Westminster Abbey



A Service to mark the arrival of The Stone of Destiny

Saturday 29th April 6.00 pm The whole of the church is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn the 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 Robin Chapel Choir, directed by Paul Gudgin, Director of Music, Robin Chapel.

The organ is played by Peter Holder, Sub-Organist.

Music before the service

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

ORDER OF SERVICE

All stand as the procession makes its way to places around the Coronation Chair and the Stone of Destiny

The Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle MBE, Dean of Westminster, gives the Bidding

TODAY we meet in deep friendship and respect, confident in our different histories, here to acknowledge what unites us. We have a common calling under God which summons citizens of all kingdoms to find a home in the Kingdom of Christ, for he is our peace.

We meet to pray for Their Majesties King Charles and Queen Camilla, for the Royal Family and for God's blessing on all those who now work so hard on the preparations for the Coronation. We will pray for the government and people of Scotland and for our sisters and brothers in the churches of Scotland. With nations and with the Commonwealth we look to the Coronation where, in worship and music, we will find a common voice and express a common hope. We rejoice in the promise that we will hear:

You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God.

Ephesians 2: 19

All sing the hymn



GOD of Bethel, by whose hand thy people still are fed, who through this weary pilgrimage hast all our fathers led:

our vows, our prayers, we now present before thy throne of grace; God of our fathers, be the God of their succeeding race.

Through each perplexing path of life our wandering footsteps guide; give us each day our daily bread, and raiment fit provide.

O spread thy covering wings around, till all our wanderings cease, and at our Father's loved abode our souls arrive in peace.

Salzburg Johann Michael Haydn (1737–1806)

adapted compilers of Revised Church Hymnary 1927

The Right Honourable the Lord Lyon King of Arms gives an Address

The choir sings

BEHOLD how good and pleasant it is to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down upon the beard, Even on Aaron's beard, running down upon the collar of his clothing. It is like the dew of Hermon running down upon the hills of Zion. For there the Lord has promised his blessing: even life for evermore

James Turle (1802–82) Organist of Westminster Abbey 1831–82

Psalm 133

The Reverend David Stanton, Canon in Residence, reads the Lesson

N OW in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

Ephesians 2: 13–22

Thanks be to God.

The Very Reverend Professor David Fergusson OBE, Dean of His Majesty's Chapel Royal in Scotland, gives an Address

The choir sings the Anthem

RADIANT Dawn, Splendour of eternal Light, Sun of Justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Isaiah had prophesied, 'The people who walked in darkness have seen the great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.' Amen.

James MacMillan (b 1959)

Antiphon for 21st December

The Reverend Mark Birch MVO, Precentor, leads the Prayers

In the light of the risen Christ, let us pray to the Father.

All kneel or remain seated

Let us pray for His Majesty the King as he prepares for coronation; that he may be a symbol of unity among his people.

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 Lord, King CHARLES; and so replenish him with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, that he may alway incline to thy will, and walk in thy way. Endue him plenteously with heavenly gifts; grant him in health and wealth long to live; strengthen him that he may vanquish and overcome all his enemies; and finally after this life he may attain everlasting joy and felicity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for this United Kingdom, and especially for Scotland; for her churches and other communities of faith; for her peoples and Parliament, and all who serve in public office; that there may be concord, unity, and flourishing for all. OGOD, who hast graciously preserved our nations through the years and hast led us in wondrous ways: Grant that we may be worthy of our high calling. Purge out from among us the sins that dishonour thee. Give us true religion; crown our faith with righteousness; and lift us up, a holy people, to thy praise and honour; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray in words our Saviour 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. The Dean pronounces the Blessing

GOD grant to the living grace; to the departed rest; to the Church, The King, 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 Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**.

All sing

GOD save our gracious King, long live our noble King, God save The King. Send him victorious, happy and glorious, long to reign over us: God save The King.

All remain standing as the choir and clergy depart

Music after the service

Chorale Fantasia on 'O God our help in ages past' Hubert Parry (1848–1918)

THE ROBIN CHAPEL AND CHOIR

Lieutenant Robin Tudsbery gave his life for our country in Kutenholz, Lower Saxony on 30th April 1945, days before the end of World War II in Europe. He had a distinguished career in the Royal Horse Guards (the Blues) including some nine months as part of the Royal Protection Unit accompanying King George VI, Queen Elizabeth and the Royal Princesses. His parents planned in 1944, with his assistance, a development in Craigmillar, Edinburgh known as the Thistle Foundation to house 100 wounded servicemen and their families. In memory of their only son Sir Francis and Lady Tudsbery added an Interdenominational Church, the Robin Chapel which is administered by the Thistle Trust. The King and Queen attended fund raising events in Edinburgh and Her Majesty laid the Foundation Stone and as Queen Mother together with Princess Margaret attended the Dedication of the Robin Chapel in 1953. Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II paid a number of visits and commanded that the Sovereign's Standard of the Blues and Royals be laid up in the Robin Chapel. The Chapel Choir consists of eight permanent Lay Clerks and a number of Choristers appropriate for the occasion. The Director of Music is Paul Gudgin B. Mus (Surrey) who has many years experience in developing festivals and events including 8 years as Director of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and is a Co Director of Make Music Day UK.

Professor Herbert A Kerrigan KC, Chair of the Thistle Trust