Westminster Abbey

The Dedication of a Memorial Stone to Nelson Mandela
18th July 1918–5th December 2013

Wednesday 18th July 2018
3.00 pm
Nelson Mandela in his cell on Robben Island, 1994
photographed by Jurgen Schadeberg
The service is conducted by The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster.

The octet of singers from the Westminster Abbey Special Service Choir is conducted by Peter Holder, Sub-Orgnaist.

The Ubunye Choir is directed by Nic Vani.

The Mzansi String Quartet is directed by Leon Bosch.

The organ is played by Matthew Jorysz, Assistant Organist.

The organist plays

Meditation on ‘Brother James’s Air’  
Harold Darke (1888–1976)

Chant de Paix  
Jean Langlais (1907–91)

Dies sind die heilgen zehn Gebot BWV 678  
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Psalm-Prelude Set 1 no 2  
Herbert Howells (1892–1983)

‘But the meek spirited shall possess the earth’

Prelude on the ‘Old Hundredth’ Op 125 no 6  
John Joubert (b 1929)

The High Sheriff of Greater London, Charles Spicer, is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and conducted to his seat.

The Right Honourable The Baroness Benjamin of Beckenham OBE DL, representing the Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London, is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and conducted to her seat.

The Lord Mayor of London’s representative is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and conducted to their seat.

The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Westminster and Deputy High Steward, Councillor Lindsey Hall, is received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. All stand as she is conducted to her seat, and then sit.

Zamaswazi Dlamini-Mandela and Her Excellency Nomatemba Tambo, High Commissioner for the Republic of South Africa, are received at the Great West Door by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and are conducted to their seats.
ORDER OF SERVICE

All stand as the clergy enter. The Ubunye Choir sings

THE INTROIT

The higher you build your barriers, the taller I become. The further you take my rights away, the faster I will run. You can deny me; you can decide to turn your face away—no matter, cause there’s

*Something inside so strong,*
*I know that I can make it,*
*though you’re doing me wrong, so wrong.*
*You thought that my pride was gone, oh no!*
*There’s something inside so strong.*
*Oh, something inside so strong.*

The more you refuse to hear my voice, the louder I will sing. You hide behind walls of Jericho; your lies will come tumbling. Deny my place in time; you squander wealth that’s mine; my light will shine so brightly it will blind you, because there’s

*Something inside so strong...*

Brothers and sisters, when they insist we’re just not good enough, well, we know better: just look them in the eye and say, ‘We’re gonna do it anyway’, because there’s

*Something inside so strong...*

(Something Inside) So Strong
*Labi Siffre (b 1945)*

All remain standing. The Dean gives

THE WELCOME
THE READING

YOU may find that the cell is an ideal place to learn to know yourself, to search realistically and regularly the process of your own mind and feelings. In judging our progress as individuals we tend to concentrate on external factors such as one’s social position, influence and popularity, wealth and standard of education. These are, of course, important in measuring one’s success in material matters and it is perfectly understandable if many people exert themselves mainly to achieve all these. But internal factors may be even more crucial in assessing one’s development as a human being. Honesty, sincerity, simplicity, humility, pure generosity, absence of vanity, readiness to serve others—qualities which are within easy reach of every soul—are the foundation of one’s spiritual life.

from a letter to Winnie Mandela, 1st February 1975
Nelson Mandela

The Mzansi String Quartet plays
Thula Thula
iBuyile iAfrika

THE LESSON

CHRIST is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Colossians 1: 15–20
THE ADDRESS

by
Her Excellency Nomatemba Tambo
High Commissioner for South Africa

The octet sings

THE ANTHEM

O SING unto the Lord a new song:
sing unto the Lord, all the whole earth.
Sing unto the Lord, and praise his name:
be telling of his salvation from day to day.
For he cometh to judge the earth:
and with righteousness to judge the world,
and the people with his truth.

A New Song

James MacMillan (b 1959)

Psalm 96: 1–2, 13

The Reverend Mark Birch, Minor Canon and Sacrist, leads

THE PRAYERS

Let us pray.

All kneel or remain seated

Let us give thanks to God for Nelson Mandela; for his commitment to freedom and forgiveness, for his determination to transform hatred and to heal division.

HEAVENLY Father, your Son Jesus Christ taught us that it is only through forgiving others that we can ourselves be forgiven. We praise you for Nelson Mandela’s clear vision of freedom for all, and for his unshakeable commitment to lasting peace. Inspired by his example, help us to work for peace in our homes, for peace in our communities, and for peace in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Reverend Prebendary Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Chaplain to the Queen, Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons, and Priest Vicar of Westminster Abbey, says

Let us pray for the Republic of South Africa; that God would bless and guide her leaders to bring unity and flourishing to all her people.
ALMIGHTY God, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named: bless the government and peoples of South Africa. Grant wisdom, discernment, and integrity to her leaders; peace, prosperity, and faith to her citizens, that they may be bound in a common purpose; and strengthen the nations of our Commonwealth to the honour of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Reverend Jane Sinclair, Rector of St Margaret’s and Canon of Westminster, says

Let us pray for those who long for truth and reconciliation among all communities and nations; that Nelson Mandela may remain an abiding model and inspiration.

COMPASSIONATE God, hear the cry of our hearts for all whose lives are diminished by injustice, prejudice, or violence. Renew their hope, restore their confidence, and hasten the day when your kingdom shall come on earth as it is in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us unite our prayers with all the saints in every age as we say together the prayer that our Saviour has taught us,

OUR 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 stand for

THE DEDICATION

The High Commissioner says

I ask you, Mr Dean, to receive into the safe custody of the Dean and Chapter this memorial in honour and memory of The Madiba, President Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela.

The Dean says

TO the greater glory of God, and in thankful memory of Nelson Mandela, and all that he achieved and contributed to the life of South Africa, and to the cause of peace and reconciliation among all peoples, I dedicate this memorial: in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Flowers are laid by Zamaswazi Dlamini-Mandela

The Dean pronounces

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 fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour everyone; 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 among you and remain with you always. Amen.

The choir sings

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NKOSI sikelel' iAfrika
Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo,
Yizwa imithandazo yethu,
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.
Morena boloka setjhaba sa heso,
O fedise dintwa le matshwenyeho,
O se boloke, O se boloke setjhaba sa heso,
Setjhaba sa, South Afrika, South Afrika.
Uit die blou van onse hemel,
Uit die diepte van ons see,
Oor ons ewige gebergtes,
Waar die kranse antwoord gee,
Sounds the call to come together,
And united we shall stand,
Let us live and strive for freedom
In South Africa our land!

Benjamin Cunningham, Organ Scholar, plays

Prelude and Fugue in C BWV 547

Johann Sebastian Bach