

# Morning Song

Choral Worship to Start the Day

Officiant Revd Harry Ching

#### Introit O sacred head, sore wounded Bach

O sacred head, sore wounded,
Defiled and put to scorn;
O kingly head, surrounded
With mocking crown of thorn:
What sorrow mars Thy grandeur?
Can death Thy bloom deflow'r?
O countenance whose splendor
The hosts of heav'en adore!

In Thy most bitter passion
My heart to share doth cry,
With Thee for my salvation
Upon the cross to die.
Ah, keep my heart thus moved
To stand Thy cross beneath,
To mourn Thee, well-beloved,
Yet thank Thee for Thy death.

My days are few, O fail not, With Thine immortal pow'r, To hold me that I quail not In death's most fearful hour; That I may fight befriended, And see in my last strife To me Thine arms extended Upon the cross of life.

Paul Gerhardt (1608 – 1676), translated by Robert Seymour Bridges (1844 – 1930).

#### Welcome

#### **Preces**



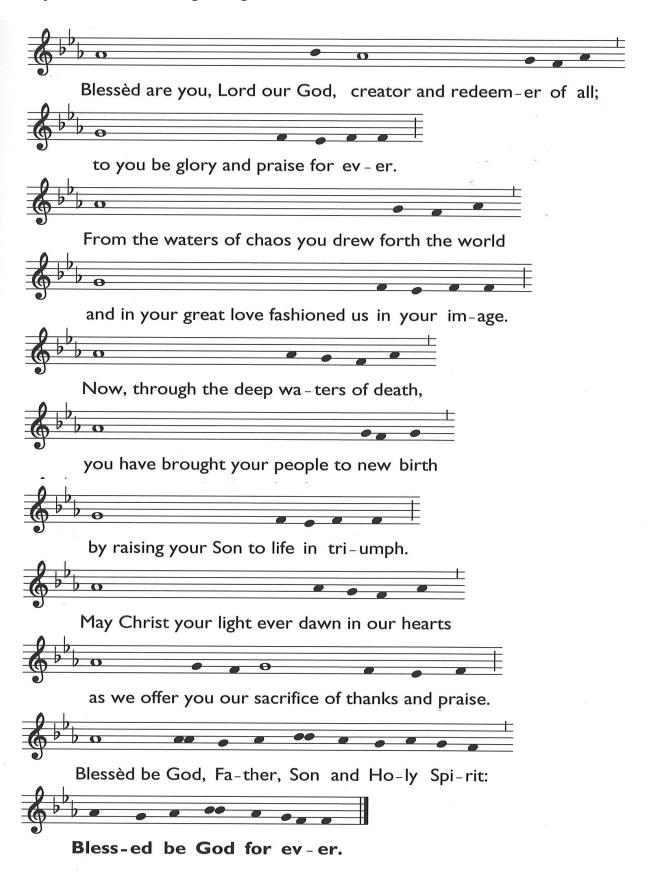
The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

## Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever.

#### All Amen.

# Prayer of Thanksgiving



## Psalmody Psalm 69. 1-19

- 1 Save me, O God, for the waters have come up, even to my neck.
- I sink in deep mire where there is no foothold;I have come into deep waters and the flood sweeps over me.
- I have grown weary with crying; my throat is raw; my eyes have failed from looking so long for my God.
- Those who hate me without any cause are more than the hairs of my head;
- Those who would destroy me are mighty; my enemies accuse me falsely: must I now give back what I never stole?
- O God, you know my foolishness, and my faults are not hidden from you.
- 7 Let not those who hope in you be put to shame through me, Lord God of hosts; let not those who seek you be disgraced because of me, O God of Israel.
- 8 For your sake have I suffered reproach; shame has covered my face.
- I have become a stranger to my kindred, an alien to my mother's children.
- 10 Zeal for your house has eaten me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.
- 11 I humbled myself with fasting, but that was turned to my reproach.
- 12 I put on sackcloth also and became a byword among them.

- 13 Those who sit at the gate murmur against me, and the drunkards make songs about me.
- 14 But as for me, I make my prayer to you, O Lord; at an acceptable time, O God.
- 15 Answer me, O God, in the abundance of your mercy and with your sure salvation.
- 16 Draw me out of the mire, that I sink not; let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.
- 17 Let not the water flood drown me, neither the deep swallow me up; let not the Pit shut its mouth upon me.
- 18 Answer me, Lord, for your loving-kindness is good; turn to me in the multitude of your mercies.
- 19 Hide not your face from your servant; be swift to answer me, for I am in trouble

## Old Testament Reading Genesis 22. 1-18

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, 'Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' He said, 'Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt-offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.' So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt-offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, 'Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you.' Abraham took the wood of the burnt-offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, 'Father!' And he said, 'Here I am, my son.' He said, 'The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt-offering?' Abraham said, 'God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt-offering, my son.' So the two of them walked on together. When they came to the place that God had shown him,

Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, 'Abraham, Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' He said, 'Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.' And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt-offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place 'The Lord will provide'; as it is said to this day, 'On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.' The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, 'By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.'

# Canticle A Song of Christ the Servant Goss

- 1 Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.
- 2 He committed no sin, no guile was found on his lips, when he was reviled, he did not revile in turn.
- When he suffered, he did not threaten, but he trusted in God who judges justly.
- 4 Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.
- 5 By his wounds, you have been healed, for you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

1 Peter 2. 21-25

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

## New Testament Reading Hebrews 10. 1-10

Since the law has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered year after year, make perfect those who approach. Otherwise, would they not have ceased being offered, since the worshippers, cleansed once for all, would no longer have any consciousness of sin? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sin year after year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God" (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).' When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law), then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

# Gospel Canticle Benedictus Harper

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of his servant David.
- Through his holy prophets God promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors, and to remember his holy covenant.
- This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

continued...

- And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68-79

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

#### **Prayers**

The response to the prayers is:

Lord, in your mercy, *All* hear our prayer.

#### Lord's Prayer Wilson

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

# Collect for the Day

Almighty Father, look with mercy on this your family for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed and given up into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross; who is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

#### **Notices**

# Anthem A Litany Walton

Drop, drop, slow tears, And bathe those beauteous feet Which brought from Heaven The news and Prince of Peace.

Cease not, wet eyes, His mercy to entreat; To cry for vengeance Sin doth never cease.

Drop, drop, slow tears, In your deep flood Drown all my faults and fears; Nor let His eye see sin, but through my tears.

Phineas Fletcher (1582-1650)

## Blessing

If you have enjoyed this service and would like to help us continue with this work, we would be grateful to receive donations towards the worshiping life of the church.

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- by texting COLLECTION to 70450 to donate £10 (texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message),
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#### Thank you.

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