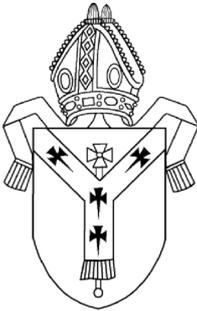


Westminster Abbey



A SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
AT THE INAUGURATION OF THE
TENTH GENERAL SYNOD OF THE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND



Tuesday 24th November 2015
10.45 am

HISTORICAL NOTE

The General Synod was created in 1970. It comprises around 470 voting members, of whom nearly 60 (including the Archbishops and other diocesan bishops) are members by virtue of their office and around 410 are elected for a five-year term of office.

The origins of the Synod can be traced back to the Middle Ages. Since before the Reformation the Provinces of Canterbury and York have each had a provincial synod called a Convocation, consisting of an Upper House of bishops and a Lower House of clergy. Advisory Houses of Laymen were added in 1886 (Canterbury) and 1892 (York). In 1919 Parliament conferred legislative authority on a new body, the Church Assembly, which met for the first time the following year. It consisted of the Convocations and a House of Laity and had the power to pass Measures which, if approved by Parliament, received the Royal Assent and became part of the statute law of England. The right to make canon law remained with the Convocations.

In 1970 the General Synod acquired the powers of the Church Assembly and most of those of the Convocations. It too consists of the Convocations and a House of Laity. In 1974 Parliament approved legislation giving the General Synod power to approve liturgies for use alongside those in The Book of Common Prayer and also to decide on the form in which the clergy should declare their assent to the doctrine of the Church of England.

Every five years the newly constituted Convocations and the House of Laity are summoned to an inaugural service of Holy Communion in Westminster Abbey. Afterwards they assemble in the Assembly Hall in Church House. By custom the Archbishop of York reads the Gospel at the inaugural service of a new Synod. On this occasion he has invited the Bishop of Stockport, who in January became the first woman to be ordained bishop in the Church of England, to do so.

Members of the congregation are kindly requested to refrain from using private cameras, video, or sound recording equipment. Please ensure that mobile phones, pagers, and other electronic devices are switched off.

The President is The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of All England and Metropolitan.

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 Daniel Cook, Sub-Organist.

The trumpeters of the Band of the Household Cavalry, led by Trumpet Major Philip Bishop, play by kind permission of Major-General Edward Smyth-Osbourne CBE, Major-General Commanding the Household Division.

Music before the service:

Martin Ford, Assistant Organist, plays:

Praeludium in C BUXWV 137 *Dietrich Buxtehude (c 1637–1707)*

Veni Creator Spiritus *Nicolas de Grigny (1672–1703)*

Prelude and Fugue in G Op 37 no 2 *Felix Mendelssohn (1809–47)*

Fantaisie in A *César Franck (1822–90)*

Choral varié sur le thème du 'Veni Creator' Op 4 *Maurice Duruflé
(1902–86)*

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At 10.00 am the Procession of the General Synod enters the Abbey, and moves through the Nave to places in the Transepts and Lantern, in the order: members representing the dioceses of the Province of Canterbury, members representing the special constituencies, and members representing the dioceses of the Province of York. All remain seated.

The Procession of the Officers of the General Synod moves through the Nave to places in the north-east Lantern. All remain seated.

The Procession of the Representatives of other Churches and of ecumenical bodies moves through the Nave to places in the north-west Lantern. All remain seated.

The Procession of the Assisting Eucharistic Ministers moves from the Lady Chapel to places in the north-east and north-west Lantern. All remain seated.

Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Greater London is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and is conducted to his place in Quire. All remain seated.

The Lord Mayor of Westminster is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. Presentations are made. She is conducted to her place in Quire. All stand, and then sit.

A fanfare is sounded. All stand.

Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh are received by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. Presentations are made.

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE PROCESSION OF THE QUEEN

Beadle

The Choir of Westminster Abbey

Queen's Almsmen

The Cross of Westminster and Lights

The Priests Vicar of Westminster

The Minor Canons of Westminster

Canons' Verger

The Canon Theologian

The Bishop of Stockport

The Sub-Dean, Rector of St Margaret's
Church, and Archdeacon of Westminster

The Preacher

Dean's Verger

The Dean of Westminster

His Royal Highness
The Duke of Edinburgh

HER MAJESTY
THE QUEEN

Royal Suite in Attendance

THE PROCESSION OF THE ARCHBISHOPS OF CANTERBURY AND YORK

Archbishops' Verger

The Primatial Cross of York

The Primatial Cross of Canterbury

The Archbishop of York

The Archbishop of Canterbury

The Synodal Secretary of the
Convocation of York

The Synodical Secretary of the
Convocation of Canterbury

All remain standing to sing

THE HYMN

during which the Procession, together with Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh, moves to the east end of the Church.



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 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
gifts of grace by prayer 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
arranged by Christopher Robinson (b 1936)

Latin, c 7th–8th century
translated by John Mason Neale (1818–66)
and compilers of AMR

All remain standing. The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of All England and Metropolitan, says

THE GREETING

Peace be with you
and also with you.

All remain standing for

THE PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world and knows our every word and deed. Let us then open ourselves to the Lord and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

MOST merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess **that we have sinned in thought, and word, and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart, we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

ALMIGHTY God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All remain standing for

THE COLLECT

The Archbishop says:

Let us pray.

A period of silence is kept.

ALMIGHTY God, you have given your Holy Spirit to the Church to lead us into all truth: bless with the Spirit's grace and presence the members of this Synod; keep us steadfast in faith and united in love, that we may manifest your glory and prepare the way of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All sit. William Fittall, Secretary General of the General Synod, reads

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

IN the second year of King Darius, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest: Thus says the Lord of hosts: These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the Lord's house. Then the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying: Is it a time for you yourselves to live in your panelled houses, while this house lies in ruins? Now therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider how you have fared. You have sown much, and harvested little; you eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill; you clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; and you that earn wages earn wages to put them into a bag with holes.

Thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider how you have fared. Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honoured, says the Lord.

Haggai 1: 1-8

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All stand. The Gospel Procession moves to the Nave. The Choir sings

THE MOTET

IF ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth.

Thomas Tallis (c 1505–85)

St John 14: 15–17a

THE GOSPEL READING

The Right Reverend Libby Lane, Bishop of Stockport, says

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

JESUS said, ‘I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

‘Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.’

St John 17: 20–26

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

All sit for

THE SERMON

by

Father Raniero Cantalamessa O.F.M. CAP.
Preacher to the Papal Household

All kneel or remain seated. The Most Reverend and Right Honourable John Sentamu, Archbishop of York, Primate of England and Metropolitan, introduces

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Alexandra Podd, Church of England Youth Council, says:

HEAVENLY Father, we pray for your Church throughout the world, for Justin and Sentamu our Archbishops, and for all the members and staff of this Synod. Grant us wisdom and discernment. Help us to listen to one another and to you, to bear with one another in love, and to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for justice and peace throughout the world. Bless and guide Elizabeth our Queen, give wisdom to all in authority under her, and help us all to work for the common good.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

The Reverend Dr Roger Walton, Methodist Church, says:

WE pray for the mission of the Church. Inspire us as we seek to proclaim the faith afresh and make Christ known to a new generation.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Hear us as we pray for those who are dispossessed, unemployed, living in fear, and for young people seeking meaningful and fruitful engagement with the world.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

The Reverend Canon John O'Toole, Roman Catholic Church, says:

HEAR us as we remember those who have died in the faith of Christ, especially former members and staff of this Synod, and all who have inspired us in our Christian vocation.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Peter, St Edward the Confessor, and all your saints, we commend ourselves and the whole creation to your unfailing love.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

The Archbishop of York concludes:

GENEROUS God, you sent your Holy Spirit upon your Messiah at the river Jordan, and upon the disciples in the upper room: in your mercy fill us with your Spirit, hear our prayer, and make us one in heart and mind to serve you with joy for ever. **Amen.**

All stand for

THE PEACE

The Archbishop of Canterbury says:

GOD has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

All remain standing. A collection is taken, to be shared between Christian Aid and US (Christian charities working to relieve the suffering of refugees around the world, and to help them find a safe and sustainable future). If you are a UK taxpayer and would like to take advantage of the Gift Aid scheme, please utilise the envelope provided. The altar is prepared, and the Archbishop takes the bread and wine, during which all sing

THE HYMN



COME down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far surpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

*Down Ampney 137 NEH
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)*

*Bianco da Siena (d 1434)
translated by Richard Littledale (1833–90)*

All remain standing. The Archbishop says

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

IT is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For he is our great high priest who has entered once for all into the heavenly sanctuary, evermore to pour upon your Church the grace and comfort of your Holy Spirit. He is the one who has gone before us, who calls us to be united in prayer as were his disciples in the upper room while they awaited his promised gift, the life-giving Spirit of Pentecost. Therefore all creation yearns with eager longing as angels and archangels sing the endless hymn of praise.

The Choir sings:

SANCTUS, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–91) in D

LORD, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.
Amen.

All remain standing. The Archbishop introduces

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Archbishop breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

WE break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

THE GIVING OF COMMUNION

The Archbishop says:

JESUS is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

The Archbishops receive communion.

Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh receive communion.

Members of the congregation are requested to move only as invited by the Stewards and Vergers.

Communicant members of other churches are welcome to receive communion.

If you are not a communicant you are welcome to come forward for a blessing, in which case please carry this service sheet in your hands to indicate to those administering that you are asking for a blessing.

Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies
Amen.

During the distribution the Choir sings:

AGNUS Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in D

DUM complerentur dies Pentecostes, erant omnes pariter dicentes Alleluia! Et subito factus est sonus de coelo, tamquam spiritus vehementis, et replevit totam domum. Alleluia! Dum ergo essent in unum discipuli congregati propter metum Judaeorum sonus repente de caelo venit super eos. Alleluia!

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all with one accord saying Alleluia! And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house. Alleluia! When therefore the disciples were gathered together for fear of the Jewish people suddenly a sound came upon them from heaven. Alleluia!

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c 1525–94) Acts 2: 1–2, and after St John 20: 19

All remain seated to sing

THE HYMN

God of the poor, friend of the weak,
 give us com pas - sion we pray: melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain;
 come, change our love from a spark to a flame.

BEAUTY for brokenness
 Hope for despair
 Lord, in your suffering
 This is our prayer
 Bread for the children
 Justice, joy, peace
 Sunrise to sunset
 Your kingdom increase!

Shelter for fragile lives
 Cures for their ills
 Work for the craftsman
 Trade for their skills
 Land for the dispossessed
 Rights for the weak
 Voices to plead the cause
 Of those who can't speak.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion we pray;
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain;
come, change our love
from spark to a flame.*

Refuge from cruel wars	Rest for the ravaged earth
Havens from fear	Oceans and streams
Cities for sanctuary	Plundered and poisoned
Freedoms to share	Our future, our dreams
Peace to the killing-fields	Lord, end our madness
Scorched earth to green	Carelessness, greed
Christ for the bitterness	Make us content with
His cross for the pain.	The things that we need.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion we pray;
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain;
come, change our love
from spark to a flame.*

Lighten our darkness
Breathe on this flame
Until your justice
Burns brightly again
Until the nations
Learn of your ways
Seek your salvation
And bring you their praise.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion we pray;
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain;
come, change our love
from spark to a flame.*

Once the distribution has ended, all stand. The Archbishop says

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

A period of silence is kept.

GOD of power, whose Holy Spirit renews your people in the bread and wine we bless and share: may the boldness of the Spirit transform us, the gentleness of the Spirit lead us, and the gifts of the Spirit equip us to serve and worship you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All remain standing to sing

THE HYMN



GLORIOUS things of thee are spoken,
Sion, city of our God;
he whose word cannot be broken
formed thee for his own abode:
on the rock of ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove:
who can faint, while such a river
ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord the giver,
never fails from age to age.

Saviour, if of Sion's city
I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy name:
fading is the worldling's pleasure,
all his boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasure
none but Sion's children know.

Abbot's Leigh 185 NEH
Cyril Taylor (1907–92)

362 NEH
John Newton (1725–1807)

All remain standing. The Archbishop gives

THE BLESSING

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who has made heaven and earth.

Blessed be the name of the Lord,
now and for ever. Amen.

THE Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

All remain standing to 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 (1895–1984)

Music after the service:

Allegro from Symphonie VI

Charles-Marie Widor (1844–1937)

All remain standing as the Procession of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York moves to the west end of the Abbey, followed by

The Procession of The Queen

The Procession of the Officers of the General Synod

The Procession of the Representatives of other Churches
and of various ecumenical bodies

The Lord Mayor of Westminster

Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Greater London

**Members of the General Synod and members of the Congregation
are requested to remain in their places until invited to move by the
Stewards.**

The bells of the Abbey Church are rung.