Westminster Abbey

The Commonwealth Service A Celebration of the Commonwealth

ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY

Monday 14th March 2022 2.40 pm
The whole of the church is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn the hearing aid to the setting marked T.

The service will be broadcast live on BBC One.

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 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.

The State Trumpeters of the Household Cavalry are directed by Trumpet Major Julian Sandford, and the Fanfare Team from the Band of the Welsh Guards is directed by Colour Sergeant Andrew Mercer.

Before the service The Melodians Steel Orchestra performs outside the Great West Door.

Matthew Jorysz, Assistant Organist, plays

Prelude and Fugue in C BWV 545 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Sursum Corda John Ireland (1879–1962)

Rhosymedre Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

Carillon Op 75 Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Hymns covered by Christian Copyright Licensing (International) Ltd are reproduced under CCL no 1040257
The London Youth Chamber Choir sings

Meguru                          Namibian traditional
Suo Gân                          Welsh traditional
                                   arranged by Richard Vaughan and Greg Beardsell
Dravidian Dithyramb             Victor Paranjoti
I love my Love                  arranged by Gustav Holst
I Jiova                          Fijian traditional
                                   arranged by Richard Vaughan
A Life Lived with Grace         Vincent Atueyi Chinemelu
                                   Words by Lucy Kiely
Red, Red Rose                   Neil Gow
                                   arranged by Katy Lavinia Cooper and Greg Beardsell

Matthew Jorysz plays

Festival                        Healey Willan (1880–1968)
Romance in B flat               William McKie (1901–1984)
                                   Organist of Westminster Abbey, 1941–63
Allegretto from Five Short Pieces Percy Whitlock (1903–1946)
Peter Holder, Sub-Organist, plays

Venus, the Bringer of Peace from The Planets Op 32

Gustav Holst (1874–1934) arranged by Peter Sykes

The New Commonwealth

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

THE PROCESSION OF HONOURED GUESTS AND PARTICIPANTS

THE FOUR LOYAL SOCIETIES

Honorary Steward

Prince Rahim Aga Khan

Vice President-designate

Royal Commonwealth Society

Brigadier Anthony Faith

CBE Chairman

The Victoria League for Commonwealth Friendship

The Honourable Alexander Downer

AC Chairman

Royal Over-Seas League

Mr Philip

Maudner Interim Chair

English-Speaking Union
# THE REPRESENTATIVES OF FAITH COMMUNITIES

**Verger**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representing the Buddhist Community</th>
<th>Representing the Baha’i Community</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Venerable Bogoda Seelawimala</td>
<td>Mrs Padideh Sabeti</td>
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<th>Representing the Sunni Muslim Community</th>
<th>Representing Liberal Judaism</th>
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<td>Shaykh Ibrahim Mogra</td>
<td>Rabbi Charley Baginsky</td>
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<td>Dr Natubhai Shah</td>
<td>Lord Singh of Wimbledon CBE</td>
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<th>Representing Orthodox Judaism</th>
<th>Representing Jewish Reform Synagogues</th>
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<td>Rabbi Dr Samuel Landau</td>
<td>Rabbi Debbie Young-Somers</td>
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<th>Representing the Zoroastrian Community</th>
<th>Representing the Shi’a Muslim Community</th>
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<td>Mr Malcolm Deboo</td>
<td>Maulana Sayed Ali Abbas Razawi</td>
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<th>Representing the Hindu Community</th>
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<td>Swami Suryaprabha Didi</td>
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THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHURCHES

Verger

The Church of Scotland
The Reverend William McLaren

The Methodist Church
The Reverend Tony Miles

The Roman Catholic Church
Fr Slavomir Witoń

The Syriac Orthodox Church
His Eminence Archbishop
Athanasius Thoma Dawod

The Armenian Orthodox Church
His Grace Bishop Hovakim

The Greek Orthodox Church
His Grace Bishop Maximos of Melitene

The Coptic Orthodox Church
His Eminence Archbishop
Angaelos

Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra The Honourable Lady Ogilvy and Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester are received by the Dean and Chapter. Presentations are made.

Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are received. Presentations are made.

All stand.

Their Royal Highnesses The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall are received. Presentations are made.

All remain standing as the procession moves to places in the Lantern and the Sacrarium.
THE PROCESSION

Beadle
The Choir of Westminster Abbey

The Queen’s Almshouse

The Cross of Westminster and Lights

The Minor Canons

The Receiver General

The High Bailiff The High Steward

Verger
The Canons of Westminster

Lord Sentamu

Honorary Steward
The Commonwealth Flag

The Chief Honorary Steward
The Chair of the Royal Commonwealth Society

The Secretary-General of the Commonwealth of Nations

The Prime Minister

The Dean’s Verger

The Commonwealth Mace

The Dean of Westminster

Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall

Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cambridge

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales

His Royal Highness The Duke of Cambridge

Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, The Honourable Lady Ogilvy
All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,
come ye before him, and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;
without our aid he did us make;
we are his folk, he doth us feed,
and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his name always,
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good;
his mercy is for ever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
the God whom heaven and earth adore,
from men and from the angel-host
be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

Old 100th 100 AMNS
melody in Genevan Psalter 1551
arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

Psalm 100
paraphrased W Kethe (d 1594)
in Anglo-Genevan Psalter 1560
Flags of all the Commonwealth nations are processed through the Quire and Lantern.

All sit. The Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle, Dean of Westminster, gives the Bidding

We gather in this house of prayer and place of coronation to acknowledge our common life as God’s people and to celebrate as a Commonwealth of Nations. In this jubilee year, in which we rejoice in the seventy years that Her Majesty The Queen has presided over this Commonwealth, we also thank God for her faithfulness, and commit ourselves to learn from an example of duty and service. In words and music, in the Abbey, we will now retrace the steps of her great Commonwealth tour begun seventy years ago. Then we will give thanks to God for our Queen and our common life. Confident in God’s grace, we will gather the richness and range of our lives into the shared offering of a common people with one hope under God.

The choir sings

Cantate Domino canticum novum;
laus eius in ecclesia sanctorum.
Laetetur Israel in eo qui fecit eum;
et filiae Sion exultent in rege suō.

O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.
Let Israel rejoice in their maker;
et the daughters of Zion be joyful in their king.

Giuseppe Pitoni (1657–1743)       Psalm 149: 1–2

Mica Paris sings

MAMA SAID

Members of Whānau London Voices sing

KA WAIATA

Elizabeth Kite gives

A REFLECTION

Intiaz Dharker and Jasdeep Singh Degun perform

OVER THE MOON
All stand to sing

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; praise him still the same for ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless.
   Praise him! Praise him!
glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows; in his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.
   Praise him! Praise him!
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.
Give the King thy judgements, O God,
and thy righteousness unto the King’s son.
Then shall he judge thy people according unto right,
and defend the poor.
The mountains also shall bring peace,
and the little hills righteousness unto the people.
He shall keep the simple folk by their right,
defend the children of the poor, and punish the wrong doer.
They shall fear thee, as long as the sun and moon endureth,
from one generation to another.
He shall come down like the rain into a fleece of wool,
even as the drops that water the earth.
In his time shall the righteous flourish;
yea, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth.
For he shall deliver the poor when he crieth,
the needy also, and him that hath no helper.
He shall be favourable to the simple and needy,
and shall preserve the souls of the poor.
He shall deliver their souls from falsehood and wrong,
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.
He shall live, and unto him shall be given of the gold of Arabia;
prayer shall be made ever unto him, and daily shall he be praised.
There shall be an heap of corn in the earth, high upon the hills:
his fruit shall shake like Libanus, and shall be green in the city like grass
upon the earth.
His name shall endure for ever; his name shall remain under the sun
among the posterities,
which shall be blessed through him; and all the people shall praise him.
Blessed be the Lord God, even the God of Israel,
which only doeth wondrous things;
And blessed be the name of his majesty for ever,
and all the earth shall be filled with his majesty. Amen, Amen.

Psalm 72: 1–7, 12–19
The Right Reverend and Right Honourable the Lord Sentamu of Lindisfarne and Masooli
gives the Address

The choir sings

O clap your hands, all ye people:
shout unto God with the voice of triumph.
For the Lord most high is terrible:
he is a great King over all the earth.
God is gone up with a shout:
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God:
sing praises unto our King.
For God is the King of all the earth:
sing ye praises every one that hath understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen:
God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness.
Sing praises unto our King; sing praises.

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Psalm 47: 1–2, 5–8

The Reverend Mark Birch, Precentor, introduces the prayers

Let us pray for the Commonwealth of Nations, and give thanks to God for his blessings.

All remain seated or kneel.

Heavenly Father, hear our prayers for every nation represented among us; for their leaders and peoples; that each may celebrate their diversity and our Commonwealth connections, and live in unity, prosperity, and peace.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer

Fr Slavomir Witoń, Administrator, Westminster Cathedral, says

Hear our prayers for the world we share, and for the good stewardship of its resources. We pray for those most affected by climate change, and that we each may work for a sustainable future; that the earth may bring forth its fruit and all God’s people may rejoice.
Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer

The Reverend Tony Miles, Superintendent Minister, Methodist Central Hall Westminster, says

Hear our prayers for every citizen and every community; that young and old together may hear the call to duty and service; that the cry of the poor may be answered, the needs of the sick be met, and those who sorrow may find their hope renewed.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer

The Reverend Dr James Hawkey, Canon in Residence, says

Hear our prayers for Her Majesty The Queen, the Head of the Commonwealth, in her platinum jubilee year; that our bonds of affection may remain strong, and our commitment to service be lifelong and steadfast.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer

Let us pray in the words that 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. Nadine Benjamin and the Commonwealth Ensemble, conducted by Debbie Wiseman, perform

BEACON OF BRIGHTTEST LIGHT
Let us now stand to pledge ourselves afresh to uphold and serve the values and fellowship of the Commonwealth.

We affirm that every person possesses unique worth and dignity.

We affirm our respect for nature, and that we will be stewards of the earth by caring for every part of it, and for it as a whole.

We affirm our belief in justice for everyone, and peace between peoples and nations.

Joining together in kinship and affinity, in diversity and unity, as members of a worldwide family of nations, we build on shared inheritances.

We cooperate with mutual respect and goodwill to deliver a common future for the good of all.

Through Commonwealth connection we see each other, hear each other, learn from one another, and innovate to transform our communities, our nations and our world.

_All respond_

We affirm our belief in the Commonwealth as a powerful influence for good in the world, and pledge ourselves to its service, now and for the future._
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 blessed 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)
arranged by Christopher Robinson
With friends representing the many communities of faith, let us now seek a blessing upon the Commonwealth, in all its diversity.

Faith leaders Swami Suryaprabha Didi, Malcolm Deboo, Rabbi Debbie Young-Somers, and Maulana Sayed Ali Abbas Razawi offer words of blessing for the Commonwealth. The Dean concludes

God grant to the living grace; to the departed rest; to the Church, The Queen, the Commonwealth, and all people, peace and concord; and to us sinners life everlasting; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and 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.

arranged by Gordon Jacob

All remain standing as the clergy and choir, Her Majesty The Queen, and Members of the Royal Family depart the Abbey church.

Music after the service

Celebration

Cecilia McDowall (b 1951)

Members of the congregations are asked to remain in their places until invited to move by the Honorary Stewards

The bells of the Abbey church are rung

A retiring collection is taken at the door. Please use the envelope provided.