



Welcome

The Eve of Holy Cross Day Choral Evensong 13 September



actorschurch



St. Paul's Covent Garden

Please switch off all mobile phones.

BEWARE: *We do occasionally suffer from theft: take care of your belongings*

Accessibility

There are instructions to 'stand' at various points in the service.

If you are unable to stand for long periods, please ignore them!

Large Print versions of the Order of Service are available.

Gluten free wafers are available.

Hearing loop installed; collect a receiver from the back of church.

Introit

Christus Factus Est

Music: Felice Anerio (1560 -1614)

Christus factus est pro nobis obediens usque ad mortem, mortem autem crucis. Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum et dedit illi nomen, quod est super omne nomen.

Christ became obedient for us unto death, even to the death, death on the cross. Therefore God exalted him and gave him a name which is above all names

Introduction and Precis

Book of Common Prayer pp 17-19

Music: Bernard Rose (1916 – 1996)

The Psalm: 66 vv. 1-11

Book of Common Prayer p 424

If you are able, please stand for: Glory be etc

First Reading

Isaiah 52.13-53.12

See, my servant shall prosper;
he shall be exalted and lifted up,
and shall be very high.

Just as there were many who were
astonished at him – so marred was his
appearance, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of mortals –
so he shall startle many nations;
kings shall shut their mouths because of
him; for that which had not been told
them they shall see, and that which they
had not heard they shall contemplate.

Who has believed what we have heard?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD
been revealed?

For he grew up before him like a young
plant, and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should
look at him, nothing in his appearance that
we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted with
infirmity; and as one from whom others
hide their faces he was despised, and we
held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases; yet we
accounted him stricken, struck down by
God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our
transgressions, crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made
us whole, and by his bruises we are
healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is
silent, so he did not open his mouth.

Here ends the First Lesson

The Office Hymn

**In the cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.**

**When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive and fears annoy,
Never shall the Cross forsake me:
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.**

**When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the Cross the radiance
streaming,
Adds more lustre to the day.**

**Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
By the Cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no
measure,
Joys that through all time abide.**

The Magnificat

Book of Common Prayer p 19

Music: Charles Wood (1866 – 1926)

(Please stand if able)

Second Reading

Ephesians 2.11-22

Remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (that done in the body by the hands of men) – remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow-citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household, built on the foundation of the

apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Here ends the Second Lesson

The Nunc Dimittis

Book of Common Prayer p 21

Music: Charles Wood (1866 – 1926)

(Please stand if able)

The Apostles’ Creed

Book of Common Prayer p 22

The Responses

Book of Common Prayer p 23

Music: Bernard Rose (1916 – 1996)

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, who in the passion of thy blessed Son hast made an instrument of painful death to be for us the means of life and peace: grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer for his sake; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Choir **Amen.**

The Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that, by thee, we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Choir **Amen.**

The Collect for Aid against all Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Choir **Amen.**

We listen to

The Anthem

Crux Fidelis

Music: John IV of Portugal (1604 -1656)

*Crux fidelis, inter omnes arbor una nobilis:
Nulla silva talem profert, fronde, flore, germine.
Dulce lignum, dulces clavos, dulce pondus sustinet.*

Faithful cross, above all other, one and only noble tree:

None in foliage, none in blossom, none in fruit
your peer may be:

Sweetest wood and sweetest iron, sweetest
weight is hung on thee.

The Prayers

The Hymn

**The royal banners forward go,
The Cross shines forth in mystic
glow,
Where he in flesh, our flesh who
made,
Our sentence bore, our ransom paid.**

**O Tree of beauty, Tree of light,
O Tree with royal purple dight,
Elect on whose triumphal breast
Those holy limbs should find their
rest!**

**On whose dear arms, so widely flung,
The weight of this world's ransom
hung,**

**The price of humankind to pay
And spoil the spoiler of his prey.**

**O Cross, our one reliance, hail!
So may thy power with us prevail
To give new virtue to the saint,
And pardon to the penitent.**

**To thee, eternal Three in One,
Let homage meet by all be done:
Whom by thy Cross thou dost
restore,
Preserve and govern evermore.
Amen.**

The Blessing

Final Responses

Music: Bernard Rose (1916 – 1996)

The Recessional