SERVICE
OF
THANKSGIVING
FOR THE LIFE OF
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
at
ST GILES’ CATHEDRAL, EDINBURGH
The Service is sung by the Choir of St Giles’ Cathedral conducted by the Master of the Music, Mr. Michael Harris. The organ is played by Mr. Jordan English, Assistant Organist of St Giles’ Cathedral.

Music before the Service

Kyrie, Gott Vater in Ewigkeit
Christe, aller Welt Trost
Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Fantaisie in A

César Franck (1822-1890)

Vater unser im Himmelreich

Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Offertorium

James MacMillan (b.1959)

Master Tallis’s Testament

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Farewell to Stromness

Peter Maxwell Davies (1934-2016)

Andante soavemente e dolce

Charles MacPherson (1870-1927)

Chorale Prelude on ‘Eventide’

C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918)

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Johann Sebastian Bach

Méditation

Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

Chant de Paix

Jean Langlais (1907-1901)

Adagio (Symphonie No 3)

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

The choir, having taken their seats while the organ plays, will sing

Thou knowest Lord the secrets of our hearts

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Salvator mundi

Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585)

Mitte manum tuam

James MacMillan (b.1959)

Psalm 121

Savourna Stevenson (b.1961)

And I saw a new heaven

Edgar Bainton (1880-1956)

Organ music

Liebster Jesus, wir sind hier

Johann Sebastian Bach
When the Royal Party enters, the Congregation will stand as they are able and the Choir will sing the Introit:

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee.

*Music: Samuel S Wesley (1810-1876)*

The Minister will call the people to worship.

All will stand as they are able and sing:

All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice,
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell,
come ye before him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;
without our aid he did us make;
we are his folk, he doth us feed
and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
approach with joy his courts unto:
praise, laud, and bless his name always,
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good,
his mercy is for ever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.

*Psalm 100* 

*Old Hundredth. Melody from Genevan Psalter 1551*

The Congregation will sit.

The Minister reads these Sentences from Holy Scripture:

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth
The eternal God is our refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms
God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble.

The Choir will sing the Preces:

O Lord open thou our lips

*William Smith (1603-1645)*
The Minister offers these prayers:

Eternal and ever-blessed God, receive us in your mercy, and grant us the comfort and peace of your Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty and everlasting God,
you send forth your Spirit and we are created.
You richly endow us each with gifts
to bring blessing to ourselves and to others.
You enrich the life of our communities and our world
and at life's completion you rejoice to welcome us
into your nearer presence.

We gather at this time a sorrowing nation,
yet remembering with gratitude
the long life and reign of your servant Elizabeth, our Queen,
and for the many gifts and graces
with which you endowed her,
for her faithfulness to the trust committed to her,
and for all the benefits which through her
you have conferred upon this people.

High King of heaven,
help us, by the faith in which she lived and died,
to cherish those virtues which were dear to her heart and mind,
and bring us with her
when our days on earth are ended
into your heavenly presence and glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Karen Matheson will sing:

Chan fhaigh mi bàs, ach maiream beò,
is innseam oibre an Dhè
Throm-smachdaich Dia mi, ach gu bàs
cha tug e thairis mi.

O fosglach dhomh gu farsaing rèidh
geanan an ionracaicais:
Is rhythm orrasan a-steach;
Iehòbhah molaidh mis’.

Seo doras Dhè, air ‘n tèid a-steach
na daoine cóire naomh’.
Sior mholam thu, oir chual’ thu mi;
is tum mo shlàinte chaomh.

Psalm 118: 17–21
The first Lesson will be read by the First Minister:

Ecclesiastes 3: 1–15

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven, a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God’s gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him. That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already is; and God seeks out what has gone by.

Here ends the first Lesson.

The Choir will sing:

I love the Lord, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications. Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.
The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow.
Then called I upon the name of the Lord; O Lord, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.
Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful.
The Lord preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me.
Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee.
For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.
I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.
I believed, therefore have I spoken: I was greatly afflicted:
I said in my haste, All men are liars.
What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?
I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all his people.
Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.
O Lord, truly I am thy servant; I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds.
I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all his people,
In the courts of the Lord’s house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise ye the Lord.

Psalm 116
I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all day long.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Here ends the Epistle.

All will then stand as they are able and sing:

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want: 
he makes me down to lie 
in pastures green; he leadeth me 
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again, 
and me to walk doth make 
within the paths of righteousness, 
ev’n for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale, 
yet will I fear none ill; 
for thou art with me; and thy rod 
and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnishèd 
in presence of my foes; 
my head thou dost with oil anoint, 
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life 
shall surely follow me; 
and in God's house for evermore 
my dwelling-place shall be.

Psalm 23

Crimond

Jessie Seymour Irvine 1836–87
Harm. Thomas C.L. Pritchard 1885–1960
All will sit.

The Gospel will be read by the Most Rev Mark Strange, Bishop of Moray, Ross & Caithness, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church

St John 14: 1-4, 6, 27

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

Here ends the Gospel.

Homily delivered by the Rt Rev Dr Iain Greenshields, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

The Choir will sing the Anthem:

Justorum animae

William Byrd (1543-1623)

The Dean of the Chapel Royal in Scotland will then lead these prayers:

God of all grace,  
we thank you that you sent your Son, Jesus Christ,  
to break the power of death  
and to bring life and immortality to light  
through the gospel.  
He shared our life,  
took upon himself our death,  
and opened the kingdom of heaven  
to all who trust in him.  
Look not on us,  
but look on us as found in him,  
and bring us safely through judgement  
to the joy and peace of your presence.

Morag Mylne, Elder of the Church of the Scotland, will say:

Most gracious God, with all our hearts we thank you for the long life, the shining example, the steadfast commitment to duty, the strong faith, and the good humour of our wise and great Queen. We thank you for the deep love she has inspired from all her subjects, for the myriad ways in which she met and welcomed people from all walks of life, for the diplomacy with which she resolved conflict, and for the stability she brought to her realms and to the Commonwealth.
The Dean will say:

For the life and example of our Queen.

The Congregation will respond:

With all our hearts we give you thanks.

The Dean will say:

For the King in the role he now assumes.

The Congregation will respond:

Grant your comfort and wisdom and blessing, O God.

The Dean will say:

God of mercy, we pray your comfort to all members of the Royal Family in their time of grief and loss. Enfold them in your love, we pray you. Uphold them in their sorrow and grant that they may be confident of your mercy and the promises made to us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord in your mercy
All: Hear our prayer

Look with compassion, we pray you, upon The King as he assumes the office to which you have called him. Endow him with that Spirit with which you blessed and guided The Queen these many years, that he may walk in the joy of your strength and be affirmed by the love of his people throughout this kingdom.

Lord in your mercy
All: Hear our prayer

Morag Mylne, Elder of the Church of Scotland, will say:

We pray for all in our nation that we may live according to the standards set by our beloved Queen, that we may continually uphold in prayer our King as he seeks discernment and wisdom for his calling, and that together we may seek justice and prosperity for all people in this land.

Lord in your mercy
All: Hear our prayer

Samuel Nwokoro, Commonwealth student from Nigeria, will say:

We pray for wisdom to become worthy stewards of your good gifts. Give to us a constant concern for the earth and all its creatures, a spirit of understanding in our dealings with others, and keep the nations of our Commonwealth united in bonds of cooperation and friendship.

Lord in your mercy
All: Hear our prayer
The Dean will say:

Almighty and everlasting God, from whose love nothing can separate us, we commend to your kindness one another here, and all people engulfed in sorrow of any kind. We pray for the peace of the world and for just dealings between the nations. We pray for the hungry and the poor; for those displaced by conflict; for all who suffer hardship and do not enjoy the benefits which we have known in our day and generation.

We pray together as our Saviour taught us:

Our Father, which 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 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.

All will then stand as they are able and sing:

Glory to God! Our living songs we raise with all your folk of every time and place; with saints both old and new we lift our praise to fill with swelling sound this holy space.

Glory to God! With thankful hearts we come for all who loved and served your people here, for all who for the Christ made room and home, their faith inspiring us to persevere.

Glory to God for years of service true in church and home and in community; the acts of grace which brought your truth to view, the sacrifices that made others free.

Glory to God for challenges today which call us forward into service new, which reawaken faith and deepen prayer, which lift our worship, and our song renew.

Glory to God! Let now our lives resound as we step forward on the narrow road; may you, Lord Christ, our journeying surround and bring us safely to our home in God.

The bleacher lass o’ Kelvinhaugh
Words by Leith Fisher (1941–2009)
The National Anthem will be sung by all present:

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.

The Minister will pronounce the Benediction.

The Congregation will remain standing for the departure of the Royal Party.

Once the Guard of Honour has departed West Parliament Square, the Congregation will leave the Cathedral by way of the East Door moving under the direction of the Cathedral Stewards.

Music after the Service

Prelude and Fugue in C minor

Johann Sebastian Bach