

Westminster Abbey



A Service
for
Queen Anne's School
Caversham



Friday 23 October 2009
3.00 pm

'tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

John Newton (1725-1807)

HISTORICAL NOTE

The Grey Coat Hospital Foundation dates back to 1698 when it was established by eight merchants from Westminster: Simon Boulte, Richard Ff Tyler, John Holmes, Robert Maddock, Samuel Michell, Charles Webbe, John Wilkins, and Thomas Wisdome. In 1706 it was granted a Royal Charter by Queen Anne. In the late nineteenth century the governors of the Foundation decided to use part of the endowment to establish a girls' boarding school in the country, and on Ascension Day 1894 Queen Anne's School, Caversham, opened its doors to its first pupils.

The Foundation Chalice, which will be carried to the High Altar during the service, is a Victorian silver chalice dating from 1844. It is one of several precious gifts given to Grey Coat since the beginning of the Foundation in 1698.

Queen Anne's School now has over 330 pupils, approximately half of whom are boarders. It has a large sixth form and enjoys an extremely high reputation for academic excellence, sport, art, music, and drama.

Since our last service in Westminster Abbey, Queen Anne's Chamber Choir has performed at the Crown Court Ceremonial Opening Service in Reading Minster and taken part in a choral tour of Venice, singing at St Mark's, St Giorgio Maggiore, the Basilica Dei Frari, and St Luca in Verona.

We should like to thank the Dean and Chapter for welcoming us to Westminster Abbey, and for their kind assistance.

Our preacher today is The Right Reverend Peter Hullah, Principal of Northampton Academy.

Most of the church, with the exception of the North Transept, is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.

Please ensure that mobile phones, cellular phones, and pagers are switched OFF.

The service is conducted by The Reverend Dr Jane Hedges, Canon of Westminster.

The service is sung by the Chamber Choir of Queen Anne's School, conducted by John Padley, Director of Music.

The organ is played by Robert Quinney, Sub-Organist, Westminster Abbey.

Music before the service:

Pastorale BWV 590

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

ORDER OF SERVICE

All stand as the Procession moves to the East end of the Nave. The Chamber Choir sings

THE INTROIT

LIFT thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help. Thy help cometh from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved: thy keeper will never slumber.

*Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47)
from Elijah Op 70*

*Julius Schubring (1806-89)
after Psalm 121: 1-5*

All remain standing. The Procession of the Collegiate Body, with Officers of the School, moves to places in the Sacrarium.

The Reverend Dr Jane Hedges, Canon of Westminster, School Governor, says

THE BIDDING

ON behalf of the Dean and Chapter, welcome to Westminster Abbey for this service to celebrate the life of Queen Anne's School. Today we give thanks to God for the many benefits of our education, especially for opportunities for new beginnings; asking his blessing upon our staff and pupils both past and present and upon all who are associated with the life and work of the school.

O God our heavenly Father, we come before you in glad and humble thanksgiving for your good gifts of education and opportunity. We remember the great company of those who in past years have served and built up our school. We remember all who by their courage and wisdom, by their sincere love of learning, by their friendship and unwearied kindness, by their earnestness, their cheerfulness, or their humour have helped us in our search for truth, and in our search have shown us beauty. For all such we praise, bless, and thank you, and pray that we may show our gratitude not only in our words but in the way we live out the rest of our lives, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

From the rising of the sun to its setting your name is proclaimed in all the world.

To you be glory and praise forever.

One generation shall praise your works to another.

From eternity to eternity you are God.

All sing

THE HYMN

during which the Foundation Chalice is borne to the High Altar.

Escort:

Sarah Gordon
Head Girl

Bearer:

Isobel Petersen
Head Girl

Escort:

Francisca Posada-Brown
Deputy Head Girl

Escort:

Olivia Unwin
Deputy Head Girl



ALL my hope on God is founded;
He doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown,
he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

Pride of man and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth,
tower and temple, fall to dust
but God's power,
hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light, and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore
from his store
new-born worlds rise and adore.

Still from man to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call
one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

Michael 333 NEH
Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Robert Bridges (1844-1930)

All sit. Sarah Gordon, Head Girl, reads

LOST AND FOUND

I MISSED him when the sun began to bend;
I found him not when I had lost his rim;
With many tears I went in search of him,
Climbing high mountains which did still ascend,
And gave me echoes when I called my friend;
Through cities vast and charnel-houses grim,
And high cathedrals where the light was dim,
Through books and arts and works without an end,
But found him not—the friend whom I had lost.
And yet I found him—as I found the lark,
A sound in fields I heard but could not mark;
I found him nearest when I missed him most;
I found him in my heart, a life in frost,
A light I knew not till my soul was dark.

George MacDonald (1824-1905)

All remain seated. Mary Hannah, Upper Five, and Helen Norris, School Librarian, perform

THE LAMB

LITTLE Lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed,
By the stream and o'er the mead;
Gave thee clothing of delight,
Softest clothing woolly, bright;
Gave thee such a tender voice,
Making all the vales rejoice?
Little Lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?
Little Lamb, I'll tell thee,
Little Lamb, I'll tell thee:
He is callèd by thy name,
For He calls Himself a Lamb.
He is meek, and He is mild:
He became a little child.
I a child, and thou a lamb,
We are callèd by His name.
Little Lamb, God bless thee!
Little Lamb, God bless thee!

*Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
from Ten Blake Songs
for voice and oboe*

William Blake (1757-1827)

Julia Harrington, Headmistress, reads

EZEKIEL 34: 11-16

THUS says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture,

and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Chamber Choir sings:

AGNUS Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of
the world, have mercy upon us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of
the world, grant us peace.*

*Andrew Carter (b 1939)
from Missa Brevis*

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

during which the Gospel procession moves to the Nave



THE King of love my Shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
thy unction, grace bestoweth:
and O what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never;
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.

Dominus regit me 457ii NEH
John Bacchus Dykes (1823-76)

Henry Williams Baker (1821-77)
after Psalm 23

All remain standing for the Gospel.

When the Gospel is announced the reader says:

The Lord be with you;
and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Charlotte Way, Lower Four, reads

LUKE 15: 1-7

ALL the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, ‘This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.’ So Jesus told them this parable: ‘Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, “Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.” Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

All sit for

THE ADDRESS

by

The Right Reverend Peter Hullah
Principal, Northampton Academy

All remain seated. The Chamber Choir begins

THE HYMN

*Mark Bushby,
Assistant Director
of Music, sings*

AMAZING grace! how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me;
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

*Aisling Byrne-Hansen,
Lower Six, sings*

’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear,
the hour I first believed!

The soloists sing

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Choir sings

The Lord has promised good to me,
his Word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures.

All stand to sing

**When we've been there a thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we first begun.**

*Amazing grace 282 BBCSoP
American folk-hymn
arranged by John Padley*

*John Newton (1725-1807)
final verse anonymous*

All sit or kneel. The Reverend Hilary Benson, School Chaplain, leads

THE PRAYERS

O GOD of peace, who have taught us that in returning and in rest we shall be saved, and in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength: by the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

J W Suter

WE give thanks, O God, for our eight founders: Thomas Wisdome, Robert Maddock, John Holmes, Richard Ff Tyler, Charles Webbe, Simon Boulte, John Wilkins, Samuel Michell, and for their constant care and thought for the school they created. We praise you for the great company of those who have served the two schools of the Grey Coat Hospital Foundation, for those known to us and unknown; and we pray that the spirit of love and service in which they worked may abide for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Isobel Petersen, Head Girl, continues:

Lord, who are the Way, we pray for all those who are caught up in the uncertainties and indecisions of the ways of the world and ask for your way through.

Lord, in your mercy:
Hear our prayer.

Francisca Posada-Brown, Deputy Head Girl, continues:

Lord, who are the Truth, we pray for those who work to bring about justice; for those who report what happens in our world, and for those who have responsibilities for making decisions which shape the lives of many.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

Olivia Unwin, Deputy Head Girl, continues:

Lord, who are the Life, breathe into us the breath of life to refresh and energise us. Touch the lives of those who are weary and unwell, who are without home and health, and whose lot is grim.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

Mark Richards, Deputy Head, continues:

O LORD, in a world where many are lonely, we thank you for our friendships. In a world where many are captive, we thank you for our freedom. In a world where many are hungry, we thank you for your provision. We pray that you will enlarge our sympathy, deepen our compassion, and give us grateful hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Chaplain concludes:

In faith and trust, let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom among all his people, in the prayer that Jesus himself taught us, saying:

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.**

Let us join together in the School Prayer:

O GOD the Holy Spirit, pour down, we beseech thee, thy mercy on this school; that it may be blessed and hallowed by thy presence, and that the fullness of thy sevenfold gifts may rest upon all thy children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All remain seated. The Chamber Choir sings

LOVING SHEPHERD

LOVING Shepherd of thy sheep, keep thy lamb in safety keep:
Nothing can thy power withstand, none can pluck me from thy hand.
I would bless thee every day, gladly all thy will obey,
like thy blessed ones above, happy in thy precious love.

Loving Shepherd, ever near, teach thy lamb thy voice to hear;
suffer not my steps to stray from the straight and narrow way.
Where thou ledest I would go, walking in thy steps below,
'til before my Father's throne, I shall know as I am known.

Hilary Tadman-Robins (b 1947)

Jane Elizabeth Leeson (1807-82)

All stand to sing

THE HYMN



GUIDE me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong Deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises
I will ever give to thee.

Cwm Rhondda 368 NEH
John Hughes (1873-1932)

William Williams (1717-91)
translated by Peter Williams (1727-96) and others

All remain standing. Canon Hedges gives

THE BLESSING

GO forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no-one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Music after the service:

Toccata from Symphonie V

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

All remain standing as the Procession moves to the west end of the church.

Members of the Congregation are requested to remain in their places until directed to move by the Stewards.

There will be a retiring collection in aid of The Children's Society.

The bells of the Abbey Church are rung.

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