

The University Church of St Mary the Virgin Oxford



Service of Thanksgiving and
Commemoration for
HER LATE MAJESTY
QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Sunday 18 September at 4.30pm

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SERVICE

Welcome to the University of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford, as we gather to give thanks for the life of Queen Elizabeth II.

The congregation should be seated by 4.15pm. Before the service begins, a series of processions will enter the church, including ecumenical and faith representatives, College Chaplains, and Heads of Houses and other senior members of the University. The congregation shall remain seated.

The Service is led by the Revd Dr William Lamb, Vicar of the University Church.

The Choir of Merton College is directed by Benjamin Nicholas, Director of Music, Merton College. The Organ is played by James Brown, Organist, University Church of St Mary the Virgin.

The music has been carefully chosen to reflect different aspects of Queen Elizabeth's long life and reign. William Harris, who wrote the Introit, was the Queen's piano teacher. The hymn, *Praise, my soul, the King of heaven*, was sung at the wedding of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. In 1957, the Queen quoted Mr Valiant-for-truth in her first televised Christmas broadcast. The setting of Psalm 121 was composed for the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977. The Kontakion was sung at the Duke of Edinburgh's funeral. The setting of the Amen after the Blessing was sung at the Queen's Coronation.

Lavatories, including accessible provision, are situated at the West End of the Nave behind the glass brick screen. Entry is on the North Side.

To enable our worship to be uninterrupted, please ensure that all mobile phones and other electronic devices are switched off before and during the service. You are kindly requested to refrain from making any audio or visual recording of any part of this service without the written permission of the Vicar.

MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

Cortège Solennel Leon Boellmann (1862-1897)
Lamento Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)
Elegy Herbert Brewer (1865-1928)
Adagio in E Frank Bridge (1879-1941)
Nimrod (from the Enigma Variations) Edward Elgar (1857-1934)
Elegy George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)

ORDER OF SERVICE

Please remain seated as the Choir sings the Introit.

Holy is the true light, and passing wonderful; Lending radiance to them that endure in the heat of the conflict. In Christ they inherit a home of unfailing splendour, wherein they rejoice with gladness evermore. Alleluia.

Words: Salisbury Diurnal
Music: William Harris (1883-1973)

Then the Vicar of St Mary's shall say:

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is his faithfulness.

Lamentations 3.22, 23

Please stand and sing the Hymn as the University Procession enters the Church.



Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven.
who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him! Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise him still the same forever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise him! Praise him! Praise him! Praise him!
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like he tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him! Praise him! Praise him! Praise him!
Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;
Ye behold him face to face;
Sun and moon bow down before him,
Dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him! Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace!

Words: H. F. Lyte (1793-1847)

Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss (1800-80)

We remain standing.

The Bidding

The Vicar

WE GATHER in thanksgiving to honour the memory of our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth the Second. For her grace, humanity and sympathy, for her courage in adversity, for her steadfast pilgrimage of faith, for her example of service, and above all for the duty which she rendered unflinchingly to her country and the Commonwealth, we thank and praise Almighty God.

As we commend Queen Elizabeth, his servant, to God's mercy, let us also pray for the Royal Family and all those who mourn.

ALMIGHTY God,
who by the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ
destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light:
Grant that thy servant, Queen Elizabeth, being raised with him,
may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory;
who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth,
ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

PSALM 121 *Levavi oculos*

1. I WILL lift up mine eyes unto the hills :
from whence cometh my help.
2. My help cometh even from the Lord :
who hath made heaven and earth.
3. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved :
and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.
4. Behold, he that keepeth Israel :
shall neither slumber nor sleep.
5. The Lord himself is thy keeper :
the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand;
6. So that the sun shall not burn thee by day :
neither the moon by night.
7. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil :
yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.
8. The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in :
from this time forth for evermore.

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 Lesson

Read by the Vice-Chancellor

A reading from the Book of Revelation.

Revelation 21.1-7

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

‘See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.’

And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to sing the hymn:



The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction, grace bestoweth:
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house for ever.

Words: H.W. Baker (1821-77)

Tune: ST COLUMBA Irish Melody (Petrie Collection)

Please be seated.

The Address

The Chancellor

Anthem

After this it was noised abroad that Mr Valiant-for-truth was taken with a summons and had this for a token that the summons was true, "That his pitcher was broken at the fountain." When he understood it, he called for his friends, and told them of it. Then, said he, "I am going to my Father's, and though with great difficulty I am got hither, yet now I do not repent me of all the trouble I have been at to arrive where I am. My sword, I give to him that shall succeed me in my pilgrimage, and my courage and skill, to him that can get it. My marks and scars I carry with me, to be a witness for me, that I have fought his battles, who now will be my rewarder." When the day that he must go hence was come, many accompanied him to the riverside, into which, as he went, he said, "Death, where is thy sting?" And as he went down deeper, he said, "Grave, where is thy victory?" So he passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side.

Text from *The Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan (1628-1688)
Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

The Prayers

*Please sit or kneel. The prayers are led by members of the University of Oxford.
At the end, we say the Lord's Prayer.*

Minister Let us pray with confidence in the words our Saviour gave us.

**Our Father, who 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.**

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

Please stand.

The Prayer of Commendation

Let us remember before God, with thanksgiving and praise, his servant, Queen Elizabeth the Second.

Silence shall be kept for the space of two minutes.

Into your hands, O Father and Lord, we commend your servant, our late Sovereign Lady QUEEN ELIZABETH. Enlighten her with your holy grace and suffer her never to be separated from you, O Lord in Trinity, God everlasting. **Amen.**

After St Edmund of Abingdon (1170–1240)

Please remain standing as the Choir sings:

Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy Saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Thou only art immortal, the Creator and Maker of all;
and we are mortal, formed of the earth,
and unto earth shall we return.

For so thou didst ordain when thou createdst us, saying,
“Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.”

All we go down to the dust;
yet weeping o’er the grave, we make our song:
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya.

Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy Saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Russian Kontakion of the Departed

The Prayer for the King

Let us, as in love and duty bound, pray for our King, Charles the Third, pledging to him, in the sight of God, our honour and service.

O GOD, who providest for thy people by thy power, and rulest over them in love: Vouchsafe so to bless thy Servant our King, that under him this nation may be wisely governed, and thy Church may serve thee in all godly quietness; and grant that he being devoted to thee with his whole heart, and persevering in good works unto the end, may, by thy guidance, come to thine everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Please remain standing to sing the hymn:



Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)
Music: BLAENWERN, William Rowlands (1860-1937)

The Blessing

The Bishop of Oxford

Bishop God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest;
to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth,
and all peoples, peace and concord;
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

The National Anthem

God save our gracious King.
Long live our noble King.
God save the King.
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the King.

Thy choicest gifts in store,
On him be pleased to pour,
Long may he reign:
May he defend our laws,
And ever give us cause,
To sing with heart and voice,
God save the King.

The congregation remains standing as the University Procession departs.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prelude and fugue in C minor (BWV 546) JS Bach (1685-1750)

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