

# Westminster Abbey



A Service of Thanksgiving  
to celebrate the birth and lasting legacy of  
The Right Honourable William Cecil,  
Lord Burghley KG  
13<sup>th</sup> September 1520—4<sup>th</sup> August 1598



Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022  
11.30 am





*Unknown Artist, after 1587*

## HISTORICAL NOTE

William Cecil, Lord Burghley was the man who made Elizabethan England work. Elizabeth I called him her "Spirit". He managed the realm on her behalf from November 1558 until his death in August 1598. He was her leading minister and at least as important as Cardinal Wolsey or Thomas Cromwell in a previous reign. His list of attainments spans the breadth of the English polity.

Born in Stamford in 1520 and educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, he studied law at Gray's Inn. He married Mary Cheke, sister of Sir John Cheke, one of Cambridge's leading scholars. She died young and he then married Mildred Cooke, one of five famously well-educated sisters.

By the time he was 30 he was the Third Principal Secretary of Edward VI's Privy Council. He was a devout Protestant and played a role in the creation of the 1552 Book of Common Prayer.

When Elizabeth ascended the throne, she appointed Cecil her Principal Secretary. He became her most trusted adviser. As Secretary of State, all royal correspondence passed through his hands, and, as Lord Treasurer and the Master of the Court of Wards, he acquired even greater power.

He believed deeply in the common law and acted accordingly. On Elizabeth's behalf, he brought England out of the religious and political chaos of the 1550s, re-established the Church of England and created a nation with a clear English Protestant identity. Through him, England avoided wars of religion. In Church matters, he collaborated with the Queen in establishing a *via media* that, above all, demanded loyalty to the Throne.

A patron of historians, linguists, and theologians, he was Chancellor of the University of Cambridge from 1559 until 1598 and was instrumental in founding Trinity College Dublin, in 1592.

He was a great builder. Burghley House in Stamford is his greatest surviving architectural achievement. Theobalds, where he frequently entertained Queen Elizabeth, has now disappeared. He left it to the son of his second marriage, Robert Cecil and, in 1607, James I acquired it in exchange for the Old Palace at Hatfield.

Burghley advocated a political union of Scotland and England, to be built on the new religion. He persuaded Elizabeth to invade Scotland and eject the French and was convinced of the need to execute Mary Queen of Scots.

At the start of Elizabeth's reign, the currency had lost much of its value. Burghley, with the help of Thomas Gresham, stabilised it and reformed the Customs.

He oversaw the defence of the realm, and, although keen to preserve the peace, he believed that the Pope and Spain were bent on Elizabeth's destruction. To keep her enemies at bay, he persuaded the Queen to intervene in the Netherlands. In the meantime, he prepared the nation for war and did so by using the Lord Lieutenants to create a military organisation that extended beyond existing government structures.

Through a more effective system of administration, Burghley created a more centralised state than had hitherto existed. His clerks catalogued and kept all the papers that came to his office. As a result, we know much of Elizabethan history from his documents which are now conserved at the National Archives, The British Library and Hatfield House.

Burghley made Elizabeth's success possible. He stabilised the currency, was godfather to a new religious settlement, repaired the country's defences and, in the world of the arts, was a patron of the English Renaissance. His achievements and their breadth laid the foundations for much of the country we know it today.

*Various sources  
The Lord Burghley 500 Foundation*

*The church is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their 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 David Hoyle MBE, Dean of Westminster.*

*The service is sung by the Special Service Choir of Westminster Abbey, directed by James O'Donnell, Organist and Master of the Choristers.*

*The organ is played by Matthew Jorysz, Assistant Organist*

*Music before the service*

*Charles Maxtone-Smith, Organ Scholar, plays*

*Fantasia in C* *William Byrd (1543–1623)*

*A Substantial Verse* *Thomas Tomkins (1572–1656)*

*Chorale Prelude on a Theme by Thomas Tallis* *Harold Darke  
(1888–1976)*

*Master Tallis' Testament* *Herbert Howells (1892–1983)*

*London Viols play*

*In Nomine* *Robert Parsons (1535–72)*

*The Leaves be Green* *William Byrd*

*Crudel Perche* *John Coperario (1570–1626)*

*Pavan a 5 Susanna un jour* *Joseph Lupo (1537–1616)*

*Undersheriff Biagio Fraulo, representing the High Sheriff of Greater London, is received. Presentations are made and he is conducted to his seat.*

*Dame Eleanor Laing MP, Deputy Speaker, representing The Speaker of the House of Commons, is received. Presentations are made and she is conducted to her seat.*

*The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor of Westminster, Councillor Hamza Taouzzale, and consort, are received. Presentations are made and they are conducted to their seats.*

*Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, The Honourable Lady Ogilvy, is received by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.*

# ORDER OF SERVICE

*All stand. The choir sings the Introit from places at the Great West Door*

**S**ALVATOR mundi, salva nos, qui per crucem et sanguinem  
redemisti nos: auxiliare nobis, te deprecamur, Deus noster.

*O Saviour of the world, save us, who by the cross and the blood have  
redeemed us: help us, we beseech you, our God.*

*Thomas Tallis (c 1505–85)*

*Antiphon at Good Friday Liturgy*

*All sing the Hymn, during which the procession moves to places in Quire,  
the Lantern, and the Sacrarium*



**T**HY hand, O God, has guided  
thy flock, from age to age;  
the wondrous tale is written,  
full clear, on every page;  
our fathers owned thy goodness,  
and we their deeds record;  
and both of this bear witness:  
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

Thy heralds brought glad tidings  
to greatest, as to least;  
they bade men rise, and hasten  
to share the great King's feast;  
and this was all their teaching,  
in every deed and word,  
to all alike proclaiming  
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

Through many a day of darkness,  
through many a scene of strife,  
the faithful few fought bravely  
to guard the nation's life.  
Their gospel of redemption,  
sin pardoned, man restored,  
was all in this enfolded,  
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

And we, shall we be faithless?  
Shall hearts fail, hands hang down?  
Shall we evade the conflict,  
and cast away our crown?  
Not so: in God's deep counsels  
some better thing is stored;  
we will maintain, unflinching,  
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

*Thornbury 485 NEH*  
*Basil Harwood (1859–1949)*

Thy mercy will not fail us,  
nor leave thy work undone;  
with thy right hand to help us,  
the victory shall be won;  
and then, by men and angels,  
thy name shall be adored,  
and this shall be their anthem,  
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

*Edward Plumptre (1821–91)*

*All remain standing. The Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle MBE, Dean of Westminster, gives the Bidding*

**A**LITTLE over five hundred years after his birth, we gather to celebrate the life of William, Lord Burghley, Secretary of State and principal adviser to the first Queen Elizabeth. We meet in this place of memory and remembrance, a place where he was High Steward, to acknowledge that he has shaped our history, as he shaped so much of the cultural and intellectual life of the first Elizabethan age. We remember a man of high and disciplined intelligence, a loyal public servant of rare ability, and a man of boundless energy and range.

His achievement and legacy are now being promoted by the Lord Burghley 500 Foundation. We will pray for their work as we pray for ourselves, that we might live fully to the glory of God and in the service of others.

*The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom, and their tongues speak justice. The law of their God is in their hearts; their steps do not slip.*

*Psalms 37: 30-31*

*All remain standing for the Procession of Artefacts. The Grant of Barony, carried by Mr William Oswald, and the Globe, carried by Miss Iris Cecil, are processed through the Abbey, received by the Dean, and placed near the High Altar.*

*London Viols play*

*Pavan The Earle of Salisbury*

*William Byrd  
arranged by Peter McCarthy (b 1954)*

*Gartr Principal King of Arms, proclaims Styles and Titles of The Right Honourable William Cecil, the Lord Burghley*

**T**HUS it hath pleased Almighty God to take out of this transitory life unto his divine mercy the late Right Honourable William Cecil, Baron Burghley, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, One of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Lord High Treasurer of England and sometime Her Majesty's Secretary of State, Her Majesty's Lieutenant for the County of Lincoln, Her Majesty's Lieutenant for the County of Essex, Her Majesty's Lieutenant for the County of Hertford, Master of the Court of Wards and Liveries, High Steward of Westminster, Chancellor of the University of Cambridge and Chancellor of the University of Dublin

*The Dean says*

**P**REVENT us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favour, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally by thy mercy obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All sit. Dr David Starkey CBE gives a Tribute*

*Simon Ponsford, Lay Vicar, with London Viols, sings*

**E**LIZA is the fairest Queen  
That ever trod upon the green.  
Eliza's eyes are blessed stars,  
Inducing peace, subduing wars.  
O blessed be each day and hour  
Where sweet Eliza builds her bower.  
  
Eliza's hand is crystal bright,  
Her words are balm, her looks are light.  
Eliza's breast is that fair hill,  
Where virtue dwells, and sacred skill.  
O blessed be each day and hour  
Where sweet Eliza builds her bower.

*Edward Johnson (1572-1601)*

*The Lord Barnard reads the First Lesson*

**I**EXHORT therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers,  
intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;  
For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a  
quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.  
For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;  
Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the  
knowledge of the truth.  
For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men,  
the man Christ Jesus;  
Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

*1 Timothy 2: 1-6*

Thanks be to God.

*The choir sings the Anthem*

**B**EHOLD, it is Christ which was ordained by God to be the Judge of the quick and the dead. To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name, whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of their sins.

*Edmund Hooper (c 1553–1621)  
Organist of Westminster Abbey 1585–1621*

*after Acts 10: 42–43*

*Viscount Cranborne reads the Second Lesson*

Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk. And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not? But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription? They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's. When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way.

*Matthew 22: 15–22*

Thanks be to God.

*All stand to sing the Hymn*



**T**EACH me, my God and King,  
in all things thee to see;  
and what I do in anything  
to do it as for thee!

A man that looks on glass,  
on it may stay his eye;  
or if he pleaseth, through it pass,  
and then the heaven espy.

All may of thee partake;  
nothing can be so mean,  
which with this tincture, 'for thy sake',  
will not grow bright and clean.

A servant with this clause  
makes drudgery divine;  
who sweeps a room, as for thy laws,  
makes that and the action fine.

This is the famous stone  
that turneth all to gold;  
for that which God doth touch and own  
cannot for less be told.

*Sandys 456 NEH*  
*from William Sandys'*  
*Christmas Carols Ancient and Modern 1833*

The Elixir  
*George Herbert (1593–1633)*

*All sit. The Right Reverend and Right Honourable the Lord Chartres of Wilton GCVO gives the Address*

*The choir sings the Anthem*

**W**HAT man is he that feareth the Lord :  
him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose.

His soul shall dwell at ease :

And his seed shall inherit the land.

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord :

he hath great delight in his commandments.

His seed shall be mighty upon the earth :

The generations of the faithful shall be blessed.

Riches and plenteousness shall be in his house :

and his righteousness endureth for ever

Unto the godly there ariseth up light in the darkness :

he is merciful, loving, and righteous.

A good man is merciful, and lendeth:

and will guide his words with discretion.

For he shall never be moved:

And the righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance.

*James MacMillan (b 1959)*

*Psalm 25: 11–12; 112: 1–6*

*commissioned by*

*The Lord Burghley 500 Foundation for this service*

*The Reverend Mark Birch, Precentor, introduces the Prayers*

Let us give thanks to God for the life and legacy of William Cecil, First Lord Burghley, and pray for those offices and institutions he served.

*All kneel or remain seated.*

*The Lord Rockley says*

**B**LESS, O Lord, the work of St John's College Cambridge, which is called by the name of thy beloved disciple; and grant that love of the brethren and all sound learning may ever grow and prosper here, to thy honour and glory, and to the good of thy people, who, with the Father and Holy Spirit, livest and reignest, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

*The St John's College Cambridge Prayer*

*The Right Honourable the Lord Benyon says*

**A**LMIGHTY God, by whom alone Kings reign, and Princes decree justice; and from whom alone cometh all counsel, wisdom, and understanding; we thine unworthy servants, here gathered together in thy Name, do most humbly beseech thee to send down thy Heavenly Wisdom from above, to direct and guide us in all our consultations; and grant that, we having thy fear always before our eyes, and laying aside all private interests, prejudices, and partial affections, the result of all our counsels may be to the glory of thy blessed Name, the maintenance of true Religion and Justice, the safety, honour, and happiness of the Queen, the publick wealth, peace and tranquillity of the Realm, and the uniting and knitting together of the hearts of all persons and estates within the same, in true Christian Love and Charity one towards another, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.  
**Amen.**

*The Prayer for Parliament*

*Mrs Miranda Rock DL says*

**A**LMIGHTY God, in whose sight a thousand years are but as yesterday: We give thee most humble and hearty thanks for that thou didst put it into the heart of thy servant, King Edward the Third, to found the Most Noble Order of the Garter as an order of Christian chivalry, and hast preserved and prospered it through the centuries unto this day. And we pray that, rejoicing in thy goodness, we may bear our part with those illustrious Companions who have witnessed to thy truth and upheld thine honour, through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, himself the source and pattern of true chivalry; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end.  
**Amen.**

*The Garter Prayer*

*Lord Valentine Cecil says*

**O**LORD our heavenly Father, high and mighty, King of kings, Lord of lords, the only Ruler of princes, who dost from thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth; most heartily we beseech thee with thy favour to behold our most Gracious Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth; and so replenish her with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, that she may always incline to thy will, and walk in thy way: Endue her plenteously with heavenly gifts; grant her in health and wealth long to live; strengthen her that she may vanquish and overcome all her enemies; and finally after this life she may attain everlasting joy and felicity, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Prayer for the Sovereign*

*The Precentor concludes*

All these our prayers and praises let us offer to Almighty God in the words our Saviour taught us:

**O**UR 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. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*All sit. The Marquess of Salisbury KG KCVO PC DL reads The British Church*

**I**JOY, dear mother, when I view  
Thy perfect lineaments, and hue  
Both sweet and bright.

Beauty in thee takes up her place,  
And dates her letters from thy face,  
When she doth write.

A fine aspect in fit array,  
Neither too mean nor yet too gay,  
Shows who is best.  
Outlandish looks may not compare,  
For all they either painted are,  
Or else undress'd.

She on the hills which wantonly  
Allureth all, in hope to be  
By her preferr'd,  
Hath kiss'd so long her painted shrines,  
That ev'n her face by kissing shines,  
For her reward.

She in the valley is so shy  
Of dressing, that her hair doth lie  
About her ears;  
While she avoids her neighbour's pride,  
She wholly goes on th' other side,  
And nothing wears.

But, dearest mother, what those miss,  
The mean, thy praise and glory is  
And long may be.  
Blessed be God, whose love it was  
To double-moat thee with his grace,  
And none but thee.

*George Herbert (1593–1633)*

*All stand to sing the Hymn*



**G**UIDE me, O thou great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy powerful hand:  
Bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fiery cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong Deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee.

*Cwm Rhondda 368 NEH  
John Hughes (1873–1932)  
translated by Peter Williams (1727–96) and others*

*Arglwydd, arwain trwy'r anialwch  
William Williams (1717–91)*

*All remain standing. The Dean pronounces the Blessing*

**G**OD 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 the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*All sing*

**G**OD save our gracious Queen,  
G 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 choir and clergy depart. The Dean conducts HRH Princess Alexandra to the West end of the Abbey.*

*Music after the service*

Chorale Prelude on the Old 104<sup>th</sup>

*Charles Hubert Parry  
(1848–1918)*

*The bells of the Abbey are rung*

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

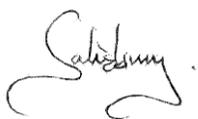
*There will be a retiring collection in aid of The Lord Burghley 500 Foundation*

## THE LORD BURGHLEY 500 FOUNDATION'S LEGACY

The Lord Burghley 500 Foundation has been responsible for organising a series of events to mark the quincentenary of Burghley's birth in 1520. Although somewhat affected by Covid, our events went ahead and the series culminates today in this Thanksgiving Service.

Burghley came from a relatively humble background and his formidable educational attainments enabled him to rise to the highest position in the land after the Queen. In his memory, the Foundation now plans to create a legacy by promoting projects concerning themselves with education and training. Our Trustees feel this approach would have won Burghley's approval. We have already endowed visiting research fellowships at Burghley's old college, St. John's, Cambridge. We will work with schools and colleges, particularly those near Hatfield and Burghley, to build programmes, both academic and technical, which can enhance the appeal of the subjects the scholars are studying. Proceeds from today's service will go towards funding this legacy.

We are immensely grateful to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster Abbey for allowing us to use the Abbey today and to you all for attending.



### THE LORD BURGHLEY 500 FOUNDATION

Royal Patron: His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales KG KT

Co-Chairmen and Trustees: The Marquess of Salisbury and Mrs Miranda Rock

Honorary Treasurer and Trustee: Charles Sebag-Montefiore

Steering Group members: Dr Janet Dickinson, Evie Duff Gordon,

Shana Fleming, Hilary Hugh-Jones, Dr Jill Husselby, The Hon Tim Palmer,

Mary-Ann Prior, Nog Sawdon



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