The General Synod of the Church of England



Worship

NOVEMBER 2021

Acts of Worship

Monday 15 November 4.30 p.m. Closing Worship in the Assembly Hall

Tuesday 16 November 10.45 a.m. Holy Communion in Westminster Abbey

(entry by ticket only)

7.00 p.m. Closing Worship in the Assembly Hall

Wednesday 17 November 9.00 a.m. Opening Worship in the Assembly Hall

1.05 p.m. Holy Communion in the Chapel

A note on Posture

As human beings we worship with our bodies as well as our words and prayers. During our worship this Synod, the minister will issue the invitation to sit or stand as appropriate. Please see these as merely invitations and adopt the posture you find most helpful and comfortable during worship.

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MONDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2021 CLOSING WORSHIP

Please join in all texts in bold

O God, make speed to save us.

All O Lord, make haste to help us.

Your faithful servants bless you.

All They make known the glory of your kingdom.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, our light and our salvation, to you be glory and praise for ever.

Now, as darkness is falling, wash away our transgressions, cleanse us by your refining fire and make us temples of your Holy Spirit.

By the light of Christ, dispel the darkness of our hearts and make us ready to enter your kingdom, where songs of praise for ever sound.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Hymn

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not as Thou hast been thou forever will be Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided - great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon and stars in their courses above, join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful, let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God, so may your mercy come down upon us to cleanse our hearts and set us free to sing your praise now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Word of God

Psalm 70

- O God, make speed to save me;
 O Lord, make haste to help me.
- 2 Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confusion; let them be turned back and disgraced who wish me evil.
- 3 Let those who mock and deride me turn back because of their shame.
- 4 But let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say always, 'Great is the Lord!'
- 5 As for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.
- 6 You are my help and my deliverer; O Lord, do not delay.

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.

Canticle

We have come before the throne of God to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

We have come before God's holy mountain, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God.

We have come before countless angels making festival, before the assembly of the firstborn citizens of heaven.

We have come before God, who is judge of all, before the spirits of the just made perfect.

We have come before Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant.

We are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken: so let us give thanks and offer to God acceptable worship,

Full of reverence and awe; for our God is a consuming fire.

Hebrews 12.22-24a, 28, 29

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.

We have come before the throne of God to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

Reading

And I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven, wrapped in a cloud, with a rainbow over his head; his face was like the sun, and his legs like pillars of fire. He held a little scroll open in his hand. Setting his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land, he gave a great shout, like a lion roaring. And when he shouted, the seven thunders sounded. And when the seven thunders had sounded, I was about to write, but I heard a voice from heaven saying, 'Seal up what the seven thunders have said, and do not write it down.'

Then the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and the land raised his right hand to heaven and swore by him who lives for ever and ever, who created heaven and what is in it, the earth and what is in it, and the sea and what is in it: 'There will be no more delay, but in the days when the seventh angel is to blow his trumpet, the mystery of God will be fulfilled, as he announced to his servants the prophets.'

Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me again, saying, 'Go, take the scroll that is open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land.' So I went to the angel and told him to give me the little scroll; and he said to me, 'Take it, and eat; it will be bitter to your stomach, but sweet as honey in your mouth.' So I took the little scroll from the hand of the angel and ate it; it was sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it, my stomach was made bitter.

Then they said to me, 'You must prophesy again about many peoples and nations and languages and kings.'

Revelation 10

Responsory

Lord, you will guide me with your counsel and afterwards receive me with glory.

All Lord, you will guide me with your counsel and afterwards receive me with glory.

For I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand.

All And afterwards receive me with glory.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

All Lord, you will guide me with your counsel and afterwards receive me with glory.

From Ps 73

Magnificat

The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; he has looked with favour on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed; the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him, from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

Casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, to remember his promise of mercy,

The promise made to our ancestors,

to Abraham and his children for ever.

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.

The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

Prayers

We keep a moment of silence

In communion with all the saints, let us commend the world to the mercy and protection of God.

All Amen.

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed
to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great glory
we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

All
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.

Conclusion

May Christ, who has opened the kingdom of heaven, bring us to reign with him in glory.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

TUESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2021 CLOSING WORSHIP

(Edmund Rich)

Please join in all texts in bold

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise Psalm 51.17

O Lord, open thou our lips.

All And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

All O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

All As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

All The Lord's Name be praised.

Hymn

God that madest earth and heaven, darkness and light; who the day for toil hast given, for rest the night; may thine angel-guards defend us, slumber sweet thy mercy send us, holy dreams and hopes attend us, this livelong night.

Guard us waking, guard us sleeping, and when we die, may we in thy mighty keeping all peaceful lie: when the last dread call shall wake us, do not thou our God forsake us; but to reign in glory take us with thee on high.

- 1 O HOW amiable are thy dwellings: thou Lord of hosts!
- 2 My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- 4 Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be alway praising thee.
- 5 Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee: in whose heart are thy ways.
- 6 Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well: and the pools are filled with water.
- 7 They will go from strength to strength: and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Sion.
- 8 O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer: hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 9 Behold, O God our defender: and look upon the face of thine Anointed.
- 10 For one day in thy courts: is better than a thousand.
- 11 I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God: than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness.
- 12 For the Lord God is a light and defence: the Lord will give grace and worship, and no good thing shall he withhold from them that live a godly life.
- 13 O Lord God of hosts: blessed is the man that putteth his trust in thee.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

Then I was given a measuring rod like a staff, and I was told, 'Come and measure the temple of God and the altar and those who worship there, but do not measure the court outside the temple; leave that out, for it is given over to the nations, and they will trample over the holy city for forty-two months. And I will grant my two witnesses authority to prophesy for one thousand two hundred and sixty days, wearing sackcloth.'

These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. And if anyone wants to harm them, fire pours from their mouth and consumes their foes; anyone who wants to harm them must be killed in this manner. They have authority to shut the sky, so that no rain may fall during the days of their prophesying, and they have authority over the waters to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with every kind of plague, as often as they desire.

When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the bottomless pit will make war on them and conquer them and kill them, and their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city that is prophetically called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. For three and a half days members of the peoples and tribes and languages and nations will gaze at their dead bodies and refuse to let them be placed in a tomb; and the inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them and celebrate and exchange presents, because these two prophets had been a torment to the inhabitants of the earth.

But after the three and a half days, the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and those who saw them were terrified. Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, 'Come up here!' And they went up to heaven in a cloud while their enemies watched them. At that moment there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

Revelation 11.1-14

MY soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel: as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Apostles' 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 Catholick Church;
The Communion of Saints;
The Forgiveness of sins;
The Resurrection of the body,
And the Life everlasting.
Amen.

Responses and Collects

All And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

Please sit

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon 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.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

All And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen.

All And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

All And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.

All And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

All Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

All And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

O Lord, we beseech thee, absolve thy people from their offences; that through thy bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the bands of those sins, which by our frailty we have committed. Grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour.

All Amen.

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.

All Amen.

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.

All Amen.

Prayers

A prayer of Edmund Rich is read.

All The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen.

WEDNESDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2021 OPENING WORSHIP

Led by the Community of St Anselm

Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln

Please join in all texts in bold

O Lord open our lips.

All and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Your faithful servants bless you.

All They make known the glory of your kingdom.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, ruler and judge of all, to you be praise and glory for ever. In the darkness of this age that is passing away may the light of your presence which the saints enjoy surround our steps as we journey on. May we reflect your glory this day and so be made ready to see your face in the heavenly city where night shall be no more. Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

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.

The Word of God

Psalm 57

- 1 Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for my soul takes refuge in you;
- 2 In the shadow of your wings will I take refuge until the storm of destruction has passed by.
- 3 I will call upon the Most High God, the God who fulfils his purpose for me.
- 4 He will send from heaven and save me and rebuke those that would trample upon me;
 - God will send forth his love and his faithfulness.
- 5 I lie in the midst of lions, people whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.
- 6 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, and your glory over all the earth.
- 7 They have laid a net for my feet; my soul is pressed down; they have dug a pit before me and will fall into it themselves.
- 8 My heart is ready, O God, my heart is ready; I will sing and give you praise.
- 9 Awake, my soul; awake, harp and lyre, that I may awaken the dawn.
- 10 I will give you thanks, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praise to you among the nations.
- 11 For your loving-kindness is as high as the heavens, and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.
- 12 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, and your glory over all the earth.

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.

- All I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.
- 1 'I am the Lord, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King.'
- 2 Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,
- 3 Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old.
- 4 'Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
- 5 'I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people,
- 6 'The people whom I formed for myself, that they might declare my praise.'
- All 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.
- All I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

Isaiah 43.15,16,18,19,20c,21

Reading

When Jesus had come down from the mountain, great crowds followed him; and there was a leper who came to him and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean.' He stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, 'I do choose. Be made clean!' Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. Then Jesus said to him, 'See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.'

When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, appealing to him and saying, 'Lord, my servant is lying at home paralysed, in terrible distress.' And he said to him, 'I will come and cure him.' The centurion answered, 'Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, "Go", and he goes, and to another, "Come", and he comes, and to my slave, "Do this", and the slave does it.' When Jesus heard him, he was amazed and said to those who followed him, 'Truly I tell you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and will eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the heirs of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' And to the centurion Jesus said, 'Go; let it be done for you according to your faith.' And the servant was healed in that hour.

Matthew 8.1-13

Benedictus

Sung by members of the Community.

Prayers

Led by members of the Community.

In communion with all the saints, let us commend the world to the mercy and protection of God. **Amen.**

O God, who endowed your servant Hugh with a wise and cheerful boldness and taught him to commend to earthly rulers the discipline of a holy life: give us grace like him to be bold in the service of the gospel,

putting our confidence in Christ alone, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

AII

We say together the Prayer for the Unity of Christians from the Chemin Neuf Community:

Lord Jesus, who prayed that we might all be one, we pray to you for the unity of Christians, according to your will, according to your means.

May your Spirit enable us to experience the suffering caused by division, to see our sin and to hope beyond all hope.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

All
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.

Conclusion

May Christ, who has opened the kingdom of heaven, bring us to reign with him in glory.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.