Westminster Abbey

Evensong
celebrating the Feast of the Dedication of Westminster Abbey
in the presence of
The Lord Mayor of Westminster
and the Mayors of the London Boroughs

The London Mayors’ Association

Sunday 20th October 2019
3.00 pm
On 4th December 1900, the then Mayor of the City of Westminster, His Grace The Duke of Norfolk KG, called together a meeting of all the Mayors of the Metropolitan Boroughs (the inner London Boroughs), the object being to discuss matters of ceremonial procedure with a view to uniformity being adopted by all the Mayors of the Metropolitan Boroughs. Subsequently, in early 1901, the Metropolitan Mayors’ and Ex-Mayors’ Association was formed by the Mayor of Westminster with the purpose of promoting discussion of general matters affecting the Metropolis and to enable Mayors and former Mayors to meet on a social basis.

In 1965 with the re-organisation of Local Government in London, the Mayors and former Mayors of all thirty-one Boroughs were entitled to join as were the Lord Mayors and former Lord Mayors of the City of London and of the City of Westminster. Under the revised constitution of the Association the Lord Mayor of Westminster is now automatically the President. A former Mayor or Lord Mayor is however elected as Chairman of the Association.

The Association comprises over 700 members and is non-party political. It arranges a variety of events throughout the year including this annual service in Westminster Abbey; a walk following the footsteps of Dick Whittington, a former Lord Mayor of London, from Highgate Hill to the Mansion House; a visit to a foreign capital city; and an Annual Dinner.

The London Mayors’ Association is delighted that Kenneth Olisa OBE, Her Majesty’s Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London, has agreed to read the first lesson at today’s service.

More details about the London Mayors’ Association can be found at www.londonmayors.org.uk

President: The Lord Mayor of Westminster
Chairman: Clare Whelan OBE DL
Today’s Service

This service is incorporated in the regular Abbey service of Evensong, which follows the custom of churches with a great choral tradition, where much of the service is sung by the choir alone. In those parts the congregation is invited to make its offering of praise by responding to the beauty of the choir’s music.

After an opening hymn and welcome by the Dean the service continues with responses sung by the officiant and choir. The roots of the Christian faith in the Old Testament are acknowledged by the singing of a Psalm and the reading of the first lesson from the Old Testament. The choir then sings Magnificat, the song of the Virgin Mary when she had received the promise of the birth of Jesus. The second lesson is from the New Testament, to which the choir responds by singing Nunc dimittis, the Song of Simeon, when he saw the child Jesus and recognized in him the fulfilment of the promises to Israel. After an affirmation of faith in the Apostles’ Creed there are further sung prayers. This ends the formal service of Evensong. There follow an anthem, hymns sung by all, prayers, and a sermon, which are more directly addressed to this particular occasion.

This is a specifically Christian service in the Anglican tradition, as are all services in Westminster Abbey, but it is hoped that members of other Christian bodies, those of other faiths, and all those of good will who are dedicated to the service of their fellow citizens will be able to find in it something that speaks to them and supports their aspirations.
THE DEDICATION OF WESTMINSTER ABBEY

St Edward the Confessor, King of England from 1042 to 1066, re-endowed the Benedictine monastery of Westminster and built a large Romanesque church for the monastic community. That building was dedicated on 28th December 1065. St Edward died shortly after the dedication. He was canonised in 1161 and on 13th October 1163 his body was moved, or ‘translated’, to a new tomb in the church which he had built.

St Edward’s Romanesque church survived until the 13th century, when it was replaced by a new church in the Gothic style built by Henry III: the building in which we now worship. A new shrine was constructed for the body of St Edward, and the translation of his relics to this shrine was an integral part of the liturgy of the dedication of this new church, 750 years ago, on 13th October 1269. The October date was chosen for the dedication because it was already established as the Feast of the Translation of St Edward. St Edward’s relics remain in that same shrine, which is behind the High Altar.

At the Abbey we keep the feast of the Translation of St Edward on 13th October, a celebration which focuses on the life of the saint. We keep the Feast of the Dedication of Westminster Abbey, focusing on the building as a sacred space, on the following Sunday.
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, played by Matthew Jorysz, Assistant Organist

Severn Suite Edward Elgar (1857–1934)

i. Introduction (Worcester Castle) arranged by Iain Farrington

ii. Toccata (Tournament) (b 1977)

iii. Fugue (The Cathedral)

iv. Minuet (Commandery)

v. Coda

The Chairman of the London Mayors’ Association is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and is conducted to her place in Quire. All remain seated.

Her Majesty’s Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London is received at the Great West Door and is conducted to his place in Quire. All remain seated.

The procession of the Mayors of the London Boroughs, together with The Lord Mayor of Westminster in Civic State, enters the Abbey Church. All stand as the procession moves to places in Quire, and then sit.
ORDER OF SERVICE

All remain seated. From the Nave the choir sings

THE INTROIT

LOCUS iste a Deo factus est, inaestimabile sacramentum: irreprehensibilis est.

This place was made by God: a priceless and unblemished sign of his presence.

Anton Bruckner (1824–96) Gradual, Mass for the dedication of a church

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

during which the choir and clergy move to places in Quire and the Sacrarium

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 threesfold glory,
singing everlastingly.
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
Henry Purcell (1659–95)
Organist of Westminster Abbey 1679–95
from O God, thou art my God

All remain standing for

THE WELCOME

by

The Very Reverend Dr John Hall
Dean of Westminster
All remain standing. The Reverend Christopher Stoltz, Minor Canon and Precentor, and the 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.

William Byrd (c 1540–1623)

All sit. The choir sings

PSALM 48

GREAT is the Lord, and highly to be praised:
in the city of our God, even upon his holy hill.
The hill of Sion is a fair place, and the joy of the whole earth:
upon the north-side lieth the city of the great King;
God is well known in her palaces as a sure refuge.

For lo, the kings of the earth:
are gathered, and gone by together.
They marvelled to see such things:
they were astonished, and suddenly cast down.

Fear came there upon them, and sorrow:
as upon a woman in her travail.

Thou shalt break the ships of the sea:
through the east-wind.
Like as we have heard, so have we seen
in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God:
   God upholdeth the same for ever.
We wait for thy loving-kindness, O God:
   in the midst of thy temple.
O God, according to thy name,
so is thy praise unto the world’s end:
   thy right hand is full of righteousness.
Let the mount Sion rejoice, and the daughters of Judah be glad:
   because of thy judgements.
Walk about Sion, and go round about her:
   and tell the towers thereof.
Mark well her bulwarks, set up her houses:
   that ye may tell them that come after.
For this God is our God for ever and ever:
   he shall be our guide unto death.

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.

*James Turle (1802–82) Organist of Westminster Abbey 1831–82*

*All sit. Her Majesty’s Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London, Sir Kenneth Olisa OBE, reads*

THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 7: 1–11
All stand. The choir sings

MAGNIFICAT
during which the High Altar is venerated with incense

My soul doth magnify the Lord:
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded:
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.
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 hath 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.

George Dyson (1883–1964) in D  
St Luke 1: 46–55

All sit. The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor of Westminster and Deputy High Steward, Councillor Ruth Bush, reads

THE SECOND LESSON

St Luke 19: 29–end
All stand. 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.

George Dyson in D

St Luke 2: 29–32

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 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

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 officiant sings

THE COLLECTS
of the Day, for Peace, and for Aid against all perils

 Almighty God, to whose glory we celebrate the dedication of this house of prayer; we praise thee for the many blessings thou hast given to those who worship thee here: and we pray that all who seek thee in this place may find thee, and, being filled with the Holy Spirit, may become a living temple acceptable unto thee; through Jesus Christ thy Son 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.

William Byrd
The officiant says

THE PRAYERS
for the Royal Family, and for the members of the Order of the Bath

A

LMIGHTY 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:
edue 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.
THE ANTHEM

BLESSED city, heavenly Salem,
Vision dear of peace and love,
Who of living stones art builded
In the height of heaven above,
And by Angel hands appareled
As a bride dost earthward move.

Out of heaven from God descending,
New and ready to be wed
To thy Lord, whose love espoused thee,
Fair adorned shalt thou be led;
All thy gates and all thy bulwarks
Of pure gold are fashioned.

Bright thy gates of pearl are shining,
They are open evermore;
And, their well earned rest attaining
Thither faithful souls do soar,
Who for Christ’s dear name in this world
Pain and tribulation bore.

Many a blow and biting sculpture
Polished well those stones elect,
In their places now compacted
By the heavenly Architect,
Nevermore to leave the Temple
Which with them the Lord hath decked.

To this Temple, where we call thee,
Come, O Lord of hosts, today;
With thy wonted loving kindness
Hear thy servants as they pray;
And thy fullest benediction
Shed within its walls alway. Amen.

Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)
Urbs beata Jerusalem c 7th century
Office hymn for the dedication of a church
translated by John Mason Neale (1818–66)
All kneel or remain seated for

THE INTERCESSIONS

at the end of which all say

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.

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

ALL my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
  God unknown,
  he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

God’s great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light, and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
  Evermore
  from his store
new-born worlds rise and adore.
Daily doth th’Almighty giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go.
    Love doth stand
    at his hand;
    joy doth wait on his command.

Still from man to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
    Christ doth call
    one and all:
    ye who follow shall not fall.

Michael 333 NEH
Herbert Howells (1892–1983)
Joachim Neander (1650–80)
translated by Robert Bridges (1844–1930)
All stand to sing

THE HYMN

during which a collection is taken; the money from today’s services will be given to The Lord Mayor’s Charity: Young Westminster Foundation

O praise ye the Lord!
praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word,
  ye angels of light;
ye heavens adore him
  by whom ye were made,
and worship before him,
  in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord!
praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord,
  ye sons of new birth;
praise him who has brought you
  his grace from above,
praise him who has taught you
  to sing of his love.

O praise ye the Lord!
all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord,
  re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory
  forth tell in deep tone,
and, sweet harp, the story
  of what he has done.
O praise ye the Lord!
  thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured
  all ages along:
for love in creation,
  for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation,
  O praise ye the Lord!
Amen, amen.

**Laudate Dominum 427 NEH**

*from* Hear my words, ye people

*Hubert Parry (1848–1918)*

**All remain standing for**

**THE BLESSING**

**Music after the service**

Triumphal March

*Alfred Hollins (1865–1942)*

The bells of the Abbey Church are rung

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

*Details of all Abbey services are available at the Abbey website www.westminster-abbey.org*

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