



Monday 15 March 2021

Lighten Our Darkness

Choral Evening Prayer

Officiant
Jeff Claxton

The Choral Scholars
of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed by
Gabriella Noble

Accompanied by
Ben Giddens

Introit It is a thing most wonderful *Peter Moger*

It is a thing most wonderful,
almost too wonderful to be,
that God's own Son should come from heaven,
and die to save a child like me.

And yet I know that is it true;
he chose a poor and humble lot.
and wept and toiled and mourned and died,
for love of those who loved him not.

I sometimes think about the cross, and shut my eyes,
and try to see the cruel nails and crown of thorns,
and Jesus crucified for me.
It is most wonderful to know

his love for me so strong and sure;
but 'tis wonderful to see
My love so faint and poor.
And yet I want to love thee, Lord;

O light the flame within my heart,
and I will love thee more and more,
until I see thee as thou art.

William Walsham How (1823 - 1897)

Welcome

Confession

All **My God, for love of you I desire to hate and forsake all sins by which I have ever displeased you; and I resolve by the help of your grace to commit them no more; and to avoid all opportunities of sin. Help me to do this, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies cleanse us from our sins, and restore us in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Psalm 127

Old Testament Reading Exodus 2. 11-22

One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and saw their forced labour. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his kinsfolk. He looked this way and that, and seeing no one he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. When he went out the next day, he saw two Hebrews fighting; and he said to the one who was in the wrong, 'Why do you strike your fellow Hebrew?' He answered, 'Who made you a ruler and judge over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?' Then Moses was afraid and thought, 'Surely the thing is known.' When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh. He settled in the land of Midian, and sat down by a well. The priest of Midian had seven daughters. They came to draw water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. But some shepherds came and drove them away. Moses got up and came to their defence and watered their flock. When they returned to their father Reuel, he said, 'How is it that you have come back so soon today?' They said, 'An Egyptian helped us against the shepherds; he even drew water for us and watered the flock.' He said to his daughters, 'Where is he? Why did you leave the man? Invite him to break bread.' Moses agreed to stay with the man, and he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah in marriage. She bore a son, and he named him Gershom; for he said, 'I have been an alien residing in a foreign land.'

Hear the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Magnificat Jackson in G

New Testament Reading Hebrews 9. 1-14

Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was constructed, the first one, in which were the lampstand, the table, and the bread of the Presence; this is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain was a tent called the Holy of Holies. In it stood the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which there were a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the

tablets of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory over shadowing the mercy-seat. Of these things we cannot speak now in detail. Such preparations having been made, the priests go continually into the first tent to carry out their ritual duties; but only the high priest goes into the second, and he but once a year, and not without taking the blood that he offers for himself and for the sins committed unintentionally by the people. By this the Holy Spirit indicates that the way into the sanctuary has not yet been disclosed as long as the first tent is still standing. This is a symbol of the present time, during which gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshipper, but deal only with food and drink and various baptisms, regulations for the body imposed until the time comes to set things right. But when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

Hear the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Responses *Radcliffe*

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 Lords 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 those who 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.

The Collects

The Collect of the Day

Merciful Lord, absolve your people from their offences, that through your bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the chains of those sins which by our frailty we have committed; grant this, heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Prayers

Anthem Like as the hart *Howells*

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks,
so longeth my soul after thee, O God.

My soul is athirst for God,
yea, even for the living God.

When shall I come to appear before the
presence of God?

My tears have been my meat day and night,
while they daily say unto me,
“Where is now thy God?”

Psalm 42 vv. 1–3

Notices

Hymn

- 1 Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise:
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.
- 2 And that a higher gift than grace
should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence and his very self,
and essence all-divine.
- 3 And in the garden secretly,
and on the Cross on high,
should teach his brethren, and inspire
to suffer and to die.
- 4 Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise:
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.

John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

Blessing

Organ Voluntary

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