

# Westminster Abbey



A SERVICE OF  
EVENING PRAYER  
IN THE PRESENCE OF  
HIS HOLINESS POPE BENEDICT XVI  
AND HIS GRACE  
THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY



Friday 17 September 2010  
6.15 pm

## THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST PETER IN WESTMINSTER

Westminster Abbey's recorded history can be traced back well over a thousand years. Dunstan, Bishop of London, brought a community of Benedictine monks here around 960 AD and a century later King Edward established his palace nearby and extended his patronage to the neighbouring monastery. He built for it a great stone church in the Romanesque style which was consecrated on 28 December 1065. The Abbey was dedicated to St Peter, and the story that the Apostle himself consecrated the church is a tradition of eleventh-century origin. King Edward died in January 1066 and was buried in front of the new high altar. When Duke William of Normandy (William I) arrived in London after his victory at the Battle of Hastings he chose to be crowned in Westminster Abbey, on Christmas Day 1066. The Abbey has been the coronation church ever since.

The Benedictine monastery flourished owing to a combination of royal patronage, extensive estates, and the presence of the shrine of St Edward the Confessor (King Edward had been canonised in 1161). Westminster's prestige and influence among English religious houses was further enhanced in 1222 when papal judges confirmed that the monastery was exempt from English ecclesiastical jurisdiction and answerable direct to the Pope.

The present Gothic church was begun by King Henry III in 1245. By October 1269 the eastern portion, including the Quire, had been completed and the remains of St Edward were translated to a new shrine east of the High Altar. They remain there to this day surrounded by the later tombs of Henry III and many of his royal successors. Completing the Gothic church took several centuries more, but a decision to continue in the original architectural style gave the building a striking visual unity even though the west end of the nave was not finally vaulted until the early sixteenth century. By then work on the magnificent Lady Chapel of King Henry VII was also well advanced. It became the resting place of many Tudor and Stuart monarchs and since 1725 has been the chapel of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath. The Abbey's distinctive western towers came later still and were not completed until 1745.

The dissolution of the monastery in 1540 brought to an end (apart from a brief revival during the reign of Queen Mary I) six centuries of Benedictine life at Westminster. By a royal grant of Queen Elizabeth I in May 1560 the Abbey became 'The Collegiate Church of St Peter, Westminster' which it remains to this day although the traditional title 'Westminster Abbey' has always continued in use. The Collegiate Church, governed by a Dean and Chapter, was required both to continue the monastic tradition of daily worship, albeit in the reformed Anglican manner, and to oversee the education of forty Scholars who formed the nucleus of what is now Westminster School. The new foundation also retained its tradition of ecclesiastical independence, for it was now a 'Royal Peculiar', exempt from episcopal authority as before and answerable direct to the Sovereign as Visitor.

Since the nineteenth century Westminster Abbey has increasingly come to be seen as a 'national' church, performing a special role in the country's life as the coronation church and as the place where kings, queens, and many great figures of British history are buried or commemorated. The many State occasions, Special Services, and other events which the Abbey hosts or organizes are

now a key part of its ministry. Westminster Abbey has also become a major tourist attraction, welcoming over a million visitors each year, and the Dean and Chapter has the responsibility of maintaining one of the most important and historic church buildings in the country. Underpinning all these activities, however, is the pattern of regular choral services and the daily Office and Eucharist which has continued on this site with barely an interruption since at least the time of St Dunstan in the middle of the tenth century.

## CHRISTIAN UNITY

2010 marks the 50th anniversary of two auspicious events in the history of ecumenism. In 1960 the Secretariat (now the Pontifical Council) for Promoting Christian Unity was established, entrusted by the Holy See with responsibility for nurturing interaction and collaboration with other churches and world communions. The Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity now oversees more than a dozen international theological dialogues, and representatives of many of these are present at this evening's service. On 2 December 1960, Archbishop Geoffrey Fisher of Canterbury made his historic personal visit to Pope John XXIII. Their meeting initiated an increasingly substantial dialogue between successive popes and archbishops of Canterbury, the establishment of the Anglican Centre in Rome, and a strengthening of interdenominational ties.

The specific dialogue between Roman Catholics and Anglicans is formed of several strands. The first strand is ARCIC, an international commission founded in 1967 to focus theologically on the issues that still divide the two communions. Its first phase (1970–81) achieved an impressive degree of theological convergence on the Eucharist, ministry, and authority, and its statements were welcomed by the highest authorities of each church. The agreements of its second phase (1983–2005), on a more diverse range of topics, remain to be authoritatively received. A third period of theological conversation, expected to begin in the near future, will address more of the issues, old and new, which inhibit progress towards Christian Unity.

The second strand of dialogue is a commission of bishops, IARCCUM, which was established in 2000 with the task of promoting theological consensus as a sound basis for growing together in faith and life, mission and witness. It is in this context that this afternoon's meeting of Anglican and Roman Catholic bishops at Lambeth Palace took place.

The third strand is the most diverse, incorporating common declarations and regular personal meetings of the heads of the two communions, regional committees and joint episcopal meetings, and partnerships and initiatives in local communities.

At the heart of all these strands of dialogue remains the call 'to pray and work for reconciliation and ecclesial unity according to the mind and heart of our Saviour Jesus Christ' (Pope John Paul II, Canterbury Cathedral, 29 May 1982).

EVANGELIA CANTUARIENSIA  
THE ST AUGUSTINE GOSPELS

The St Augustine Gospels—sometimes known as the Canterbury Gospels—are a sixth-century Gospel book of Italian provenance which may have been brought from Rome by St Augustine in 597 on his first mission to re-evangelize Britain. It is the oldest illustrated Latin Gospel book in existence, and has been in England longer than any other book. As a symbol of religion, history, and literacy it is one of the most evocative books in Christendom and upon it the Archbishops of Canterbury still take their oaths of office.

During the papal visit of 1982 these Gospels were given the place of honour at the ecumenical celebration in Canterbury Cathedral – enthroned on the chair of St Augustine, the *cathedra* or teaching seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury, between Archbishop Robert Runcie and Pope John Paul II. Today they are to be venerated by Archbishop Rowan Williams and Pope Benedict XVI following the reading of a passage from the Gospel according to St Mark.

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

*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 Robert Quinney, Sub-Organist.*

*The Papal Address to Civil Society in Westminster Hall will be screened live throughout the Abbey.*

*Music before the Papal Address:*

*James McVinnie, Assistant Organist, plays:*

Ricercare à 6 from A Musical Offering  
BWV 1079

*Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685–1750)*

Fantasia BK 62

*William Byrd (c 1540–1623)*

Voluntary for Double Organ

*Henry Purcell (1659–95)  
Organist of Westminster Abbey 1679–95*

Allegro maestoso from Sonata in G Op 28

*Edward Elgar (1857–1934)*

Benedictus

*Max Reger (1873–1916)*

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

*Music after the Papal Address:*

*Robert Quinney, Sub-Organist, plays:*

Komm, heiliger Geist, Herre Gott BWV 652

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

*Hymns covered by Christian Copyright Licensing (Europe) Ltd are reproduced under CCL no 1040271.*

# ORDER OF SERVICE

## THE ARRIVAL

*All stand.*

*His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI and The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Dr Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of All England and Metropolitan, accompanied by The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Dr John Sentamu, Archbishop of York, Primate of England and Metropolitan, and The Most Reverend Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster, are received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.*

*The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster, welcomes His Holiness The Pope to the Collegiate Church of St Peter in Westminster, saying:*

**Y**OUR Holiness, the Dean and Chapter welcomes you most warmly as the first Pope to visit this Church dedicated to St Peter, which has been the kingdom's coronation church since 1066, and which, for 600 years as a Benedictine Abbey, until the English Reformation, enjoyed a close relationship of mutual support with the papacy.

Heads of State visiting Her Majesty The Queen join us here in respect for the Grave of the Unknown Warrior, since 1920 a potent symbol, for this nation and for the world, of the suffering and devastation of warfare. I invite you to lead us in asking of almighty God, for his world and for his people, the gift of peace.

*Pope Benedict XVI says:*

**L**ORD God, you hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our anger and sorrow, and give peace to your Church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts; in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All remain standing as leaders of the Churches in the British Isles are presented to the Pope.*

*As the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury retire to the Jericho Parlour to vest, the Choir sings:*

**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.

*William Byrd (c1540–1623)*

*Book of Common Prayer*

**B**EATI quorum via integra est: qui ambulant in lege Domini.

*Blessed are they whose way is blameless: who walk in the law of the Lord.*

*Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)*

*Psalm 119: 1*

**I**F 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)*

*John 14: 15–16*

*The Procession of Church Leaders moves to places in the Sacrarium, after which all sit.*

*Verger*

Commissioner Elizabeth Matear  
*Moderator,*  
*Free Churches in England*

The Right Reverend John Christie  
*Moderator,*  
*General Assembly, Church of Scotland*

The Reverend Martin Spain  
*Moderator,*  
*Free Church Council of Wales*

Monsignor Philip Kerr  
*Convenor,*  
*Action of Churches Together in Scotland*

His Eminence Cardinal Sean Brady  
*Archbishop of Armagh*

The Most Reverend Alan Harper  
*Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of All  
Ireland and Metropolitan*

His Eminence Archbishop Gregorios  
of Thyateira and Great Britain  
*Chairman, Assembly of Orthodox  
Bishops in Great Britain and Ireland*

The Reverend Jonathan Edwards  
*General Secretary,*  
*Baptist Union of Great Britain*

The Reverend Alison Tomlin  
*President, Methodist Council*

His Grace Bishop Angaelos  
*President, Council of Oriental Churches  
in the United Kingdom*

The Reverend Torbjørn Holt  
*Chair, Lutheran Council of  
Great Britain*

Val Morrison  
*Moderator, General Assembly,  
United Reformed Church*

*Papal Suite*

ORDER OF PROCESSION

*Beadle*

The Ivory Cross and Lights

The Choir of Westminster Abbey

James O'Donnell  
*Organist and Master of the Choristers*

The Banner of St Oswald

Queen's Almsmen

The Banner of St George

The Cross of Westminster and Lights

The St Augustine Gospels  
*borne by Dr Christopher de Hamel, Fellow Librarian,  
Corpus Christi College, Cambridge*

Sister Annaliese CSC  
*Chaplain*

Sister Judith CSC  
*Chaplain*

The Reverend Dr James Hawkey  
*Minor Canon*

The Reverend Michael Macey  
*Minor Canon*

The Banner of St Edward

*Verger*

His Grace The Archbishop of York

His Grace The Archbishop of Westminster

*Canons' Verger*

The Reverend Dr Jane Hedges  
*Canon Steward*

The Reverend Robert Reiss  
*Canon Treasurer*

The Reverend Dr Nicholas Sagovsky  
*Canon Theologian*

The Reverend Robert Wright  
*Sub-Dean, Rector of St Margaret's*

The Banner of St Peter

*Dean's Verger*

The Very Reverend Dr John Hall  
*Dean of Westminster*

His Grace The Archbishop of Canterbury

His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI

*Chaplains*

## THE OPENING RITE

*All stand as the Pope and the Archbishop re-enter the Abbey.  
The Choir sings*

### THE INVITATORY

- V. The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.  
R. Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.  
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

*Gabriel Jackson (b 1962)  
Composed for this service*

*All remain standing to sing*

### THE HYMN



*during which the Collegiate Procession, together with the Pope and the Archbishop of  
Canterbury, moves to places in the Quire and Sacrarium*

**C**HRISt 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 blessed 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,  
One in love, and One in splendour,  
while unending ages run. Amen.

*Westminster Abbey 205 NEH*  
*Henry Purcell (1659–95)*  
*Organist of Westminster Abbey 1679–95*

*Latin, c7th–8th century*  
*translated by John Mason Neale (1818–66)*

## THE RITE OF WELCOME AND EXCHANGE OF PEACE

*All remain standing. The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Dr Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of All England and Metropolitan, extends*

### THE WELCOME

**Y**OUR Holiness, brothers and sisters in Christ:

On behalf of the Christian communities of Great Britain, we welcome you in fraternal love to this great shrine, which has been of such significance for both Church and nation.

For many centuries the daily Office of the Church has been celebrated here, first by Benedictine monks, then by the new foundation of the sixteenth century, always with the same rhythms of psalmody and petition, and the same purpose of glorifying God in all things.

As we join now in that unbroken tradition, we pray that our *sacrificium laudis*—our sacrifice of praise—will become more and more a sign of the sacrificial love which we offer together in Christ’s name for the renewal of our society and our whole world in the power of his Spirit.

May your visit be a blessing for all who share with you in pilgrimage and discipleship.

*His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI responds.*

**Y**OUR Grace, Mr Dean, dear friends in Christ,

I thank you for your gracious welcome. This noble edifice evokes England's long history, so deeply marked by the preaching of the Gospel and the Christian culture to which it gave birth. I come here today as a pilgrim from Rome, to pray before the tomb of Saint Edward the Confessor and to join you in imploring the gift of Christian unity. May these moments of prayer and friendship confirm us in love for Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, and in common witness to the enduring power of the Gospel to illumine the future of this great nation.

*The Archbishop introduces*

#### THE PEACE

**W**E are all one in Christ Jesus. We belong to him through faith, heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

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

*The Archbishop and the Pope exchange a sign of peace.*

#### THE OFFICE OF EVENING PRAYER

*All sit. The Choir sings*

#### PSALM 138

**I** WILL give thanks unto thee, O Lord, with my whole heart: even before the gods will I sing praise unto thee.

I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name, because of thy loving-kindness and truth: for thou hast magnified thy name, and thy Word, above all things.

When I called upon thee, thou heardest me: and enduedst my soul with much strength.

All the kings of the earth shall praise thee, O Lord: for they have heard the words of thy mouth.

Yea, they shall sing in the ways of the Lord: that great is the glory of the Lord.

For though the Lord be high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly: as for the proud, he beholdeth them afar off.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, yet shalt thou refresh me: thou shalt stretch forth thy hand upon the furiousness of mine enemies, and thy right hand shall save me.

The Lord shall make good his loving-kindness toward me: yea, thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever; despise not then the works of thine own hands.

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.

*Henry Ley (1887–1962)*

*All remain seated. Dame Mary Tanner DBE, President, World Council of Churches, reads*

PHILIPPIANS 2: 5–11

**L**ET the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*All stand to sing*

THE HYMN



**O** THOU who camest from above,  
the pure celestial fire to impart,  
kindle a flame of sacred love  
on the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn  
with inextinguishable blaze,  
and trembling to its source return  
in humble prayer, and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire  
to work, and speak, and think for thee;  
still let me guard the holy fire,  
and still stir up thy gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will,  
my acts of faith and love repeat,  
till death thy endless mercies seal,  
and make my sacrifice complete.

*Hereford 431 NEH  
Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–76)*

*Charles Wesley (1707–88)*

*All remain standing. The Right Reverend John Christie, Moderator, General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, reads*

MARK 10: 35–45

**J**AMES and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, ‘Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.’ And he said to them, ‘What is it you want me to do for you?’ And they said to him, ‘Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.’ But Jesus said to them, ‘You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?’ They replied, ‘We are able.’ Then Jesus said to them, ‘The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.’ When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, ‘You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognise as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.’

*The Archbishop and the Pope venerate the St Augustine Gospels.*

THE ADDRESSES

*by*

His Holiness The Pope

*and*

His Grace The Archbishop of Canterbury

*All stand. The Choir sings*

MAGNIFICAT

*during which the Dean censes*

*the Altar, the Pope, the Archbishop, and the Church Leaders*

**M**Y 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.

*Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924) in A*

*All kneel or remain seated. The Reverend Michael Macey, Minor Canon of Westminster, leads*

## THE PRAYERS

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

**L**ET us praise God for the partnership between the civil authorities and the churches in this land: for our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth; for the leadership and dedication of the clergy; for the voice of Christians within Parliament; and for the contribution of the churches in local communities across the nation.

Let us bless the Lord:

**thanks be to God.**

*Leah Wagstaff, Secretary, Church of England Youth Council, says:*

**L**ET us praise God for the shared vision and witness of all the churches within the British Isles proclaiming afresh to every generation the Good News of God's love revealed in Jesus Christ: for their co-operation in this mission and ministry, and for their welcome and openness to all.

Let us bless the Lord:

**thanks be to God.**

*Kieran Hayes, Leader, Brentwood Catholic Youth Service, says:*

**L**ET us praise God for the advances and achievements that have been made towards more visible Christian unity over the past decades: for the commitment made by all churches to strive together to fulfil Christ's command to be one, and for the generosity of heart which enables fruitful ecumenical dialogue.

Let us bless the Lord:

**thanks be to God.**

*The Reverend Dr Jane Hedges, Canon of Westminster, says:*

**L**ET us pray for the leaders of this nation and for all in positions of authority and responsibility: for The Queen and Her Majesty's Government; for our elected representatives; and for all who serve our communities: that, guided by the command to love God and our neighbour as ourself, they may promote justice and righteousness, freedom and peace, both here and among the nations.

Lord, hear us:

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*Daniella Adams, Member, Southwark Catholic Youth Service, says:*

**L**ET us pray for the mission of the Church within society: for a renewed commitment to engage with the communities she serves; that filled with the compassion of Christ she may care for the suffering, weak, and vulnerable, and proclaim the values of the Kingdom of God.

Lord, hear us:

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*Edward Keene, Synod Representative, Church of England Youth Council, says:*

**L**ET us pray for the people of God, the Body of Christ, and the Temple of the Holy Spirit: that all who are baptised into Christ may be united in the truth, in the bond of peace, and righteousness of life.

Lord, hear us:

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The Minor Canon sings*

## THE COLLECT

**G**OD, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the Gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.



**A-men.**

All these our prayers and praises let us now present before our heavenly Father, saying each in our own language, the prayer our Saviour Jesus Christ has taught us:

**O**UR 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.

## PRAYERS AT THE TOMB OF ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

*The Pope and the Archbishop, together with the Dean of Westminster, move to the Shrine of St Edward the Confessor to offer prayers. The Choir sings:*

**U**BI caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exsulemus et in ipso jucundemur. Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Amen.

*Where charity and love are, there is God. The love of Christ has brought us together into one flock. Let us rejoice and let us be glad in that love. Let us fear and love the living God; and let us love one another from a pure heart. Amen.*

*Maurice Duruflé (1902–86)*

*The Dean says:*

Your Holiness, Your Grace.

**T**HE tomb and Shrine of St Edward the Confessor, king of England until 1066, canonised in 1161, who established his palace here beside this rebuilt Abbey, recall us to our foundation as a Christian nation.

I invite you to lead us in praying to almighty God for the gift of Christian unity and of fidelity to the Gospel as Church and Nation.

*The Archbishop says:*

**L**ORD God, ruler of heaven and earth, in your mercy grant the increase of peace and justice in this our nation and in the community of nations. Bless all who witness to the Gospel's call in the public life of our countries; and strengthen the Church's vision of your eternal kingdom, so that we may with courage and persistence serve the common good, and hold before all men and women the challenge and the promise of your righteousness; in the name of Jesus, our Servant and our King. Amen.

*The Pope says:*

**L**ORD, hear the prayers of your people, and bring the hearts of believers together in your praise and in common sorrow for their sins. Heal the divisions among Christians; that we may rejoice in the perfect unity of your Church, and move together as one to eternal life in your kingdom. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### THE CONCLUDING RITE

*All stand to sing*

#### THE HYMN



**A**LL 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)*

*Robert Bridges (1844–1930)  
after Joachim Neander (1650–80)*

*All remain standing. The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Pope pronounce*

THE BLESSING

**G**OD the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*Music after the service:*

Komm, heiliger Geist, Herre Gott BWV 651

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

Presto (comodo) *from* Sonata in G Op 28

*Edward Elgar*

*All remain standing as the Procession moves to the west end of the church.*

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

*The bells of the Abbey Church are rung.*

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