

Order of Service for Mattins *with* Holy Communion Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ *(transferred)* 9th August 2020 at 11.00am

¶ Please stand

WELCOME Fr Stephen

THE ACCLAMATION Arise, shine, for thy light has come And the glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

THE INTROIT

Consider, O Lord, and hear me, when I cry unto thee, alleluia: unto thee my heart hath said, Thy face, Lord, have I sought; thy face, Lord, will I seek: O hide not thou thy face from thy servant, alleluia, alleluia. The Lord is my light, and my salvation: whom then shall I fear? 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. Consider, O Lord, and hear me ...

¶ Please sit

THE VERSICLES AND RESPONSES (spoken)
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.

THE VENITE

O come, let us sing unto the Lord : let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving : and show ourselves glad in him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God : and a great King above all gods. In his hand are all the corners of the earth : and the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it : and his hands prepared the dry land. O come, let us worship and fall down : and kneel before the Lord our Maker. For he is the Lord our God : and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. 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 FIRST LESSON (read by Tim Brown)

The first lesson is written in the twenty fourth chapter of the Book of Exodus, beginning at the twelfth verse.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them. And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of God. And he said unto the elders, Tarry ye here for us, until we come again unto you: and, behold, Aaron and Hur are with you: if any man have any matters to do, let him come unto them. And Moses went up into the mount, and a cloud covered the mount. And the glory of the LORD abode upon mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days: and the seventh day he called unto Moses out of the midst of the cloud. And the sight of the glory of the LORD was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel. And Moses went into the midst of the cloud, and gat him up into the mount: and Moses was in the mount forty days and forty nights.

Here endeth the first lesson.

PSALM 84

O how amiable are thy dwellings : thou Lord of hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing, to enter into the courts of the Lord : my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. Yea the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young : even thy altars, O Lord of hosts my King and God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house : they will be always praising thee. Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee : in whose heart are thy ways. Who going through the vale of misery, use it for a well : and the pools are filled with water. They will go from strength to strength : and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Sion. O Lord God of hosts hear my prayer : hearken O God of Jacob. Behold O God our defender : and look upon the face of thine Anointed. For one day in thy courts : is better than a thousand. I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God : than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness. For the Lord God is a light and defence : the Lord will give grace and worship, and no good thing shall he withhold from them that live a godly life. O Lord God of hosts : blessed is the man that putteth his trust in thee. 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 SECOND LESSON (read by Graham Day)

The second lesson is written in the ninth chapter of the Gospel according to St Mark, beginning at the second verse.

And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them. And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them. And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus. And Peter answered and said to Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. For he wist not what to say; for they were sore afraid.And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.

Here endeth the second lesson.

THE TE DEUM LAUDAMUS

We praise thee, O God : we acknowledge thee to be the Lord. All the earth doth worship thee : the Father everlasting. To thee all Angels cry aloud : the heavens, and all the powers therein. To thee Cherubim and Seraphim : continually do cry, Holy, Holy, Holy : Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty : of thy glory. The glorious company of the Apostles : praise thee. The goodly fellowship of the Prophets : praise thee. The noble army of Martyrs : praise thee. The holy Church throughout all the world : doth acknowledge thee; The Father : of an infinite Majesty; Thine honourable, true : and only Son; Also the Holy Ghost : the Comforter. Thou art the King of Glory : O Christ. Thou art the everlasting Son : of the Father. When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man : thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb. When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death : thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Thou sittest at the right hand of God : in the glory of the Father. We believe that thou shalt come : to be our Judge. We therefore pray thee, help thy servants : whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood. Make them to be numbered with thy Saints : in glory everlasting. O Lord, save thy people : and bless thine heritage. Govern them : and lift them up for ever. Day by day : we magnify thee; And we worship thy Name : ever world without end. Vouchsafe, O Lord : to keep us this day without sin. O Lord, have mercy upon us : have mercy upon us. O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us : as our trust is in thee. O Lord, in thee have I trusted : let me never be confounded.

¶ Please stand

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 Catholick Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

¶ Please sit

THE PRAYERS

O God, who on the holy mount, didst reveal to chosen witnesses thy – well beloved Son, Jesus Christ, wonderfully transfigured: Mercifully grant unto us such a vision of his divine Majesty that we, being purified and strengthened by thy grace, may be transformed into his likeness from glory to glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Be thou unto us at this time, O Lord, a tower of strength, a place of refuge, and a defence in our day of trouble. Keep us clam and of good heart, because our trust is in thee. Let thy comfort support us. Thy mercy pardon us; and thy wisdom guide us; and give us, if it pleaseth thee, deliverance from the adversities that afflict us; through Jesus Christ Our Lord. **Amen**.

We pray thee, O Lord, for all who are sick at this time, especially those known to us, Vivienne Lake Pr, Jane Blakemore, Milena Sanakova, Martin Seekings and Dianne Fraser, that they may find in those who care and support them, the healing, comfort and strength of thy Holy Spirit: through Jesus Christ Our Lord. **Amen**.

Almighty God, regard with thy tender compassion the anxious, the lonely and the bereaved. Bear their sorrows and cares; give them comfort and peace in thee; and grant unto them, a sure trust and confidence in thy fatherly care: through Jesus Christ Our Lord. **Amen**.

THE SERMON - Revd Dr Jonathan Holmes, Fellow of Queens' College

THE OFFERTORY

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors: and the King of glory shall come in.



Transfiguration of Jesus (1405) by Andrei Rublev

Offertory Hymn NEH 401 Light's abode, celestial Salem



- LIGHT'S abode, celestial Salem, Vision dear whence peace doth spring, Brighter than the heart can fancy, Mansion of the highest King; O, how glorious are the praises Which of thee the prophets sing!
- 3 There no cloud nor passing vapour Dims the brightness of the air; Endless noon-day, glorious noon-day, From the Sun of suns is there; There no night brings rest from labour, There unknown are toil and care.
- O how glorious and resplendent, Fragile body, shalt thou be,
 When endued with so much beauty, Full of health, and strong, and free,
 Full of vigour, full of pleasure That shall last eternally!
- 2 There for ever and for ever Alleluya is outpoured; For unending, for unbroken Is the feast-day of the Lord; All is pure and all is holy That within thy walls is stored.
 5 Now with gladness, now with courage, Bear the burden on thee laid, The burden on thee laid,
 - Bear the burden on thee laid, That hereafter these thy labours May with endless gifts be paid, And in everlasting glory Thou with joy may'st be arrayed.
 - 6 Laud and honour to the Father, Laud and honour to the Son, Laud and honour to the Spirit, Ever Three and ever One, One in love, and One in splendour, While unending ages run. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

Almighty God,

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; The burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him; Have mercy upon you; + pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE SURSUM CORDA

The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up unto the Lord. Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and singing: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory: Glory be to thee, O Lord most High. Amen. + Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death, until his coming again: Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that by the power of the Holy Spirit, we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed + Body and Blood:

Who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you; Do this in remembrance of me. Likewise, after supper, he took the Cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me. Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

THE COMMUNION

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed: and all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for thee, preserve thy body and soul unto everlasting life: Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for the ind ges on himmen heart by faith with thanksgiving. Amen.

English Traditional; arr. R. Vaughan Williams



- 3 Strength of the wills that serve him, may Christ be strength to me, who stilled the storm and tempest, who calmed the tossing sea; his Spirit's power to move me, his will to master mine, his cross to carry daily and conquer in his sign.
- 4 May it be ours to know him that we may truly love, and loving, fully serve him as serve the saints above; till in that home of glory with fadeless splendour bright, we serve in perfect freedom our strength, our life, our light.

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. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF OBLATION

O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy humble servants entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee, that all we, who are partakers of this Holy Communion, may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction. And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen**.

THE BLESSING

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, fill you with radiance divine and scatter the darkness from your path. Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, gladden your eyes and warm your heart.

Christ, the Dayspring from on high, draw near to guide your feet into the way of peace. And the blessing of God Almighty, + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

¶ Please stand

Recessional Hymn NEH 176 O vision blest of heavenly light

O Vision blest of heavenly light, Which meets the three disciples' sight, When on the holy mount they see Their Lord's transfigured majesty.

More bright than day his raiment shone; The Father's voice proclaimed the Son Belov'd before the worlds were made, For us in mortal flesh arrayed.

And with him there on either hand Lo, Moses and Elijah stand, To show how Christ, to those who see, Fulfils both law and prophecy. O Light from light, by love inclined, Jesu, redeemer of mankind, Accept thy people's prayer and praise Which on the mount to thee they raise.

Be with us, Lord, as we descend To walk with thee to journey's end, That through thy cross we too may rise, And share thy triumph in the skies.

To thee, O Father; Christ to thee, Let praise and endless glory be, Whom with the Spirit we adore, One Lord, one God for evermore. Amen.

Closing Organ Voluntary D. Buxtehude, *Praeludium in e Minor*



Raphael *The Transfiguration* 1518-20. Oil on wood. Pinacoteca Apostolica, Vatican.

Raphael's altarpiece illustrates two episodes narrated in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke: the Transfiguration above, with Christ in glory between the prophets Moses and Elijah, and below, in the foreground, the meeting of the disciples with the demoniac youth who will be miraculously cured by Christ on his return from Mount Tabor. This lower scene, taking place simultaneously, is not part of the Transfiguration itself and precedes the successful healing of the boy by Christ later.¹

Jesus took Peter, James and John up the mountain and there was transfigured. A radiant Christ floats in an aura of light and clouds above the hill. Moses and Elijah appeared and started talking to Jesus but the disciples covered their eyes, finding the glare too strong for staring. Peter suggested they build tents for Jesus, Moses and Elijah but before he could finish a cloud cast a shadow over them, and from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son: hear him'.²

The disciples who did not climb the mountain are on the lower left of the painting. They try to heal the youth who is possessed by an evil spirit. The figure in the blue robe is probably Matthew. He consults a book but cannot find a cure. The disciple in the yellow robe is Philip. To Philip's right, in the red robe, is Andrew pointing upwards towards Christ. Behind him, pointing to the sick boy, is Judas Thaddeus, and the older man to his left is Simon. The man on the far left is probably Judas Iscariot.

The Transfiguration shows the connection that Christ provides between Heaven and Earth and that people should follow the lessons provided by the Son of God. Jesus looks upwards to the sky to remind the viewer that he connects the people on earth and God in Heaven. The three disciples on the mountain represent faith, hope, and love. The scene at the bottom half of the painting symbolizes the inability of people to do miracles without the power of faith and prayer. ³

The painting illustrates the human and divine nature of Christ. Goethe summarized the two scenes thus: "The two are one: below suffering, need; above, effective power, succour. Each bearing on the other, both interacting with one another." This is Raphael's last painting and appears as the spiritual testament of the artist. The work is considered in his biography, written in the 16th century by Giorgio Vasari, as "the most famous, the most beautiful and most divine". ⁴

¹ Matthew 17:1–8, Mark 9:2–8, Luke 9:28–3. Although there are significant differences in the three gospels, especially the accompanying apostles' understanding, they offer a similar account of the participants in the revelation. "And after six days Jesus taketh Peter and James and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them. And his

raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them. And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus". Mark 9: 2-4 KJV.

² Mark 9:7. And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him. KJV.

³ Eelco Kappe.

⁴ Vasari, Giorgio. *Vasari's Lives of the Artists : Biographies of the Most Eminent Architects, Painters, and Sculptors of Italy.* Translated by Gaston de Vere. Vol.4, p. 24