

SAINT CECILIA

According to legend, Saint Cecilia was a Roman woman of noble birth who was martyred for her Christian faith around the year 230 AD. Having resolved to live a chaste existence, a crisis occurred when, without her consent, Cecilia's father betrothed her to Valerian. The wedding day arrived, and, while musical instruments were playing, Cecilia is said to have 'sung in her heart to God alone, saying: "Make my heart and my body pure that I be not confounded"'.

Cecilia's evangelical zeal converted her husband, and together they preached the gospel until they were captured and executed for their faith. Cecilia, having been arrested after her husband's death, refused to renounce her religion and was condemned to death by three blows to the neck. Cecilia remained alive for three days, during which time she gave all her possessions to the poor.

In 1683 the Musical Society was formed to counteract the Puritan view that music, whether sacred or secular, was dangerous fare—an opinion that had survived the Commonwealth. In order to keep St Cecilia's Day, on 22nd November each year, the Society attended a service in London, usually at St Bride's, to enjoy a sermon preached in defence of cathedral music and an anthem newly written for the Festival. Eventually the congregation moved to a City Company's hall, where, before banqueting, they were entertained by the performance of an ode. The composer at the first Festival was Henry Purcell. In 1942, Benjamin Britten, whose birthday was on St Cecilia's Day, revived the practice of composing an ode in honour of St Cecilia. Sir Henry Wood wished to recreate the Festival, but died before its revival in 1946. Since then, Help Musicians has organised the Festival to give thanks for and celebrate music and musicians.

Help Musicians thanks The Worshipful Company of Musicians and the following Livery Companies for their kind donations towards this service:

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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 requested kindly to refrain from using private cameras, video, or sound recording equipment. Please ensure that mobile telephones and other electronic devices are switched off.

Please use the enclosed Gift Aid envelope to make your donation. Help Musicians can reclaim tax on all donations with completed envelopes if you are a UK tax payer.

The service is conducted by The Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle KCVO MBE, Dean of Westminster.

The service is sung by the combined choirs of Westminster Abbey, Westminster Cathedral, and St Paul's Cathedral, conducted by Andrew Nethsingha, Organist and Master of the Choristers, Westminster Abbey.

The organ is played by Matthew Jorysz, Sub-Organist, Westminster Abbey.

The trumpets are played by Julie Ryan and Tim Hawes.

Before the service, Peter Stevens, Assistant Master of Music, Westminster Cathedral, plays

Introduction, Passacaglia, *Healey Willan (1880–1968)*
and Fugue in E flat minor

Before the service, members of the Livery Companies move through the church to their places in the Transepts.

ORDER OF SERVICE

All stand. The choir sings the Introit

EXALTABO te Domine quoniam suscepisti me
nec delectasti inimicos meos super me.
Domine clamavi ad te
et sanasti me.

*I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up,
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.*

*Lord, I cried to you,
and you healed me.*

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c 1525–94)

Psalm 30: 1–2

*All sing the Hymn, during which the choir and clergy move to their places in
Quire and the Sacrarium*



LIGHT'S abode, celestial Salem,
vision dear whence peace doth spring,
brighter than the heart can fancy,
mansion of the highest King;
O, how glorious are the praises
which of thee the prophets sing!

There for ever and for ever
praise and blessing is outpoured;
for unending, for unbroken
is the feast-day of the Lord;
all is pure and all is holy
that within thy walls is stored.

There no cloud nor passing vapour
dims the brightness of the air;
endless noon-day, glorious noon-day,
from the Sun of suns is there;
there no night brings rest from labour,
there unknown are toil and care.

O how glorious and resplendent,
fragile body, shalt thou be,
when endued with so much beauty,
full of health, and strong, and free,
full of vigour, full of pleasure
that shall last eternally!

Now with gladness, now with courage,
bear the burden on thee laid,
that hereafter these thy labours
may with endless gifts be paid,
and in everlasting glory
thou with joy may'st be arrayed.

Laud and honour to the Father,
 laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
 ever Three and ever One,
consubstantial, co-eternal
 while unending ages run.
Amen.

*Regent Square 401 NEH
Henry Smart (1818–79)*

*Jerusalem luminosa 15th century
translated by John Mason Neale (1818–66)*

All remain standing. The Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle KCVO MBE, Dean of Westminster, gives the Bidding

WELCOME to Westminster Abbey where we gather to join our voices in the worship of God and to offer him the best of our service. Today, we give thanks for the witness of Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr, and for the gift of music which tunes our voices in the harmony of praise.

This holy place is a House of Kings and Queens and a place of memory, where we name and recall the gifts and virtues that we rightly celebrate. Here are Purcell, Vaughan Williams, William Croft, and so many more. Here, we gather different choirs and celebrate in the company of those who care for and sustain our choral heritage. We give thanks for their efforts and especially for the work of Help Musicians. Now we make our offering of praise confident in the loving mercy of God and inspired that we now take our place in the community of praise.

All sit. The choir sings the Anthem

FOR as long as I live, I will praise the Lord;
I will sing psalms to my God all my life long.
Put no faith in princes,
in any man who has no power to save.
He breathes his last breath,
he returns to the dust:

Praise him with fanfares on the trumpet

The Lord feeds the hungry
and sets the prisoners free.
The Lord loves the righteous
and watches over the stranger;

Praise him with fanfares on the trumpet,
praise him with tambourines and dancing,
praise him in the vault of heaven, the vault of his power;
praise him with the clash of cymbals;

The Lord shall reign for ever.

Praise him with trumpets
Judith Weir (b 1954)

after Psalms 146 & 150

Sophie Bevan MBE gives a Testimonial

The choir sings the Anthem

ST Cecilia, Appear
O ear whose creatures cannot wish to fall,
O calm of spaces unafraid of weight,
Where Sorrow is herself, forgetting all
The gaucheness of her adolescent state,
Where Hope within the altogether strange

From every outworn image is released,
And Dread born whole and normal like a beast
Into a world of truths that never change:
Restore our fallen day; O re-arrange.

*O dear white children casual as birds,
Playing among the ruined languages,
So small beside their large confusing words,
So gay against the greater silences
Of dreadful things you did: O hang the head,
Impetuous child with the tremendous brain,
O weep, child, weep, O weep away the stain,
Lost innocence who wished your lover dead,
Weep for the lives your wishes never led.*

O cry created as the bow of sin
Is drawn across our trembling violin.
O weep, child, weep, O weep away the stain.
O law drummed out by hearts against the still
Long winter of our intellectual will.
That what has been may never be again.
O flute that throbs with the thanksgiving breath
Of convalescents on the shores of death.
O bless the freedom that you never chose.
O trumpets that unguarded children blow
About the fortress of their inner foe.
O wear your tribulation like a rose.

Anthem for St Cecilia's Day
Piers Connor Kennedy (b 1991)
commissioned for this service

Wystan Hugh Auden (1907–73)
from Anthem for St Cecilia's Day 1940

KING Hezekiah rose early, assembled the officials of the city, and went up to the house of the Lord. They brought seven bulls, seven rams, seven lambs, and seven male goats for a sin-offering for the kingdom and for the sanctuary and for Judah. He commanded the priests the descendants of Aaron to offer them on the altar of the Lord.

He stationed the Levites in the house of the Lord with cymbals, harps, and lyres, according to the commandment of David and of Gad the king's seer and of the prophet Nathan, for the commandment was from the Lord through his prophets. The Levites stood with the instruments of David, and the priests with the trumpets. Then Hezekiah commanded that the burnt-offering be offered on the altar. When the burnt-offering began, the song to the Lord began also, and the trumpets, accompanied by the instruments of King David of Israel. The whole assembly worshipped, the singers sang, and the trumpeters sounded; all this continued until the burnt-offering was finished. When the offering was finished, the king and all who were present with him bowed down and worshipped. King Hezekiah and the officials commanded the Levites to sing praises to the Lord with the words of David and of the seer Asaph. They sang praises with gladness, and they bowed down and worshipped.

Then Hezekiah said, 'You have now consecrated yourselves to the Lord; come near, bring sacrifices and thank-offerings to the house of the Lord.'

2 Chronicles 29: 20–21, 25–31a

Thanks be to God.

Sophie Bevan MBE, soprano, sings

AVE Maria, piena di grazia, eletta fra le spose e le vergini sei tu,
sia benedetto il frutto, o benedetta, di tue materne viscere, Gesù.
Prega per chi adorando a te si prostra, prega nel peccator, per
l'innocente, e pel debole oppresso e pel possente, misero anch'esso,
tua pietà dimostra. Prega per chi sotto l'oltraggio piega la fronte e
sotto la malvagia sorte; per noi, per noi tu prega, prega sempre e
nell'ora della morte nostra, prega per noi, prega per noi, prega.

Ave Maria... Ave! Amen!

*Hail Mary full of grace, blessed among the brides and virgins are you and
blessed is the fruit of your maternal womb Jesus. Pray for those that kneel
before you in adoration, pray for the sinner, the innocent, for the weak and
oppressed and for the mighty who also is miserable show your pity. Pray for
those who bow their heads under insult and cruel fate, pray for us, pray for
us always until the hour of our death.*

Hail Mary... Hail! Amen!

*Giuseppe Verdi (1813–1901)
from Otello*

*Arrigo Boito (1842–1918)
based on words by William Shakespeare (1564–1616)*

Robert Alderman reads the second Reading

IF you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3: 1–4, 12–17

Thanks be to God.

All stand to sing the Hymn



O LOVE divine, how sweet thou art!

When shall I find my longing heart

all taken up by thee?

I thirst, I faint and die to prove

the greatness of redeeming love,

the love of Christ to me.

Stronger his love than death or hell;

its riches are unsearchable:

the first-born sons of light

desire in vain its depths to see;

they cannot reach the mystery,

the length and breadth and height.

God only knows the love of God;

O that it now were shed abroad

in this poor stony heart!

For love I sigh, for love I pine;

this only portion, Lord, be mine,

be mine this better part.

For ever would I take my seat

with Mary at the Master's feet:

be this my happy choice;

my only care, delight, and bliss,

my joy, my heaven on earth, be this,

to hear the Bridegroom's voice.

Cornwall 424 NEH

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–76)

Desiring to Love

Charles Wesley (1707–88)

The Very Reverend Dr Mark Oakley, Dean of Southwark, gives the Address

The choir sings the Anthem

BLESSED city, heavenly Salem,
Vision dear of peace and love,
Who of living stones art builded
In the height of heaven above,
And by Angel hands apparelled
As a bride dost earthward move.

Out of heaven from God descending,
New and ready to be wed
To thy Lord, whose love espoused thee,
Fair adorned shalt thou be led;
All thy gates and all thy bulwarks
Of pure gold are fashioned.

Bright thy gates of pearl are shining,
They are open evermore;
And, their well earned rest attaining
Thither faithful souls do soar,
Who for Christ's dear name in this world
Pain and tribulation bore.

Many a blow and biting sculpture
Polished well those stones elect,
In their places now compacted
By the heavenly Architect,
Nevermore to leave the Temple
Which with them the Lord hath decked.

To this Temple, where we call thee,
Come, O Lord of hosts, today;
With thy wonted loving kindness
Hear thy servants as they pray;
And thy fullest benediction
Shed within its walls alway.
Amen.

Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)

Urbs beata Jerusalem c 7th century
Office hymn for the dedication of a church
translated by John Mason Neale (1818–66)

The Reverend Robert Latham, Minor Canon & Precentor, Westminster Abbey, leads the Prayers

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

All kneel or remain seated

GOD of beauty and holiness, we give you thanks for the gift of music, and for the creative talent and inspiration that you have given to those who compose and perform. Help us always to use your gifts for your honour and glory, so that we may be sustained by their beauty, and that our hearts and minds might be lifted to you, the source of all that is good.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

The Reverend Timothy Miller, Succentor, St Paul's Cathedral, says

GOD of truth, inspire with wisdom and discernment all those who teach the art of music. Fill them with gentleness and patience, and grant them zeal for the hidden mysteries which music can reveal as they lead others into an ever greater understanding of the beauty and complexity of your creation.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Father Patrick van der Vorst, Precentor, Westminster Cathedral, says

GOD of mercy and compassion, look with love upon all who are distressed in body, mind, or spirit, and especially upon those musicians who are suffering from sickness, anxiety, or adverse circumstances. Fill them, we pray, with the strength of your Holy Spirit, support them with your healing power, and comfort them with your peace.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Deborah Morel, on behalf of Help Musicians, says

GOD of grace, you have created all things, and fill them with life and goodness. Grant harmony and peace to our broken world, and help us to work tirelessly for that justice which is in accordance with your will, that all your children might be free to enjoy the gift of life in all its fullness.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

*The Reverend Dr James Hawkey, Canon Theologian & Almoner,
Westminster Abbey, says*

ALMIGHTY God, by whose grace and power your holy martyr Saint Cecilia triumphed over suffering, and was faithful unto death: strengthen us with your grace, that we may endure reproach and persecution, and faithfully bear witness to the name of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Uniting our praises and petitions with all who sing before God's throne in heaven, let us pray as 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 stand to sing the Hymn



CHRIST triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!

Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:

*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name!*

Word incarnate, truth revealing,	Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,
Son of Man on earth!	victim crucified!
power and majesty concealing	death is through the cross defeated,
by your humble birth:	sinners justified:

Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:

So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:

All remain standing. 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 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 among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

James Orford, Organist, St Paul's Cathedral, plays

Fantasia and Fugue in G Op 188

C. Hubert H. Parry (1848–1918)

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

There will be a retiring collection for Help Musicians