

# Morning Song

Choral Worship to Start the Day

Officiant Revd Richard Carter St Martin's Voices

Directed by Andrew Earis

#### Hymn

- 1 Christ is our light! the bright and morning star covering with radiance all from near and far. Christ be out light, shine on, shine on we pray into our hearts, into our world today.
- 2 Christ is our love! baptized that we may know the love of God among us, swooping low. Christ be our love, bring us to turn our face and see in you the light of heaven's embrace.
- Christ is our joy! transforming wedding guest!
  Through water turned to wine the feast was blessed.
  Christ be our joy; your glory let us see,
  as your disciples did in Galilee.

Leith Fisher (1941-2009)

#### Welcome

#### **Preces**



The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

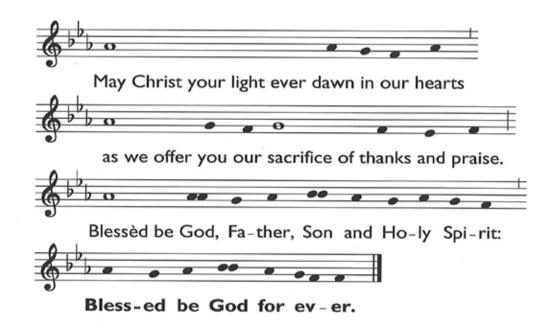
#### Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever.

#### All Amen.

# Prayer of Thanksgiving





#### Psalmody Psalm 139 Bernadette Farrell

O God, you search me and you know me. All my thoughts lie open to your gaze. When I walk or lie down you are before me: ever the maker and keeper of my days.

You know my resting and my rising. You discern my purpose from afar. And with love everlasting you besiege me: in ev'ry moment of life or death, you are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord, you have known its meaning through and through. You are with me, beyond my understanding: God of my present, my past and future, too.

For you created me and shaped me, gave me life within my mother's womb. For the wonder of who I am, I praise you: safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

## Old Testament Reading Hosea 1. 1-2.1

The word of the Lord that came to Hosea son of Beeri, in the days of Kings Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah of Judah, and in the days of King Jeroboam son of Joash of Israel. When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, 'Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord.' So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son. And the Lord said to him, 'Name him Jezreel; for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.' She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the Lord said to him, 'Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the Lord their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen.' When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. Then the Lord said, 'Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people and I am not your God.' Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people', it shall be said to them, 'Children of the living God.' The people of Judah and the people of Israel shall be gathered together, and they shall appoint for themselves one head; and they shall take possession of the land, for great shall be the day of Jezreel. Say to your brother, Ammi, and to your sister, Ruhamah.

#### Canticle A Song of the New Jerusalem

- 1 Arise, shine out, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.
- Though night still covers the earth, and darkness the peoples;
- 3 Above you the Holy One arises, and above you God's glory appears.
- 4 The nations will come to your light, and kings to your dawning brightness.

continued...

- 5 Your gates will lie open continually, shut neither by day nor by night.
- The sound of violence shall be heard no longer in your land, or ruin and devastation within your borders.
- 7 You will call your walls, Salvation, and your gates, Praise.
- 8 No more will the sun give you daylight, nor moonlight shine upon you;
- 9 But the Lord will be your everlasting light, your God will be your splendour.
- 10 For you shall be called the city of God, the dwelling of the Holy One of Israel.

Isaiah 60.1-3,11a,18,19,14b

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

#### New Testament Reading 1 Corinthians 8

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that 'all of us possess knowledge.' Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that 'no idol in the world really exists', and that 'there is no God but one.' Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords— yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. 'Food will not bring us close to God.' We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumblingblock to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

#### Gospel Canticle Benedictus John Harper

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of his servant David.
- Through his holy prophets God promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors, and to remember his holy covenant.
- This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
- And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68-79

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

#### **Prayers**

The response to the prayers is:

Lord, in your mercy, *All* hear our prayer.

## Lord's Prayer John Harper

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

## Collect for the Day

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

#### **Notices**

## Blessing

## Anthem A Gaelic Blessing John Rutter

Deep peace to you,
Deep peace of the earth to you,
Deep peace of the stars to you,
Deep peace of night to you,
Moon and stars pour light on you,
Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you,
Deep peace of Christ to you.

Words: Adapted from an old Gaelic rune.

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## Thank you.

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