

***Diocese of Wangaratta
Diocesan Choral Evensong***

27 September 2020



St. Michael Vanquishes Satan, Raphael, 1518.

St. Michael and All Angels (Tr)

Officiating Minister

The Right Rev'd Clarence E Bester

Bishop of Wangaratta

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

HYMN

O PRAISE YE THE LORD!

- 1 **O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.**
- 2 **O praise ye the Lord! Praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth;
praise him who hath brought you his grace from above,
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.**
- 3 **O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,
and, sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.**
- 4 **O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured all ages along:
for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!
Amen! Amen!**

H. W. Baker (1875)

Bishop Clarence says,

Dearly beloved brothers and sisters, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying after me:

**Almighty and most merciful Father,
We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
We have followed too much
the devices and desires of our own hearts,
We have offended against thy holy laws,
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
And we have done those things which we ought not to have done,
And there is no health in us:
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders;
Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults,
Restore thou them that are penitent,
According to thy promises
declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord:
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

The Absolution or Remission of sins to be pronounced by the Bishop.

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness, and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins: He pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him, which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure, and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Responses

O Lord, open thou our lips;
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us;
O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.**

Praise ye the Lord;
The Lord's name be praised.

PSALM 148

- 1 O praise the Lord of heaven:
Praise him in the height.
- 2 Praise all ye angels of his:
Praise him all his host.
- 3 Praise him sun and moon:
Praise him all ye stars and light.
- 4 Praise him all ye heavens:
And ye waters that are upon the heavens
- 5 Bless and praise the name of the Lord:
For he spake the word and they were made
He commanded and they were created
- 6 He hath made them fast for ever and ever:
He hath given them a law which shall not be broke
- 7 Praise the Lord upon earth :
ye dragons, and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and vapours:
wind and storm, fulfilling his word;
- 9 Mountains and all hills:
fruitful trees and all cedars;
- 10 Beasts and all cattle:
worms and feathered fowls;
- 11 Kings of the earth and all people:
princes and all judges of the world;
- 12 Young men and maidens, old men and children,
praise the Name of the Lord:
for his Name only is excellent,
and his praise above heaven and earth.
- 13 He shall exalt the horn of his people; all his saints shall praise him :
even the children of Israel, even the people that serveth him.

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.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Daniel 9: 21-26; 10:1-21

The Old Testament lesson is written in the ninth chapter of the book of Daniel, beginning at verse twenty-one.

While I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen before in a vision, came to me in swift flight at the time of the evening sacrifice. He came and said to me, 'Daniel, I have now come out to give you wisdom and understanding. At the beginning of your supplications a word went out, and I have come to declare it, for you are greatly beloved. So consider the word and understand the vision:

'Seventy weeks are decreed for your people and your holy city: to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place. Know therefore and understand: from the time that the word went out to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the time of an anointed prince, there shall be seven weeks; and for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again with streets and moat, but in a troubled time. After the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing, and the troops of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed.

In the third year of King Cyrus of Persia a word was revealed to Daniel, who was named Belteshazzar. The word was true, and it concerned a great conflict. He understood the word, having received understanding in the vision.

At that time I, Daniel, had been mourning for three weeks. I had eaten no rich food, no meat or wine had entered my mouth, and I had not anointed myself at all, for the full three weeks. On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was standing on the bank of the great river (that is, the Tigris), I looked up and saw a man clothed in linen, with a belt of gold from Uphaz around his waist. His body was like beryl, his face like lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and the sound of his words like the roar of a multitude. I, Daniel, alone saw the vision; the people who were with me did not see the vision, though a great trembling fell upon them, and they fled and hid themselves. So I was left alone to see this great vision. My strength left me, and my complexion grew deathly pale, and I retained no strength. Then I heard the sound of his words; and when I heard the sound of his words, I fell into a trance, face to the ground.

But then a hand touched me and roused me to my hands and knees. He said to me, 'Daniel, greatly beloved, pay attention to the words that I am

going to speak to you. Stand on your feet, for I have now been sent to you.' So while he was speaking this word to me, I stood up trembling. He said to me, 'Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia opposed me for twenty-one days. So Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, and I left him there with the prince of the kingdom of Persia, and have come to help you understand what is to happen to your people at the end of days. For there is a further vision for those days.'

While he was speaking these words to me, I turned my face towards the ground and was speechless. Then one in human form touched my lips, and I opened my mouth to speak, and said to the one who stood before me, 'My lord, because of the vision such pains have come upon me that I retain no strength. How can my lord's servant talk with my lord? For I am shaking, no strength remains in me, and no breath is left in me.'

Again one in human form touched me and strengthened me. He said, 'Do not fear, greatly beloved, you are safe. Be strong and courageous!' When he spoke to me, I was strengthened and said, 'Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me.' Then he said, 'Do you know why I have come to you? Now I must return to fight against the prince of Persia, and when I am through with him, the prince of Greece will come. But I am to tell you what is inscribed in the book of truth. There is no one with me who contends against these princes except Michael, your prince.

Here ends the first lesson

OFFICE HYMN

HOW SHALL I SING THAT MAJESTY?

**1 How shall I sing that majesty
 which angels do admire?
 Let dust in dust and silence lie;
 sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.
 Thousands of thousands stand around
 thy throne, O God most high;
 ten thousand times ten thousand sound
 thy praise; but who am I?**

- 2 Thy brightness unto them appears,
while I thy footsteps trace;
a sound of God comes to my ears,
but they behold thy face.
They sing, because thou art their Sun;
Lord, send a beam on me;
for where heaven is but once begun
there alleluias be.**
- 3 How great a being, Lord, is thine,
which doth all beings keep!
Thy knowledge is the only line
to sound so vast a deep.
Thou art a sea without a shore,
a sun without a sphere;
thy time is now and evermore,
thy place is everywhere.**

John Mason (1683)

MAGNIFICAT in B flat

Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Luke 1:46-55

My Soul doth magnify the Lord:
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded:
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

For behold, from henceforth:
all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me:
and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him:
throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm:
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat:
and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things:
and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.

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.

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

The second lesson is written in the eighth chapter of the Revelation to St John the Divine, beginning at the first verse.

When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.

Another angel with a golden censer came and stood at the altar; he was given a great quantity of incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar that is before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel. Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and threw it on the earth; and there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.

Now the seven angels who had the seven trumpets made ready to blow them.

The first angel blew his trumpet, and there came hail and fire, mixed with blood, and they were hurled to the earth; and a third of the earth was burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.

The second angel blew his trumpet, and something like a great mountain, burning with fire, was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea became blood, a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

The third angel blew his trumpet, and a great star fell from heaven, blazing like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many died from the water, because it was made bitter.

The fourth angel blew his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, and a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of their light was darkened; a third of the day was kept from shining, and likewise the night.

Then I looked, and I heard an eagle crying with a loud voice as it flew in mid-heaven, 'Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, at the blasts of the other trumpets that the three angels are about to blow!'

Here ends the second lesson.

NUNC DIMITTIS in B Flat Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Luke 2.29-32

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace:
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen:
thy salvation.

Which thou hast prepared:
before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, dead, and buried,
He descended into hell;
The third day he rose again from the dead,
He ascended into heaven,
And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
The holy Catholic Church; the Communion of Saints;
The Forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection of the body;
and the Life everlasting. Amen.**

The Lord be with you;
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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. Amen.**

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen;
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people;
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O lord;
**Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us;
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Everlasting God, thou hast ordained and constituted the ministries of angels and mortals in a wonderful order: grant that as thy holy angels always serve thee in heaven, so, at thy command, they may help and defend us on earth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT, FOR PEACE

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

IN THE TIME OF ANY PLAGUE OF SICKNESS.

O ALMIGHTY God, have pity upon us miserable sinners, who now are visited with great sickness and mortality; that it may now please thee to withdraw from us this plague and grievous sickness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT, FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord: and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

ANTHEM:

'Jubilate Deo', Benjamin Britten

A PRAYER OF SAINT CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise, that when two or three are gathered together in thy name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

HYMN

ANGEL VOICES EVER SINGING

- 1 **Angel voices ever singing
round Thy throne of light,
angel harps, forever ringing,
rest not day or night;
thousands only live to bless Thee
and confess thee Lord of might.**
- 2 **For we know Thy love rejoices
o'er each work of Thine;
Thou didst ears and hands and voices
for Thy praise design
craftsman's art and music's measure
for Thy pleasure all combine**
- 3 **In thy house, great God, we offer,
of thine own to thee
and for Thine acceptance proffer,
all unworthily,
hearts and minds and hands and voices
in our choicest psalmody.**

**4 Honour, glory, might, and merit
Thine shall ever be,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
blessèd Trinity:
of the best that Thou hast given
earth and heaven render Thee.**

Francis Pott (1861)

SERMON

The Very Reverend Ken Goodger

HYMN

PRAISE MY SOUL THE KING OF HEAVEN

- 1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Praise the everlasting King!
- 2 Praise him for his grace and favour
to our fathers in distress.
Praise him, still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Glorious in his faithfulness!
- 3 Fatherlike he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows.
In his hand he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Widely as his mercy flows!

4 Angels, help us to adore him;
 ye behold him face to face.
 Sun and moon, bow down before him,
 dwellers all in time and space.
 Praise Him! Praise Him!
 Praise Him! Praise Him!
 Praise with us the God of grace!

Henry Francis Lyte (1834)

THE BLESSING

God keep you in the fellowship of his saints; Christ protect you by the ministry of the angels; the Spirit make you holy in God's service; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

FAREWELL

Bishop Clarence

ORGAN POSTLUDE:

'Laus Deo' for organ, Jonathan Harvey

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