
Vivis ex lapidibus,  
Et Angelis coronata,  
Ut sponsata comite.  

Blessed city, heavenly Salem,  
Vision dear of peace and love,  
Who, of living stones upbuilt,  
Art the joy of heav’n above,  
And, with angel cohorts circled,  
As a bride to earth dost move!

Nova veniens e caelo,  
Nuptial thalamo  
Praeparata, ut sponsata  
Copuletur Domino:  
Plateae et muri ejus  
Ex auro purissimo.  

From celestial realms descending,  
Ready for the nuptial bed,  
To his presence, deck’d with jewels,  
By her Lord shall she be led:  
All her streets, and all her bulwarks,  
Of pure gold are fashioned.

Portae nitent margaritis  
Adytis patentibus:  
Et virtute meritorum  
Illuc introducitur  
Omnis qui ob Christi nomen  
Hic in mundo premitur.  

Bright with pearls her portal glitters;  
It is open evermore;  
And, by virtue of his merits,  
Thither faithful souls may soar,  
Who for Christ’s dear name, in this world  
Pain and tribulation bore.

Tusionibus, pressuris  
Expoliti lapides,  
Suis coaptantur locis  
Per manus artificis,  
Disponuntur permansuri  
Sacris aedificiis.  

Many a blow and biting sculpture  
Polish’d well those stones elect,  
In their places now compacted  
By the heavenly Architect,  
Who therewith hath will’d for ever  
That his palace should be deck’d.

Gloria et honor Deo  
Usquequaque altissimo,  
Una Patri Filioque  
Inclyto Paraclito  
Cui laus est et potestas  
Per æterna sæcula. Amen.  

Laud and honour to the Father;  
Laud and honour to the Son;  
Laud and honour to the Spirit;  
Ever three, and ever one:  
Consustantial, co-eternal,  
While unending ages run. Amen.

Office Hymn for the Dedication of a Church  
anonymous, 6th–7th century  
translated by Joseph Mason Neale
The Dean says

THE COLLECT

O

EVERLASTING God, with whom a thousand years are but as one day, and in whose Name are treasured here the memorials of many generations: grant to those who labour in this place such measures of thy grace and wisdom, that they may neglect no portion of their manifold inheritance, but so guard and use it to thy glory and the enlargement of thy Church, that the consecration of all human powers may set forth thy purpose of gathering up into one all things in Christ; through whom to thee be glory now and evermore. Amen.

Joseph Armitage Robinson (1858–1933)
Dean of Westminster 1902–11

Joseph Lewis-Campbell, Marshal, reads

THE FIRST READING

COME to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:
‘See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.’
To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,
‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner’,
and
‘A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.’
They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.
But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

1 St Peter 2: 4–9

Thanks be to God.
The choir sings

THE PSALM

I was glad when they said unto me:
    We will go into the house of the Lord.
For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord:
    to testify unto Israel, and to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.
For there is the seat of judgement:
    even the seat of the house of David.
O pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
    they shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls:
    and plenteousness within thy palaces.
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.

Henry Purcell

Psalm 122: 1, 4–7

Valerie Humphrey, Director of the Westminster Abbey Foundation, reads

THE SECOND READING

Jesus said, ‘Why do you call me “Lord, Lord”, and do not do what I tell you? I will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them. That one is like a man building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it, because it had been well built. But the one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the river burst against it, immediately it fell, and great was the ruin of that house.’

St Luke 6: 46–49

Thanks be to God.
Ye that know the Lord is gracious,
ye for whom a Corner-stone stands, of God elect and precious,
laid that ye may build thereon,
see that on that sure foundation ye a living temple raise,
towers that may tell forth salvation,
walls that may re-echo praise.

Living stones, by God appointed each to his allotted place,
kings and priests, by God anointed, shall ye not declare his grace?
Ye, a royal generation, tell the tidings of your birth,
tidings of a new creation to an old and weary earth.

Tell the praise of him who called you out of darkness into light,
broke the fetters that enthralled you, gave you freedom, peace, and sight:
tell the tale of sins forgiven, strength renewed and hope restored,
till the earth, in tune with heaven, praise and magnify the Lord.
All sit for

THE SERMON

by

The Dean

The choir sings

THE ANTHEM

A NGULARIS fundamentum
lapis Christus missus est,
qui parietum compage
in utroque nectitur,
quem Sion sancta suscepit,
in quo credens permanet.

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious,
bounding all the church in one;
holy Zion’s help forever,
and her confidence alone.

’Tis good, Lord, to be here,
thy glory fills the night,
thy face and garments, like the sun,
shine with unborrowed light.

Fulfiller of the past,
promise of things to be,
we hail thy Body glorified,
and our redemption see.
Alleluia!

Hoc in templo, summe Deus,
To this temple, where we call thee,
exoratus adveni,
With thy wonted loving kindness,
et clementi bonitate,
precum vota suscipe;
And thy fullest benediction,
Shed within its walls alway.

Come, O Lord of Hosts, today,
Hear thy servants as they pray.

In the midst of thy temple
Matthew Martin (b 1976)
commissioned for this service

verses 1 and 4, anonymous, 6th–7th century
translated by John Mason Neale
verses 2 and 3, John Armitage Robinson
The Reverend Mark Birch, Minor Canon and Sacrist, 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. The Sacrist says

FOR Saint Edward the Confessor, who laid here a foundation of faith at the heart of the nation, for his holiness and wisdom;

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Nandini Jadeja, Senate Member, Harris Westminster Sixth Form, says

FOR King Henry the Third, who built upon that strong foundation and raised up this House to God’s glory, for his vision and courage;

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Captain of the Queen’s Scholars, Westminster School, says

FOR Queen Elizabeth the First, who established this Collegiate foundation, that it might continue prayerful service to Monarch and Nation;

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Caroline Myddelton, Oblate, says

LET us pray for the Abbey; for our Visitor, for the Dean and Chapter, for Members of College, and for all who contribute to this mission and ministry; that we may be built into a spiritual house, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God in Christ Jesus.

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

Temi Olusola, Head of Human Resources, says

LET us pray for the whole Church of God; for the churches of this land and for their leaders, and for all who labour to make this a holy nation; that we may be faithful partners together in the service of the Gospel.

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.
Patrick Derham, Head Master, says

LET us pray for this Nation; for Her Majesty’s Government and Loyal Opposition, for the work of Parliament, and for all who offer themselves in public service; that they may seek the common good, and make the heart of this people wise.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Tony Willoughby, Abbey Guide, says

LET us pray for all who come into this holy place as pilgrims and as visitors; that here they may discern Christ’s calling to be a royal priesthood, God’s own people, to proclaim his mighty acts.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

The Reverend Dr James Hawkey, Canon in Residence, says

GOD, make the door of this house wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship, and narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and strife. Make its threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling-block to children, nor to straying feet, but rugged and strong enough to turn back the tempter’s power. O God make the door of this house the gateway to your eternal kingdom.
Amen.

The Sacrist says

Let us pray for the coming of God’s kingdom in the words our Saviour 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

THE Church’s one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word:
from heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation,
yet one o’er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses
with every grace endued.

‘Mid toil and tribulation,
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great Church victorious
shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.
The Dean gives

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.

All remain standing as the Collegiate Procession, together with The Visitor and Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall, leaves the Abbey church.

Music after the service

Sinfonia to Cantata 29
‘Wir danken dir, Gott, wir danken dir’
Johann Sebastian Bach
arranged by Marcel Dupré (1886–1971)

The bells of the Abbey Church are rung by the Westminster Abbey Company of Ringers to a full peal of 5750 changes of Stedman Caters.

Members of the congregation are kindly requested to remain in their seats until directed to move by the Honorary Stewards.
On Sunday 13th October, 750 years after the consecration of the current Abbey church, in the Shrine of Saint Edward the Confessor, a new icon of the Saint was dedicated.

The iconographer is Archimandrite Zinon (Teodor). He was born in 1953, and studied at the Odessa art school. At the age of 23 he entered the Pskov-Pechersk Monastery, and three years became a priest (hieromonk). Father Zinon now lives and works in Kaluga region, near Kozelsk in Central Russia.

The icon is made in the classical technique of egg tempera on a lime board framed in oak. It is Father Zinon’s first work in the UK.