



**EVENSONG ON**

**EASTER DAY**

**WITH**

**THE DEDICATION OF THE**

**GRAND ORGAN**

**Sunday 4 April 2021**  
**at 4.00pm**

## Welcome

A warm welcome to York Minster and to this service of Choral Evensong at which the Archbishop will dedicate the newly-restored organ. Welcome if you are a regular worshipper and know the Minster well, and welcome if you are experiencing this building and this form of worship for the first time today.

Today's service will also be live streamed from the Minster. We hope that this regular provision of choral worship will help us through the months ahead and the continuing challenges of restrictions due to the pandemic.

In this service we are immersed in the words of scripture, spoken and sung, and we are given time and space to lose ourselves in prayer and come closer to God.

## Organ music before the service

Erstanden ist der heil'ge Christ, BWV 628	J S Bach
Church bells beyond the stars	Cecilia McDowall
O filii et filiae	Jeanne Demessieux
Te Deum	Jeanne Demessieux

# Order of Service

*A bell is rung and these prayers are sung:*

O praise the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord.

Let us pray.

O Lord, open thou our lips and purify our hearts, that we may worthily magnify thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O praise the Lord with me, and let us magnify his name together.

## Introit

*The Choir sings:*

This joyful Eastertide,  
away with sin and sorrow!  
My Love, the Crucified,  
hath sprung to life this morrow

*Had Christ, that once was slain,  
ne'er burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain:  
but now hath Christ arisen.*

My flesh in hope shall rest,  
and for a season slumber:  
till trump from east to west  
shall wake the dead in number.

Death's flood hath lost his chill,  
since Jesus cross'd the river:  
lover of souls, from ill  
My passing soul deliver.

*Words* G R Woodward (1848–1934)

*Music* Dutch Carol, arr Charles Wood (1866–1926)

## Preces

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.**

*Music* Bernard Rose (1916–96)

## Dedication of the Grand Organ

*The Archbishop declares:*

Alleluia, Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Dearly beloved, we come together on this holy day to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. On this day the choirs of heaven sing, the saints around God's throne exult in harmony, Jesus is risen from the grave and we praise him in glorious symphony.

We give thanks for all that gives voice to our prayer, instruments of music, choirs and musicians, our own voices longing to sing together of God's love, made known to us Christ.

Today we dedicate this new organ, a sacred instrument which will lift our prayers and assist our song to the glory of God.

Let us pray.

Almighty Father, who hast filled thy servants with the Spirit of God, in wisdom and in understanding, and in all manner of workmanship to devise instruments of music, to be used in the worship of thy sanctuary. Be pleased to prosper the use of this renovated organ which we now dedicate to thy service in this thy hallowed house of prayer.

Grant that it may tend to the promotion of thy glory and the edification of thy people. Grant that all to whom thou hast given skill in music and song, may ever seek to set forth thy praise, not their own, and to lift up the hearts and minds of those who hear them, not to themselves but to thee.

Grant that all who all worship here, even if they sing not with their voices, may join in the songs of praise with the spirit and understanding, and thus be united with all who stand before thee on earth or in heaven in offering to thee the worship of spirit and truth.

**Amen.**

## The Singing of the Organ

*After each invocation, the organist responds with an improvisation.*

Awake, O sacred instrument!  
Sing the praise of God, our Creator.



Awake, O sacred instrument!  
Sing of Jesus, our Lord, dead and risen for us today.



Awake, O sacred instrument!  
Sing of the Holy Spirit that animates our lives with the breath of God.



Awake, O sacred instrument!  
Bring the congregation of the faithful together  
in songs of thanksgiving and praise.



Awake, O sacred instrument!  
Bring comfort to those who are in pain or sorrow  
and carry the prayers of all Christian people.



Awake, O sacred instrument!  
Proclaim glory to the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.



*The Dean prays:*

O Lord God of Hosts, who hast made all things, and whose praise is set forth by all thy works, accept we beseech thee, the offering of this organ which thy servants here present unto thee and which we dedicate to thy glory and to the shewing forth of thy praise in this Cathedral Church.

Grant that when at the sound of this organ the singers shall lift up their voices in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, all thy people may sing and make melody in their hearts to the Lord.

Hear these our prayers, and graciously receive this offering for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*During the singing of the psalm, the Archbishop censes the organ.*

## **Psalm**

O be joyful in God, all ye lands ♦ sing praises unto the honour of his Name,  
make his praise to be glorious.

Say unto God, O how wonderful art thou in thy works ♦ through the greatness  
of thy power shall thine enemies be found liars unto thee.

For all the world shall worship thee ♦ sing of thee, and praise thy Name.

O come hither, and behold the works of God ♦ how wonderful he is in his doing  
toward the children of men.

He turned the sea into dry land ♦ so that they went through the water on foot;  
there did we rejoice thereof.

He ruleth with his power for ever; his eyes behold the people ♦ and such as will  
not believe shall not be able to exalt themselves.

O praise our God, ye people ♦ and make the voice of his praise to be heard;  
Who holdeth our soul in life ♦ and suffereth not our feet to slip.

For thou, O God, hast proved us ♦ thou also hast tried us, like as silver is tried.

Thou broughtest us into the snare ♦ and laidest trouble upon our loins.

Thou sufferedst men to ride over our heads ♦ we went through fire and water,

and thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.

I will go into thine house with burnt-offerings ♦ and will pay thee my vows,  
which I promised with my lips, and spake with my mouth, when I was in  
trouble.

I will offer unto thee fat burnt-sacrifices, with the incense of rams ♦ I will offer  
bullocks and goats.

O come hither, and hearken, all ye that fear God ♦ and I will tell you what he  
hath done for my soul.

I called unto him with my mouth ♦ and gave him praises with my tongue.

If I incline unto wickedness with mine heart ♦ the Lord will not hear me.

But God hath heard me ♦ and considered the voice of my prayer.

Praised be God, who hath not cast out my prayer ♦ nor turned his mercy from  
me.

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.

PSALM 66

## First Lesson

The first lesson is written in the book of the Prophet Ezekiel.

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of  
the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led  
me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very  
dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God,  
you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry  
bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will  
cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will  
cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you,  
and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.'

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there  
was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked,  
and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had  
covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophecy  
to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God:  
Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they  
may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and  
they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, ‘Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, “Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.” Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.’

Here ends the first lesson.

EZEKIEL 37.1–14

## Magnificat

*When it was late that day, and that day was the Sabbath, and the doors were closed in the place where the disciples gathered, there stood Jesus in the midst of them and said to them, Peace be with you, Alleluia!*

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.

*When it was late that day...*

*Words* LUKE I. 46–55 ♦ *Music* SERVICE IN D, George Dyson (1883–1964)



## Second Lesson

The second lesson is written in the Gospel according to St Luke.

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Here ends the second lesson.

LUKE 24.13-35

## Nunc Dimittis

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.

*Words* Luke 2.29–32 ♦ *Music* SERVICE IN D, George Dyson

## 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 Lesser Litany and Responses

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.

**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.**

## The Collects

Almighty God, who through thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death, and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life: We humbly beseech thee, that as by thy special grace preventing us thou dost put into our minds good desires, so by thy continual help we may bring the same to good effect; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

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.

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.

*Music* Bernard Rose

## **Anthem**

Hallelujah: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth, Hallelujah! The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of the Lord and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. King of kings, and Lord of lords; and he shall reign for ever and ever, Hallelujah!

*Words* The Book of Revelation ♦ *Music* G F Handel (1685–1759)

## **Sermon**

The Revd Dr Victoria Johnson, Canon Precentor

## **The Prayers**

The Dean

## Blessing

*The Archbishop says:*

God the Father,  
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,  
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.

**Amen.**

God the Son,  
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,  
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

**Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## Voluntary

Toccatà

Marcel Lanquetuit  
(1894–1985)

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