

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

CIRENCESTER



SERVICE

IN COMMEMORATION OF

THE FOUNDER AND BENEFACTORS

THE PARISH CHURCH

Thursday, 3rd March, 1966, at 2-30 p.m.

ORDER OF SERVICE

The Organ Voluntary before the Service will be Chorale Preludes of J. S. Bach.

INTROIT

(The congregation standing)

Be still my soul, for God is near!
His love and strength is with us now.
The Lord of life Himself is here,
Before whose face the Angels bow.

To make thy heart His lowly throne;
Thy Saviour God in love draws nigh;
He gives Himself unto His own,
For whom He once came down to die.

Minister: We are met together to give thanks to Almighty God for the blessings he has vouchsafed unto our School; to remember with grateful hearts our Founder and Benefactors; to pray for God's continued blessing upon us; and to dedicate ourselves afresh to His service.

HYMN

(During which the Banner of John Chedworth will be presented at the altar.)

- 1 O praise ye the Lord!
Praise him in the height;
Rejoice in his word,
Ye angels of light;
Ye heavens adore him
By whom ye were made,
And worship before him,
In brightness arrayed.
- 2 O praise ye the Lord!
Praise him upon earth,
In tuneful accord,
Ye sons of new birth;
Praise him who hath brought you
His grace from above,
Praise him who hath taught you
To sing of his love.

- 3 O praise ye the Lord,
All things that give sound;
Each jubilant chord
Re-echo around;
Loud organs, his glory
Forth tell in deep tone,
And, sweet harp, the story
Of what he hath done.
- 4 O praise ye the Lord!
Thanksgiving and song
To him be outpoured
All ages along;
For love in creation,
For heaven restored,
For grace of salvation,
O praise ye the Lord!

THE FIRST LESSON

Ecclesiasticus XLIV, vv. 1—15.

THE THANKSGIVING

Minister: Having heard this praise of all good men, both known and unknown, let us now thank God for our Founder and Benefactors.

(All kneel)

We give thee hearty thanks, O heavenly Father, for our Founder, John Chedworth; Rebecca Powell, and all our other Benefactors by whose benefit this whole School is brought up to godliness and good learning; and we humbly beseech thee to give us grace to use these thy blessings to the glory of thy Holy Name, that we may become profitable members of Church and Commonwealth, and at the last be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom, through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

Let us thank God for all those who have contributed to the welfare of the School.

We thank thee, O Lord, for all those who by their prayers or labours have helped to build up the traditions of this school. Grant, we beseech thee, that mindful of their intentions and inspired by their examples we may dedicate ourselves to thy service, and in our lives here may learn to do thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Let us thank God for all the blessings he has bestowed upon us, saying together:

All: Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us, and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life: but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace and for the hope of glory. And we beseech thee give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, world without end. AMEN.

THE PSALM

The Choir will sing Psalm 23, the congregation singing the words of the antiphon after each verse.

"His goodness shall follow me always, to the end of my days."

THE SECOND LESSON

St. John's Gospel, XV, vv. 1—14.

ANTHEM

Richard de Castro's Prayer to Jesus—Richard Terry.

HYMN

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| <p>1 Our Father, by whose servants
Our house was built of old,
Whose hand hath crowned her children
With blessings manifold,
For thine unailing mercies
Far-strewn along our way,
With all who passed before us,
We praise thy name to-day.</p> <p>2 The changeful years unresting
Their silent course have sped,
New comrades ever bringing
In comrades' steps to tread;
And some are long forgotten,
Long spent their hopes and fears;
Safe rest they in thy keeping,
Who changest not with years.</p> | <p>3 They reap not where they laboured,
We reap what they have sown;
Our harvest may be garnered
By ages yet unknown.
The days of old have dowered us
With gifts beyond all praise:
Our Father, make us faithful
To serve the coming days.</p> <p>4 Before us and beside us,
Still holden in thine hand,
A cloud unseen of witness,
Our elder comrades stand:
One family unbroken,
We join, with one acclaim,
One heart, one voice uplifting,
To glorify thy name.</p> |
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THE CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified dead and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS

Minister: Let us pray.

(All kneel)

Let us pray for our Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth, that God will bestow upon her abundant blessings and that her reign may be long and prosperous.

Minister: Lord, hear our prayer.

People: And let our cry come unto thee.

(To be repeated after each bidding).

Let us pray for this troubled and divided world, for refugees and those in distress, and for the peace of mankind.

Let us pray for all universities, colleges and schools and specially, as is our bounden duty, for our ancient Grammar School, that in them godliness and good learning may abound and that they may send out men and women able and ready to serve God as worthy Christians and citizens.

Let us pray for those in authority who direct the education of youth, for the Minister, County Councillors, Governors, Teachers and for the Prefects and all who hold positions of leadership and responsibility; that they may have wisdom, courage and sympathy.

Let us pray for parents of the pupils of this School that they may, by their example and guidance, bring up their children to learn to value the Christian virtues, truth and good manners. Let us pray for all former members of this School, rejoicing in their fellowship and commending them to the love of God.

Bless us O God with the vision of Thy Being and of Thy Beauty; that in the light of it we may work without haste and without rest for the coming of Thy Kingdom, Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Let us say together the Prayer which our Lord himself has taught us:
Our Father which 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 them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. AMEN.

Blessing and honour and thanksgiving and praise more than we can utter, more than we can conceive, be unto thee, O holy and glorious Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, by all angels, all men, all creatures for ever and ever. Amen.

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| <p>1 Christ is our Corner-stone,
On him alone we build;
With his true saints alone
The courts of heaven are filled:
On his great love
Our hopes we place
Of present grace
And joys above.</p> <p>2 O then with hymns of praise
These hallowed courts shall ring;
Our voices we will raise
The Three in One to sing;
And thus proclaim
In joyful song,
Both loud and long,
That glorious name.</p> | <p>HYMN</p> | <p>3 Here, gracious God do thou
For evermore draw nigh;
Accept each faithful vow,
And mark each suppliant sigh:
In copious shower
On all who pray
Each holy day
Thy blessings pour.</p> <p>4 Here may we gain from heaven
The grace which we implore;
And may that grace, once given
Be with us evermore.
Until that day
When all the blest
To endless rest
Are called away.</p> |
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THE SERMON

Canon M. Stancliffe, M.A.

Rector of St. Margaret's, Westminster, and Chaplain to the Speaker, House of Commons.

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| <p>1 Now thank we all our God
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom his world rejoices;
Who from our mother's arms
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours to-day.</p> | <p>HYMN</p> | <p>2 O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in his grace,
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next.</p> |
| <p>3 All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heaven adore,
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.</p> | | |

(The congregation will remain standing)

THE DEDICATION OF OURSELVES

Minister: Let us dedicate ourselves to God's service, saying together:—

People: O Lord, our Saviour, who hast warned us that thou wilt require much of those to whom much is given: grant that we whose lot is cast in so goodly a heritage may strive together more abundantly by prayer and by every other means to extend to others what we so richly enjoy, that as we have entered into the labours of other men, we may so labour that others in their turn may enter into ours, to the fulfilment of thy holy will, and the salvation of all men. AMEN.

(All kneel)

THE BLESSING

THE GRACE

(The congregation still kneeling)

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

The organ voluntary at the conclusion of the service—Introduction and Fugue from Sonata No. 8 by Rheinberger.

A Retiring Collection will be taken in aid of charities supported by the School.