

The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 17 September 2023



**Southwell
Minster**
THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

3.30pm Evensong

Organ Prelude: *Fantasy-Prelude*, Charles Macpherson (1870-1927)

Preces and Responses: Richard Ayleward (1626-69)

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis: *Second Service*, Kenneth Leighton (1929-88)

This leaflet provides the material specific to our Evensong service this afternoon. It should be used in conjunction with the pale blue Evensong booklet you will find available in the stalls.

INTROIT *sung by the choir from the North Transept*

Te lucis ante terminum,
Rerum Creator, poscimus,
Ut solita clementia
Sis praesul ad custodiam.

*Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray,
That with thy wonted favour thou
Wouldst be our guard and keeper now.*

Procul recedant somnia
Et noctium fantasmata;
Hostemque nostrum comprime,
Ne polluantur corpora.

*From all ill dreams defend our eyes,
From nightly fears and fantasies;
Tread under foot our ghostly foe,
That no pollution we may know.*

Praesta, Pater omnipotens,
Per Jesum Christum Dominum,
Qui tecum in perpetuum
Regnat cum Sancto Spiritu.
Amen.

*O Father, that we ask be done,
Through Jesus Christ thine only Son,
Who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,
Doth live and reign eternally.
Amen.*

*Words: Latin hymn
trans. John Mason Neale (1818-66)*

Music: Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-85)

PRECES (*see page 4 of Evensong booklet*)

The congregation is welcomed by the Canon in Residence.

OFFICE HYMN



O blest Creator of the light,
Who makest day with radiance bright,
And o'er the forming world didst call
The light from chaos first of all;

**Whose wisdom joined in meet array
The morn and eve, and named them Day:
Night comes with all its darkling fears;
Regard thy people's prayers and tears:**

Lest, sunk in sin and whelm'd with strife,
They lose the gift of endless life;
While, thinking but the thoughts of time,
They weave new chains of guilt and crime.

**But grant them grace that they may strain
The heavenly gate and prize to gain:
Each harmful lure aside to cast,
And purge away each error past.**

**O Father, that we ask be done,
Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son,
Who with the Spirit and with thee
Doth live and reign eternally.
Amen.**

*Words: Latin, 8th century or earlier
trans. Percy Dearmer (1867-1936)*

*Tune: LUCIS CREATOR NEH 150 (t. i)
Mode viii*

Let thy loving mercy come also unto me, O Lord:
even thy salvation, according unto thy word.
So shall I make answer unto my blasphemers:
for my trust is in thy word.
O take not the word of thy truth utterly out of my mouth:
for my hope is in thy judgements.
So shall I always keep thy law:
yea, for ever and ever.
And I will walk at liberty:
for I seek thy commandments.
I will speak of thy testimonies also, even before kings:
and will not be ashamed.
And my delight shall be in thy commandments:
which I have loved.
My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved:
and my study shall be in thy statutes.

O think upon thy servant, as concerning thy word:
wherein thou hast caused me to put my trust.
The same is my comfort in my trouble:
for thy word hath quickened me.
The proud have had me exceedingly in derision:
yet have I not shrunked from thy law.
For I remembered thine everlasting judgements, O Lord:
and received comfort.
I am horribly afraid:
for the ungodly that forsake thy law.
Thy statutes have been my songs:
in the house of my pilgrimage.
I have thought upon thy Name, O Lord, in the night-season:
and have kept thy law.
This I had:
because I kept thy commandments.

Thou art my portion, O Lord:
I have promised to keep thy law.
I made my humble petition in thy presence with my whole heart:
O be merciful unto me, according to thy word.

I called mine own ways to remembrance:
and turned my feet unto thy testimonies.
I made haste, and prolonged not the time:
to keep thy commandments.
The congregations of the ungodly have robbed me:
but I have not forgotten thy law.
At midnight I will rise to give thanks unto thee:
because of thy righteous judgements.
I am a companion of all them that fear thee:
and keep thy commandments.
The earth, O Lord, is full of thy mercy:
O teach me thy statutes.

Please stand

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.

*Chants: Alan Gray (1855-1935),
Thomas Attwood Walmisley (1814-56)
& Matthew Camidge (1764-1844)*

Please sit

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 20: 1–8, 33–44

In the seventh year, in the fifth month, on the tenth day of the month, certain elders of Israel came to consult the Lord, and sat down before me. And the word of the Lord came to me: Mortal, speak to the elders of Israel, and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: Why are you coming? To consult me? As I live, says the Lord God, I will not be consulted by you. Will you judge them, mortal, will you judge them? Then let them know the abominations of their ancestors, and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: On the day when I chose Israel, I swore to the offspring of the house of Jacob—making myself known to them in the land of Egypt—I swore to them, saying, I am the Lord your God. On that day I swore to them that I would bring them out of the land of Egypt into a land that I had searched out for them, a land flowing with milk and honey, the most glorious of all lands. And I said to them, Cast away the detestable things your eyes feast on, every one of you, and do not defile yourselves with the idols of Egypt;

I am the Lord your God. But they rebelled against me and would not listen to me; not one of them cast away the detestable things their eyes feasted on, nor did they forsake the idols of Egypt.

Then I thought I would pour out my wrath upon them and spend my anger against them in the midst of the land of Egypt.

As I live, says the Lord God, surely with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and with wrath poured out, I will be king over you. I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you are scattered, with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and with wrath poured out; and I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I will enter into judgement with you face to face. As I entered into judgement with your ancestors in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will enter into judgement with you, says the Lord God. I will make you pass under the staff, and will bring you within the bond of the covenant. I will purge out the rebels among you, and those who transgress against me; I will bring them out of the land where they reside as aliens, but they shall not enter the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the Lord.

As for you, O house of Israel, thus says the Lord God: Go, serve your idols, every one of you now and hereafter, if you will not listen to me; but my holy name you shall no more profane with your gifts and your idols.

For on my holy mountain, the mountain height of Israel, says the Lord God, there all the house of Israel, all of them, shall serve me in the land; there I will accept them, and there I will require your contributions and the choicest of your gifts, with all your sacred things. As a pleasing odour I will accept you, when I bring you out from the peoples, and gather you out of the countries where you have been scattered; and I will manifest my holiness among you in the sight of the nations. You shall know that I am the Lord, when I bring you into the land of Israel, the country that I swore to give to your ancestors. There you shall remember your ways and all the deeds by which you have polluted yourselves; and you shall loathe yourselves for all the evils that you have committed. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I deal with you for my name's sake, not according to your evil ways or corrupt deeds, O house of Israel, says the Lord God.

From Miletus he sent a message to Ephesus, asking the elders of the church to meet him. When they came to him, he said to them:

‘You yourselves know how I lived among you the entire time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, serving the Lord with all humility and with tears, enduring the trials that came to me through the plots of the Jews. I did not shrink from doing anything helpful, proclaiming the message to you and teaching you publicly and from house to house, as I testified to both Jews and Greeks about repentance towards God and faith towards our Lord Jesus. And now, as a captive to the Spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and persecutions are waiting for me. But I do not count my life of any value to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the good news of God’s grace.

‘And now I know that none of you, among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom, will ever see my face again. Therefore I declare to you this day that I am not responsible for the blood of any of you, for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God. Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after I have gone, savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Some even from your own group will come distorting the truth in order to entice the disciples to follow them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to warn everyone with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the message of his grace, a message that is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all who are sanctified. I coveted no one’s silver or gold or clothing. You know for yourselves that I worked with my own hands to support myself and my companions. In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” ’

When he had finished speaking, he knelt down with them all and prayed. There was much weeping among them all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, grieving especially because of what he had said, that they would not see him again. Then they brought him to the ship.

NUNC DIMITTIS (*see page 6 of Evensong booklet*)

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*see page 6 of Evensong booklet*)

LESSER LITANY, LORD'S PRAYER AND RESPONSES (*see page 7 of Evensong booklet*)

including

COLLECT FOR THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Keep, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy Church with thy perpetual mercy;
and, because the frailty of man without thee cannot but fall,
keep us ever by thy help from all things hurtful,
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

ANTHEM *sung by the choir*

Listen, sweet dove, unto my song,
And spread thy golden wings in me;
Hatching my tender heart so long,
Till it get wing and flie away with thee.

Such glorious gifts thou didst bestow
The earth did like a heav'n appeare,
The stares were coming down to know
If they might mend their wages and serve here.

The sunne which once did shine alone,
Hung down his head and wisht for night,
When he beheld twelve sunnes for one
Going about the world and giving light.

Lord, though we change, thou art the same,
The same sweet God of love and light:
Restore this day for thy great name,
Unto his ancient and miraculous right.

Words: George Herbert (1593-1632)

Music: Grayston Ives (b. 1948)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *led by the Canon Missioner*

OFFERTORY HYMN *during which a collection is taken for the mission and ministry of the Cathedral*

Sing praise to God who reigns above

(NEH 447)

THE BLESSING AND THE DISMISSAL

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

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

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

This afternoon, following Evensong, is the fourth and final of this year's lectures to mark the 125th anniversary since the birth of C. S. Lewis (and 60 years since his death). Today's lecture will be given by the **Revd Prof. Canon Alison Milbank** who will be speaking on '*Silent Planet? Lewis's Eco-theology*' in the State Chamber, starting at 4.30pm.

Please note that Mini Pew News (the abridged version of the Weekly notice sheet), is available as a separate document given out at Minster services each Sunday. The full version of Pew News can be found online at <https://www.southwellminster.org/worship/pew-news/>. Alternatively, we can e-mail you a link to the latest edition of Pew News as it is published each Friday (please complete the web form at <https://www.southwellminster.org/newsletter/> to sign up to receive this regular e-mail).

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