

# **LINCOLN CATHEDRAL**



## **Songs of Sorrow, Songs of Hope: A Sequence of Music and Readings at a time of change**

**5 30pm  
5 JUNE 2021**

## WELCOME TO LINCOLN CATHEDRAL

This service, and the other sung services during the week, are available online and we welcome all those both near and far joining our worship as it is live streamed at:

<https://www.facebook.com/Lincoln.Cathedral>

***When attending public worship, please remember to observe the measures to protect us all by following the measures that are in place inside the cathedral and complete the Track-and-Trace information.***

Along with opportunities for public worship, the cathedral is open between 10am and 3pm from Monday to Friday, and from 11 30am to 3pm on Sundays. The Dean's Green will also remain available as a place for quiet and reflection from 10am to 4pm each day.

Alongside opportunities such as this afternoon's service, the cathedral remains a place that is open daily for people to reflect, pray and seek comfort and solace. If anyone would like to talk to a member of the cathedral's Ministry Team, please see one of the duty chaplains who are present much of the time that the cathedral is open.

Later in the year, there will be an opportunity to remember by name those who have died during the course of the past 18 months during the **All Souls Day Requiem Eucharist**, at 7 30pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

*In the course of the service, the instructions regarding posture (sitting, standing and kneeling) are for guidance – if you feel the need to sit at any point in the liturgy, please feel free to do so.*

# **Songs of Sorrow, Songs of Hope: A Sequence of Music and Readings at a time of change**

Offered for or those who have been afflicted or bereaved by the virus

Collection to go to mental health charity in support of those coping with hurt,  
loss or isolation

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*Please stand as the Lay Vicars and clergy process to their places in the Nave.*

## **BIDDING PRAYER**

We gather here in the presence of the God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, remembering the love of the Father who longs for the perfection of creation, holding before ourselves the self-giving example of the Son by which we are redeemed through hope, and celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit which brings consolation to those in distress.

At this time we call to mind all that has passed in recent months, we give thanks for those activities we can return to and those relationship we can regain;

As we come together, we remember all that is different and as we gather, we remember those who are not with us this day; both those who remain fearful, and those who now dwell in the presence of the saints;

We give thanks for those who, by giving of themselves, have brought comfort and solace to those in distress, and who have met the needs of those in want;

We hold before God all those, including ourselves, who have been changed by this time, and we pray for the strength to meet the challenges of the present time, that with hope in our hearts we might grow in love, and so find God's enduring love present among us to support and sustain us in all we do;

And so we unite our prayers with the saints who have gone before us, praying with confidence, as our Saviour taught us:

**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.**

*Sit*

## **ANTHEM**

*The Lay Vicars sing Vide Domine Afflictionem by William Byrd*

Vide, Domine, afflictionem  
nostram, et in tempore maligno  
ne derelinquas nos.

Plusquam Hierusalem facta est  
deserta,

Civitas electa, gaudium cordis  
nostri, conversum est in  
luctum,

et jocunditas nostra in  
amaritudinem conversa est.

*Behold our affliction, O Lord,  
and do not forsake us in the evil  
time.*

*More than when Jerusalem was  
laid waste, the chosen city, the  
joy of our heart,  
is turned to mourning and our  
pleasure to bitterness.*

## READING: Isaiah 43:1-28

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my eyes, and honoured, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life. Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you.

## ANTHEM

*The Lay Vicars sing Ne Irascaris Domine by William Byrd*

Ne irascaris Domine satis,  
et ne ultra memineris  
iniquitatis nostrae.  
Ecce respice populus tuus  
omnes nos.

*Be not angry, O Lord, and  
remember our iniquity no more.  
Behold, we are all your people.*

Civitas sancti tui facta est  
deserta.  
Sion deserta facta est,  
Ierusalem desolata est.

*Your holy city has become a  
wilderness.  
Zion has become a wilderness,  
Jerusalem has been made  
desolate.*

**READING:** *In Blackwater Wood* by Mary Oliver

Look, the trees are turning  
their own bodies into pillars  
of light, are giving off the rich  
fragrance of cinnamon and fulfillment,  
the long tapers of cattails  
are bursting and floating away over  
the blue shoulders  
of the ponds, and every pond,  
no matter what its name is, is nameless now.  
Every year everything  
I have ever learned  
in my lifetime leads back to this: the fires  
and the black river of loss whose other side  
is salvation, whose meaning none of us will ever know.  
To live in this world  
you must be able to do three things:  
to love what is mortal; to hold it  
against your bones knowing your own life depends on it;  
and, when the time comes to let it go,  
to let it go.

## HYMN: Creator of the earth and sky

*Deus Creator omnium*

Creator of the earth and sky,  
ruling the firmament on high,  
clothing the day with robes of light,  
blessing with gracious sleep the night,

That rest may comfort weary men,  
and brace to useful toil again,  
and soothe awhile the harassed mind,  
and sorrow's heavy load unbind.

Day sinks; we thank thee for thy gift;  
night comes; and once again we lift  
our prayer and vows and hymns that we  
against all ills may shielded be.

That when black darkness closes day,  
and shadows thicken round our way,  
faith may no darkness know, and night  
from faith's clear beam may borrow light.

Pray we the Father and the Son,  
and Holy Spirit, Three in One;  
Blest Trinity, whom all obey,  
guard thou thy sheep by night and day.

St Ambrose (340-97)  
tr. C. Bigg (1840-1908)

## READING: Psalm 46

- <sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in trouble.
- <sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way  
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
- <sup>3</sup> though its waters roar and foam  
and the mountains quake with their surging.
- <sup>4</sup> There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy place where the Most High dwells.
- <sup>5</sup> God is within her, she will not fall;  
God will help her at break of day.
- <sup>6</sup> Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;  
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.
- <sup>7</sup> The LORD Almighty is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- <sup>8</sup> Come and see what the LORD has done,  
the desolations he has brought on the earth.
- <sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease  
to the ends of the earth.  
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.
- <sup>10</sup> He says, 'Be still, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth.'
- <sup>11</sup> The LORD Almighty is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.



## REFLECTION

### PSALM: Psalm 23

*Dominus regit me.*

*THE Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing.*

*He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth  
beside the waters of comfort.*

*He shall convert my soul: and bring me forth in the paths of  
righteousness, for his Name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of  
death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and  
thy staff comfort me.*

*Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble  
me: thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be  
full.*

*Surely thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all  
the days of my life : and I will dwell in the house of the  
Lord for ever.*

## **READING: Isaiah 61:1-3**

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion— to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

## ANTHEM

*The Lay Vicars sing Haec Dicit Domine by William Byrd*

Haec dicit Dominus: vox in  
excelsis audita est  
lamentationis, luctus et fletus,  
Rachel plorantis filios suos, et  
nolentis consolari super eos,  
quia non sunt.

Haec dicit Dominus: quiescat  
vox tua a ploratu, et oculi tui a  
lacrimis, quia est merces operi  
tuo, ait Dominus, et est spes in  
novissimis tuis, et revertentur  
filii ad terminos suos.

*Thus saith our Lord: A voice of  
lamentation is heard on high of  
the mourning, and weeping, of  
Rachel weeping for her  
children, and refusing to be  
comforted for them, because  
they are not.*

*Thus saith our Lord: Let thy  
voice cease from weeping, and  
thine eyes from tears: because  
there is a reward for thy work,  
saith our Lord: and there is  
hope to thy last ends, and the  
children shall return to their  
borders.*

## COLLECT AND BLESSING

*Please stand for the concluding prayer and blessing:*

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his name to the suffering and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*All*    **Amen.**

The Lord bless you and watch over you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with now, and remain with you always.

*All*    **Amen.**

As you leave the cathedral this evening, there is an opportunity to contribute to a collection to go to mental health charities supporting those coping with hurt, loss or isolation.

### Acknowledgements

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