

St Margaret's Church
Westminster Abbey



A SERVICE FOR THE
NEW PARLIAMENT

Tuesday 9th June 2015

9.30 am

The whole of the church is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.

Please ensure that mobile phones, cellular phones, and pagers are switched off.

The service is conducted by The Venerable Andrew Tremlett, Sub-Dean, Rector of St Margaret's, and Archdeacon of Westminster, and The Reverend Prebendary Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons.

*Please join in singing the hymns and in saying the words printed in **bold type**.*

The service is sung by the Choir of St Margaret's Church, conducted by Aidan Oliver, Director of Music.

The organ is played by Thomas Trotter.

Music before the service:

The organist plays:

Vivace from Trio Sonata no 6 in G BWV 530 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

*Chanson de Matin Edward Elgar (1857–1934)
arranged by G Martin*

The Lord Mayor of Westminster is received at the East Door and escorted to her seat. All stand, and then sit.

The Lord Speaker is received at the East Door and escorted to her seat. All stand, and then sit.

The Speaker of the House of Commons is received at the East Door and escorted to his seat. All stand, and then sit.

ORDER OF SERVICE

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

GUIDE 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)*

*William Williams (1717–91)
translated by Peter Williams (1727–96) and others*

All remain standing. The Rector gives

THE WELCOME AND BIDDING

AT the start of this new parliament we come together to seek wisdom in our endeavours, forgiveness for our failings, and the guidance of God's Holy Spirit. As we seek to serve the people of the United Kingdom, we are conscious of the trust placed in us for the good of our whole nation. We are mindful of the responsibility we share to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God. As we begin our work together, we seek for ourselves, and for all our colleagues, integrity, courage, and hope for the future.

GO before us, Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favour, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name, and finally by your mercy obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Speaker's Chaplain says:

In the light of Christ's grace and strength, let us acknowledge our sins and weaknesses, and ask for his forgiveness.

We have wilfully misused your gifts of creation;
Lord, be merciful:

All **forgive us our sin.**

We have seen the ill-treatment of others
and have not gone to their aid;
Lord, be merciful:

All **forgive us our sin.**

We have condoned evil and dishonesty
and failed to strive for justice;
Lord, be merciful:

All **forgive us our sin.**

We have heard the good news of Christ,
but have failed to share it with others;
Lord, be merciful:

All **forgive us our sin.**

We have not loved you with all our heart,
nor our neighbours as ourselves;
Lord, be merciful:

All **forgive us our sin.**

The almighty and merciful Lord
grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins,
time for amendment of life,
and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

All sit. The Right Honourable The Baroness D'Souza, Lord Speaker, reads

JEREMIAH 29: 10–14

FOR thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfil to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

All remain seated. The Choir sings

PSALM 67

GOD be merciful unto us, and bless us: and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us;
that thy way may be known upon earth: thy saving health among all nations.
Let the people praise thee, O God: yea, let all the people praise thee.
O let the nations rejoice and be glad: for thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations upon earth.
Let the people praise thee, O God: let all the people praise thee.
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase: and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.
God shall bless us: and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

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.

Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)

The Right Honourable John Bercow MP, Speaker of the House of Commons, reads

ST JOHN 13: 1–14

NOW before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was

going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' Jesus said to him, 'One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.' For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.' After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.'

All remain seated. The Choir sings

THE ANTHEM

I WAS glad when they said unto me: We will go into the house of the Lord.
Our feet shall stand in thy gates: O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem is builded as a city: that is at unity in itself.
O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls: and plenteousness within thy palaces.

Hubert Parry (1848–1918)

Psalm 122: 1–3, 6–7

THE ADDRESS

by

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

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

DEAR Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways!
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee.

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still small voice of calm!

Repton 353 NEH
Hubert Parry (1848–1918) from Judith

John Whittier (1807–92)

All kneel or sit. Canon Pat Browne, Roman Catholic Duty Priest to the Houses of Parliament, leads

THE PRAYERS

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

The Right Honourable Jeffrey Donaldson MP says:

FOR Her Majesty The Queen; for her Government and Loyal Opposition; for the leaders of the political parties; and for all who assist them in the discharge of their duties: that they may work for the good of the whole nation, and pursue all that builds up our common life.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The Right Honourable Caroline Spelman MP says:

FOR the Officers of the Palace of Westminster: for the Speaker and the Lord Speaker; for Black Rod, the Serjeant at Arms, the Clerk of the House, and the Clerk of the Parliaments; that they may enable the business of Government with impartiality and fairness.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Ian Blackford MP says:

FOR all Palace staff in their several capacities: for a blessing upon them and their families; that they may find dignity and meaning in their contribution to the life and business of Government.

Lord, in your mercy;

hear our prayer.

Jonathan Edwards MP says:

FOR all who have been elected Members of the House of Commons: for the needful gifts of grace, humility and integrity; that they may faithfully represent their constituents, and promote equity and unity amongst all people.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

The Baroness Brinton says:

FOR all who sit in the House of Lords: for the Lords Spiritual, for all life peers and hereditary peers; that each may use their wisdom and experience for the better governing of this nation.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Mark Harris, Christians in Parliament All-Party Parliamentary Group, says:

FOR the Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons, and all Christians working in Parliament: for God's blessing on them in their several ministries, that they may be endued with the spirit of counsel and true godliness, and work faithfully for the coming of God's kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Dawn Butler MP says:

FOR the strengthening of our national values of democracy and tolerance: for greater engagement and participation in political life and the ardent pursuit of justice, equality, and fairness for all; that this nation might be a light in the world, and a beacon amongst nations.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Canon Pat Browne says:

LORD, the God of righteousness and truth, grant to our Queen and her Government, to Members of Parliament and to all in positions of responsibility the guidance of your Spirit. May they never lead the nation wrongly through love of power, desire to please, or unworthy ideals; but laying aside all private interests and prejudices keep in mind their responsibility to seek to improve the condition of all mankind; so may your kingdom come and your name be hallowed. **Amen.**

Parliamentary Prayer

The Speaker's Chaplain concludes:

All these our prayers and praises let us now present before our heavenly Father, in the prayer our Saviour Christ 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.**

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

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 blessèd 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

from Johann Crüger's Praxis pietatis melica c1647

German, Martin Rinkart (1586–1649)

translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827–78)

All remain standing. The Speaker's Chaplain gives

THE BLESSING

GO forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no-one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Music after the service:

Carillon de Westminster Op 54 no 6

Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

Members of the Congregation are requested to remain in their places until directed to move by the Stewards.

THE CHAPEL OF ST MARY UNDERCROFT

Holy Communion services

The Chapel seeks to be a place of refuge, peace and reflection amidst the busy nature of our working lives. Holy Communion services, led by the Speaker's Chaplain, are held in the Chapel, whilst the Houses are sitting, each Wednesday at 10.15 am and 12.45 pm. Each service lasts half an hour. Twice a month, at the 12.45pm service, there is a Sung Eucharist with the Undercroft Choir.

There is a Roman Catholic Mass at 6.00 pm every Wednesday whilst the Houses are sitting, led by the Roman Catholic Duty Priest, Father Pat Browne. All are welcome.

One Wednesday per month (for Members and Peers only), there is a service of Holy Communion in St Margaret's Church at 7.45 am. This is followed by a light breakfast, including a speaker sharing on a chosen topic. We end at 9.00 am sharp.

Other services

The Chapel also hosts services for other Christian groups in Parliament, including the Conservative Christian Fellowship, Christians on the left, the Liberal Democrat Christian Forum and the Cross Party group Christians in Parliament.

The Chapel of St Mary Undercroft is available for the following services at which The Speaker's Chaplain officiates:

- baptisms of Members or staff of both Houses with at least two years' service, and their direct descendants
- weddings and services of blessing for Members or staff of both Houses with at least two years' service, and their direct descendants
- memorial services to commemorate the death of Members or staff of both Houses (this privilege available when the deceased was a Member or member of staff at the time of death)

The Chapel is a Royal Peculiar controlled by the Lord Great Chamberlain and under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Dean of Westminster. Before applying in writing, it is helpful to discuss the dates and confirm the availability of the Chapel with the Clerk to the Lord Great Chamberlain, Ms Nicola Rivis (rivisn@parliament.uk).

CHRISTIANS IN PARLIAMENT ALL-PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

Christians in Parliament works to support Members and Staff of both Houses and all parties in their work in the Houses of Parliament. We do this through Bible study and prayer groups, chapel services, lectures in the Speaker's House, policy discussion events, and the annual National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast in Westminster Hall. This work is facilitated by two Parliamentary Officers, Mark Harris and James Lee. Further details can be found at our website: www.christiansinparliament.org.uk

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Westminster Abbey was built as part of a Benedictine monastery, and as a sacred place for the crowning and burial of the English kings and queens. Since it was never intended to serve the needs of the local community, in about 1150 a parish church was built by the Abbey's monks to be the parish church for the people of Westminster.

The church, immediately adjacent to the Abbey, was dedicated to St Margaret of Antioch, a fourth-century saint whose colourful but apocryphal legend appealed to mediaeval piety. The present building, the third St Margaret's on this site, was begun about 1488 and consecrated on 9th April 1523. In the reign of Edward VI, Lord Protector Somerset wanted to pull down the church to provide stone for his great new palace on the Thames, Somerset House, but the citizens of Westminster turned out in force with bows, clubs, and staves, and sent the workmen packing!

St Margaret's has played a major part in the local history of Westminster for many centuries, and has associations with many historic figures: Geoffrey Chaucer, William Caxton, John Milton, and Samuel Pepys worshipped regularly in the Church; Sir Walter Raleigh's body was buried here after his execution in October 1618; and Sir Winston Churchill was married at St Margaret's in 1908.

On Palm Sunday, 17th April 1614, the Speaker of the House of Commons led Members of Parliament to St Margaret's for a corporate celebration of Holy Communion, thus beginning an association with St Margaret's and the House of Commons so that even today St Margaret's is popularly known as 'the parish church of the House of Commons'. The front pew on the right hand side is reserved for The Speaker. The House came to the church for a Thanksgiving Service at the end of the Second World War in 1945, and to mark the opening of the new Chamber of the Commons in 1950. In 1972, because the resident population of the parish had shrunk to only a few hundred people, St Margaret's ceased to be a parish church and was merged with Westminster Abbey by Act of Parliament. However, Members of both Houses, and the officers and staff of the Palace of Westminster, often come to St Margaret's for their weddings, baptisms, memorial services, and other occasions.