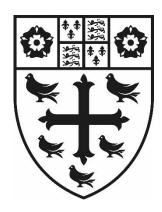
Westminster Abbey



All Souls' Day

Sung Eucharist

ALL SOULS

By the sixth century, it was customary in many Benedictine monasteries to hold a commemoration of the deceased members at Whitsuntide. St Odilo (c 962–c 1048) of Cluny, a Benedictine monastery in France, ordered the commemoration of all the faithful departed to be held annually in the monasteries of his congregation. Thence it spread among the other congregations of the Benedictines, including those in England, such as Westminster Abbey.

Medieval anxieties about purgatory and salvation made this a more sombre feast than 'All Saints'. Today, it is a time to remember with thanksgiving those who are not recognised by the Church as 'saints' but yet have died in the faith of Christ, and to pray that God will bring to completion in them the good work that has been begun in this life; hence its calendar position on the day following All Saints.

Loss and HOPE

The Reverend Canon Yvonne Richmond Tulloch, leading the prayers of intercession, is an Anglican priest whose life changed in 2008 when she was suddenly widowed. Since then, she has focused her attention on supporting the bereaved and promoting bereavement care. She founded the signposting website AtaLoss.org, and is now working with Loss and HOPE to enable churches to support the bereaved, especially in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Loss and HOPE exists to equip churches of any denomination to support the bereaved through training and resources. This year it is enabling churches to run their course for the grieving, The Bereavement Journey, online. Loss and HOPE is a coalition of AtaLoss.org, The Church of England Life Events Team, HOPE Together and Care for the Family.

The Abbey is grateful for your support. Cash and contactless donations may be given as you leave via the Great West Door and will be divided equally between the work of the Abbey and charities working with disadvantaged young people, or you can donate £5 by texting ABBEY to 70025.

Donations can also be made via the Abbey's website westminster-abbey.org

Photography, filming, and sound recording are not allowed during the service. Please ensure that mobile telephones and other electronic devices are switched off.

Face coverings must be worn in the Abbey at all time, unless you have an exemption.

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 Peter Holder, Sub-Organist.

Setting

Requiem in D minor Op 48

Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)

Her Royal Highness The Countess of Wessex is received by the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. All stand as she is conducted to her seat, and then sit.

The Gathering

All stand for the entry of the choir. The choir sings the Introit and Kyrie

Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine: Rest eternal grant to them O Lord:

et lux perpetua luceat eis. and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Te decet hymnus, Deus in Sion: Praise befits you in Zion, O God:

et tibi redetur votum in Jerusalem: and to you is offered prayer in Jerusalem.

exaudi orationem meam, Hear my prayer,

ad te omnis caro veniet. for to you shall all flesh come.

Kyrie eleison.

Christe eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

All remain standing for the Collect

Let us pray.

A short period of silence is kept

Eternal God, our maker and redeemer, grant us, with all the faithful departed, the sure benefits of your Son's saving passion and glorious resurrection that, in the last day, when you gather up all things in Christ, we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises; 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.**

The Liturgy of the Word

All sit. Matthew Arnoldi CVO, Head of Protocol, Westminster Abbey, reads

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt-offering he accepted them. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them for ever. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

Wisdom 3: 1-9

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The choir sings Psalm 27: 1–6, 16–end

Antiphon

The Lord is my light, and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?
When the wicked, even my enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

Though a host encamp against me, my heart shall not be afraid, and though there rise up war against me, yet will I put my trust in him.

One thing have I asked of the Lord and that alone I seek:

that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,

to behold the fair beauty of the Lord and to seek his will in his temple.

For in the day of trouble he shall hide me in his shelter; in the secret place of his dwelling shall he hide me and set me high upon a rock.

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord; be strong and he shall comfort your heart: wait patiently for the Lord.

All remain seated. Her Royal Highness The Countess of Wessex reads

Hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 5: 5-11

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All stand for the Procession of the Gospel. The choir sings

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem; dona eis sempiternam requiem.

Holy Lord Jesus, grant them rest; grant them everlasting rest.

The Reverend Dr Sarah Archer, Project Leader, Loss and HOPE, reads the Gospel

The Lord be with you and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said, 'Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise. The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing; and he will show him greater works than these, so that you will be astonished. Indeed, just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whomsoever he wishes. The Father judges no one but has given all judgement to the Son, so that all may honour the Son just as they honour the Father. Anyone who does not honour the Son does not honour the Father who sent him. Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgement, but has passed from death to life.

'Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.'

John 5: 19–25

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon by The Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle Dean of Westminster

All remain standing. The Reverend Canon Yvonne Richmond Tulloch, leads the Prayers of Intercession. At the end of each petition there is said

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

The intercession ends

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All sit. During the Preparation of the Gifts the choir sings the Offertory. A large candle is lit in remembrance of those who have died during the pandemic.

O Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae, libera animas defunctorum de poenis inferni, et de profundo lacu: O Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae, libera animas defunctorum de ore leonis, ne absorbeat Tartarus: O Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae: ne cadant in obscurum. Hostias et preces tibi Domine laudis offerimus: tu suscipe pro animabus illis, quarum hodie memoriam facimus: fac eas Domine, de morte transire ad vitam. Quam olim Abrahae promisisti, et semine eius. O Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae, libera animas defunctorum de poenis inferni, et de profundo lacu: ne cadant in obscurum. Amen.

O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, deliver the souls of the departed from the punishments of hell and from the deep lake: O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, deliver the souls of the departed from the mouth of the lion, lest hell swallow them up: O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory: lest they fall into darkness. We offer prayers and sacrifices to you, Lord: you receive them on behalf of those souls whose memory we recall today; cause them, Lord, to pass from death to the life which you once promised to Abraham and his seed. O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, deliver the souls of the departed from the punishments of hell and from the deep lake, lest they fall into darkness. Amen.

All stand for the Taking of the Bread and Wine, and 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.

The president continues the Eucharistic Prayer

The choir sings Sanctus

Sanctus, sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth, pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

All remain standing. The president continues the Eucharistic Prayer

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

The president continues the Eucharistic Prayer, to which all respond Amen.

All remain standing. The president introduces the Lord's Prayer

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven, so we say the prayer that Jesus 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 remain standing for the Breaking of the Bread

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.

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 president receives communion, then says

The body and blood of Christ keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

The clergy and congregation receive Holy Communion in one kind (bread only). Gluten-free wafers are available. No words of distribution are said. Hand-sanitiser is provided, and those receiving communion are advised to use it before and after adjusting their face-coverings

During the giving of communion, the choir sings

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem sempiternam.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant them rest. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant them eternal rest.

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine: cum sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es. Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Let light perpetual shine upon them, Lord, with your saints for ever, for you are holy. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord: and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna in die illa tremenda quando coeli movendi sunt, et terra: dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.

Tremens factus sum ego et timeo, dum discussio venerit, atque ventura ira.

Dies illa, dies irae, calamitatis, et miseriae, dies magna et amara valde.

Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death in that dread day when the heavens and the earth shall be shaken, and you shall come to judge the world by fire. I tremble in fear of the judgement and the wrath that are to come. Day of wrath, day of calamity and woe, great and exceeding bitter day. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

After Communion

All stand when the president returns to the high altar for the Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

A short period of silence is kept

Remember, O Lord, we beseech you, the souls of the departed, both those whom we remember and those whom we remember not. And grant them rest in the land of the living, in the joy of paradise, from which all pain and grief have fled away, where the light of your countenance shines for ever. And guide in peace the end of our lives, O Lord, when you will and as you will, only without shame and sin; through your only-begotten Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The president pronounces the Blessing, to which all respond Amen.

All remain standing as the clergy depart, during which the choir sings the Antiphon

In paradisum deducant te angeli: in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres, et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem. Chorus angelorum te suscipiat, et cum Lazaro quondam pauper aeternam habeas requiem.

May the angels lead you into paradise; at your coming may the martyrs receive you and lead you into the holy city Jerusalem. May the choir of angels receive you, and with Lazarus who once was poor may you have eternal rest.

The choir departs in silence.

Please remember to maintain social distancing when leaving the church