



JOHN KEBLE CHURCH

## Welcome to John Keble Church

1 November 2020, 4pm

A memorial service for those we love with a focus on  
the Coronavirus period

*Please help us keep social distancing throughout the service.*

*As we prepare for the service Pie Jesu from Fauré's Requiem is sung.*

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem, sempiternam requiem.

*Pious Lord Jesus, give them rest, everlasting rest.*

*All sit for the WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION.*

*Minister:* I lift up my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come from?

*All:* **My help comes from the Lord.**

*Minister:* He will not let your foot slip,

*All:* **He will not slumber nor sleep.**

*Minister:* The Lord will watch over your coming and going,

*All:* **Both now and for evermore.**

*All sit for the ASSURANCE OF THE LOVE AND FORGIVENESS OF GOD:*

O God our Comforter, you are our strength and refuge, you are close at hand in times of distress. Help us to stand in the Christian hope of life

beyond death. Dispel our fear, ease our loneliness, renew our hope, lead us through the sorrow to a place of peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All: Amen.*

*All remain seated for the COLLECT:*

Father in heaven, we thank you because you made us in your own image and gave us gifts in body, mind and spirit. We thank you now for all our loved ones and what they mean to each of us. As we honour their memory, make us more aware that you are the one from whom comes every perfect gift, including the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ. *All: Amen.*

*All remain seated for the POEM, VII, Quarantine Quatrains, Malcolm Guite:*

At close of day I hear the gentle rain  
Whilst experts on the radio explain  
Mind-numbing numbers, rising by the day,  
Cyphers of unimaginable pain

Each evening they announce the deadly toll  
And patient voices calmly call the roll  
I hear the numbers, cannot know the names  
Behind each number, mind and heart and soul

Behind each number one beloved face  
A light in life whom no-one can replace,  
Leaves on this world a signature, a trace,  
A gleaning and a memory of grace

All loved and loving, carried to the grave  
The ones whom every effort could not save  
Amongst them all those carers whose strong love  
Bought life for others with the lives they gave.

The sun sets and I find myself in prayer  
Lifting aloft the sorrow that we share  
Feeling for words of hope amidst despair  
I voice my vespers through the quiet air:

O Christ who suffers with us, hold us close,  
Deep in the secret garden of the rose,  
Raise over us the banner of your love  
And raise us up beyond our last repose.

*All remain seated to say alternate verses of PSALM 23:*

1 The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.

**2 He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

3 He shall refresh my soul and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

**4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.

**6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

*A Bible reading from Ecclesiastes 3: 1-11*

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

<sup>2</sup> a time to be born and a time to die,  
a time to plant and a time to uproot,

<sup>3</sup> a time to kill and a time to heal,  
a time to tear down and a time to build,

<sup>4</sup> a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
a time to mourn and a time to dance,

<sup>5</sup> a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,  
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,

<sup>6</sup> a time to search and a time to give up,  
a time to keep and a time to throw away,

<sup>7</sup> a time to tear and a time to mend,  
a time to be silent and a time to speak,

<sup>8</sup> a time to love and a time to hate,  
a time for war and a time for peace.

<sup>9</sup>What do workers gain from their toil? <sup>10</sup>I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. <sup>11</sup>He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

*All sit for the BIBLE READING – John 9: 1-7*

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, ‘Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?’

<sup>3</sup>‘Neither this man nor his parents sinned,’ said Jesus, ‘but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. <sup>4</sup>As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.’

<sup>6</sup>After saying this, he spat on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes. <sup>7</sup>‘Go,’ he told him, ‘wash in the Pool of Siloam’ (this word means ‘Sent’). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

*All remain seated for the ADDRESS by Rev. Simon Rowbory.*

*All remain seated for a time of REFLECTION as In Paradisum by Z Randall Stroope is sung. This piece was written earlier this year “in honour of the victims of the coronavirus pandemic, and the thousands of families left behind”.*

*May you have eternal rest in paradise.*

In paradisum, may angels lead you.  
In paradisum, may martyrs greet you;  
And lead you to the holy city.  
Paradisum, alleluia.  
May choirs of angels greet you  
With alleluia, hosanna.  
Aeternum habeas, requiem in paradisum!  
Requiem, rest, rest.

Green pastures, still waters,  
Love and mercy calls your name;  
And lead you to the holy city,  
Paradisum, alleluia.  
May choirs of angels greet you  
With alleluia, hosanna.  
Aeternum habeas, requiem in paradisum!  
Hosanna! Alleluia!

*All sit or kneel for the PRAYERS:*

God our refuge and strength, close at hand in our distress; meet us in our sorrow and lift our eyes to the peace and light of your constant care. Help us so to hear your word of grace that our fear will be dispelled by your love, our loneliness eased by your presence and our hope renewed by your promises in Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen*

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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.**

*All remain seated for the COMMENDATION AND REMEMBRANCE*

*The names of those to be remembered will be read aloud.*

*After each group of names, the minister will say:*

*Minister:* Lord God, we thank you.

*All:* **We thank you for their lives.**

*After this in our act of remembrance please feel free to come to the front to light a candle for a loved one. If you are unable to get to the front please let someone light a candle on your behalf or indicate so that one can be brought to you. Please do so in a socially distanced manner.*

*The time of remembrance concludes with a prayer:*

Almighty God, in your great love you crafted us by your hand and breathed life into us by your Spirit. Although we became a rebellious people, you did not abandon us to our sin. In your tender mercy you sent your Son to restore in us your image. In obedience to your will he gave up his life for us, bearing in his body our sins on the cross. By your mighty power you raised him from the grave and exalted him to the throne of glory. Rejoicing in his victory and trusting in your promise to make alive all who turn to Christ, we commend our loved ones to your mercy and we join with all your faithful people and the whole company of heaven in the one unending song of praise: glory and wisdom and honour be to our God forever and ever.  
**All: Amen.**

*All remain standing for THE PEACE:*

Jesus said: Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you.

Not as the world gives give I unto you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. The peace of the risen Christ be always with you

**All: And also with you.**

*All remain standing for the BLESSING:*

May the love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself, the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in your need, and the peace of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **All: Amen**

*Elgar's Nimrod is played for reflection, marking the end of the service.*