

*Mass from St Matthew's, Westminster*

*Quinquagesima  
(6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time)*

*14<sup>th</sup> February 2021*



## Mass Setting

Mass in F

*John Ireland (1879-1962)*

## Organ Prelude

Chorale Prelude on 'St Peter'

*Harold Darke (1888-1976)*



## Processional

'Tis good, Lord, to be here!  
Thy glory fills the night;  
Thy face and garments, like the sun,  
Shine with unborrowed light.

'Tis good, Lord, to be here,  
Thy beauty to behold,  
Where Moses and Elijah stand,  
Thy messengers of old.

Fulfiller of the past,  
Promise of things to be,  
We hail thy Body glorified,  
And our redemption see.

Before we taste of death,  
We see thy kingdom come;  
We fain would hold the vision bright,  
And make this hill our home.

'Tis good, Lord, to be here!  
Yet we may not remain;  
But since you bidst us leave the mount  
Come with us to the plain.

*Words: J. Armitage Robinson (1858-1933)*

*Music: Carlisle (NEH 178), Charles Lockhart (1745-1815)*

## Introductory Rite

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Welcome to St Matthew's Westminster for this Mass today. Even though physically separated, we hope you will feel part of this act of prayer and worship, as we celebrate in the presence of God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

## Prayers of Penitence

My brothers and sisters,  
as we prepare to celebrate the mystery of God's love,  
revealed in Word and Sacrament,  
let us call to mind our sins.

Like as the hart longs for flowing streams,  
so longs my soul for you, O God:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

O send out your light and your truth,  
that they may lead me:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

May we come to your altar, O God,  
the God of our salvation:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

## Absolution

May Almighty God have mercy upon us,  
forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

## Gloria In Excelsis

### The Collect of The Day

*Quinquagesima*

Almighty Father,  
whose Son was revealed in majesty  
before he suffered death upon the cross:  
give us grace to perceive his glory,  
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him  
and be changed into his likeness,  
from glory to glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

# Liturgy of The Word

## First Reading

2 Kings 2. 1-12

A reading from the Second Book of Kings

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets\* who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets\* who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets\* also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 150

*O praise God in his holiness: praise him in the firmament of his power.  
Praise him in his noble acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.  
Praise him in the sound of the trumpet: praise him upon the lute and harp.  
Praise him in the cymbals and dances: praise him upon the strings and pipe.  
Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals: praise him upon the loud cymbals.  
Let every thing that hath breath: praise the Lord.*

## Second Reading

2 Corinthians 4. 3-6

A reading from the Second Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Open our eyes, O Lord,  
that we might behold your glory.

**Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## The Holy Gospel

St Mark 9. 2-9

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one\* on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## The Sermon

Mthr Sarah Lenton

## The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## The Prayers of The People

## Liturgy of The Sacrament

### The Peace

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles  
peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you:  
regard not our sins but the faith of your Church,  
and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom  
where you live for ever and ever. Amen.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## Offertory

Sing we Merrily  
*Sidney Campbell (1909-74)*

*Sing we merrily unto God our strength; make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob. Take the psalm, bring hither the tabret, the merry harp with the lute. Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, even in the time appointed, and upon our solemn feast day. For this was made a statute for Israel and a law of the God of Jacob. Alleluia.*

*Psalm 81. 1-4*

## The Preparation Of The Gifts

Blessèd are you, Lord God of all creation.  
Through your goodness  
we have this bread to offer,  
which earth has given and  
human hands have made.  
It will become for us the bread of life.  
**Blessèd be God for ever.**

Blessèd are you, Lord God of all creation.  
Through your goodness  
we have this wine to offer,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become our spiritual drink.  
**Blessèd be God for ever.**

## Orate Fratres

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that this our sacrifice  
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.  
**May the Lord accept the sacrifice we offer  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

## Prayer Over The Gifts

Holy God,  
receive all we bring before you this day,  
and bring us also to that radiant glory  
which we see in the transfigured face  
of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For on this day he revealed his glory  
before his chosen witnesses  
and filled with divine splendour  
the human flesh in which he is one with us.

So he prepared his disciples  
to bear the scandal of the cross  
and showed that in the Church, his body,  
the same glory would be fulfilled  
that shone forth from him, its head.

And so with joyful hearts we echo on earth  
the song of the angels in heaven  
as they praise your glory without end:

### *Sanctus & Benedictus*

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood  
of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Who in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke 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.**

In the same way, after supper,  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying,

**Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.**

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

And so, Father,  
calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once  
for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection  
and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.  
As we offer you this our sacrifice of  
praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you;

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of Our Lady,  
St Matthew, St Edward the Confessor,  
and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours,  
almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

At the Saviour's command  
and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done;  
on 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.**

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

## Agnus Dei

### Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

### Spiritual Communion

*During the current lockdown public worship is on hold. This means that many people who would have received Holy Communion each Sunday, and some of them every day, are not able to receive the comfort and benefits of the Blessed Sacrament.*

*This is a huge loss. However, it is not the first time that the Church has been in such a position. Throughout Christian history some Christian people have found themselves isolated from the sacramental life of the Church for all sorts of reasons, and particularly in times of plague, famine and warfare.*

*At such times the Church has encouraged people to make what is called a Spiritual Communion. It is a way of uniting yourself with Jesus and entering into communion with him even though you are not able to receive the sacrament itself.*

*The prayer that follows draws on the story of the woman who comes to Jesus but only touches the hem of his garment. She still receives healing and blessing (See St Mark 5. 25-34). In a way, spiritual communion is like this. We are not able to receive the sacramental bread and wine. But in a spiritual communion we still come to Jesus and he still receives us.*

### Act of Spiritual Reception

O loving God, in union with Christian people throughout the world and across the centuries gathered to make Eucharist, hearing your holy Word and receiving the Precious Body and Blood of your dear Son, I offer you praise and thanksgiving. Even though I am exiled from tasting the Bread of Heaven and drinking the Cup of Life I pray that you will unite me with all the baptised and with your Son who gave his life for us.

Come Lord Jesus, dwell in me and send your Holy Spirit that I may be filled with your presence.

### Communion Anthem

View me Lord  
*Richard Lloyd (b 1933)*

### Postcommunion Prayer

Holy God,  
we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:  
may we who are partakers at his table  
reflect his life in word and deed,  
that all the world may know his power to change and save.  
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Postcommunion Hymn

*Alleluia, sing to Jesus,  
His the sceptre, his the throne;  
Alleluia, his the triumph,  
His the victory alone:  
Hark the songs of peaceful Sion  
Thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus, out of every nation,  
Hath redeemed us by his blood.*

*Alleluia, not as orphans  
Are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia, he is near us,  
Faith believes, nor questions how;  
Though the cloud from sight received him  
When the forty days were o'er,  
Shall our hearts forget his promise,  
'I am with you evermore'?*

*Alleluia, Bread of Angels,  
Thou on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia, here the sinful  
Flee to thee from day to day;  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,  
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,  
Where the songs of all the sinless  
Sweep across the crystal sea.*

*Alleluia, King eternal,  
Thee the Lord of lords we own;  
Alleluia, born of Mary,  
Earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:  
Thou within the veil hast entered,  
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest;  
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim  
In the Eucharistic Feast.*

Words: W Chatterton Dix (1837-98)

Music: Hyfrydol (CP 278), Melody by R H Pritchard (1811-87)

## The Dismissal

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

*The priest pronounces God's Blessing*

The Mass is ended.  
Go in the peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**



*The Liturgy ends with the singing of the Angelus  
which recalls the centrality of the Incarnation  
as we are sent out to live the faith we have proclaimed.*

## The Angelus

The angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary.  
**And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

**Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now  
and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

Behold, the handmaid of the Lord.  
**Be it unto me according to thy word.**

Hail Mary ...

And the word was made flesh.  
**And dwelt among us.**

Hail Mary ...

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God:  
**That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Almighty God, pour thy grace into our hearts, that as we have known  
the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel,  
so by his ☩ Cross and Passion we may be brought unto the glory  
of his resurrection; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

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## Organ Postlude

Postlude (to Sidney Campbell)  
*Arthur Wills (1926-2020)*