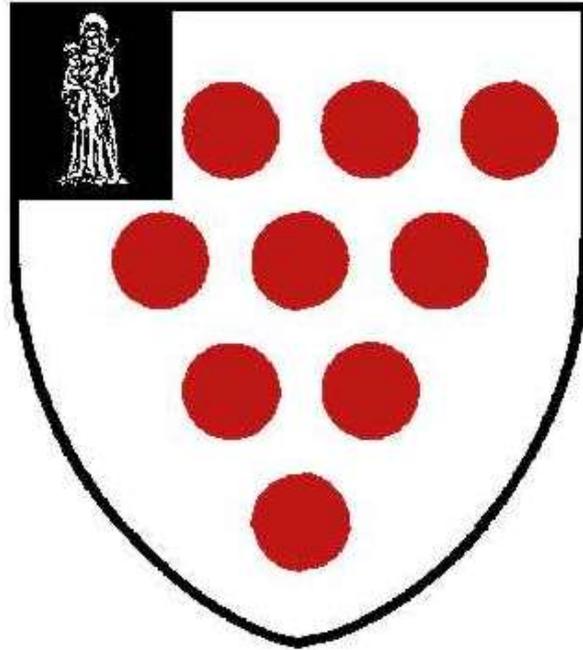


The Cathedral Church of Christ  
and the Blessed Mary the Virgin of Worcester



**Service of Evening Worship  
with Prayers for HRH  
the Duke of Edinburgh  
(1921 – 2021)**

3 pm, Friday 16 April 2021

# Welcome

Welcome to Worcester Cathedral for this service,  
which is being held in accordance with government and Church of England guidelines.

The cathedral choir is conducted by the director of music, Samuel Hudson.

Would you please kindly:

- observe social distance of 2 metres at all times  
with all those not of your own household or bubble
- wear a face covering at all times unless you are medically exempt
  - *not* join in with the choir's rendition of the National Anthem
- use your own pen in completing a gift-aid envelope with any donation
- leave the cathedral only at the direction of the stewards and vergers
  - take this service-booklet away with you
- disperse when you leave and *not* linger, mingle or engage socially with others.

A charitable collection for the cathedral will be taken  
as you leave at the end of the service,  
which includes a facility for contactless donation.

Your gift will support the cathedral's ministry and mission,  
and help to keep the building in good repair and open to all without charge.

UK tax-payers are kindly asked to use the gift-aid envelopes  
enclosed with this service-booklet (completing the front),  
which allows the cathedral to claim an additional 25% of the donation,  
at no additional cost to the donor.

## Before the Service

The assistant director of music, Nicholas Freestone,  
will play the following organ music:

*Sonata III* (op. 65 no. 3) by Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

- i. Con moto maestoso
- ii. Andante tranquillo

From *Plymouth Suite* by Percy Whitlock (1903–1946)

- i. Allegro risoluto
- ii. Lantana
- iv. Salix

From *Sonata for Organ* (op. 28) by Sir Edward Elgar (1857–1934)

- iii. Andante espressivo

At 2.50 pm, the people stand when the mayor enters the cathedral,  
and sit when she has been shown to her seat by the canon-in-residence.

At 2.55 pm, the people stand when the lord-lieutenant and high sheriff enter the  
cathedral, and sit when they have been shown to their seats by the dean.

At 2.59 pm, the people stand when the choir take their places on the crossing.

# Introduction

*The choir sings these sentences of scripture as the ministers enter*

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord:  
he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:  
and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

*John 11.25,26*

We brought nothing into this world,  
and it is certain we can carry nothing out.  
The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away;  
blessed be the name of the Lord.

*1 Timothy 6.7, Job 1.21*

*Music: William Croft (1678–1727)*

*Dean* O God, make speed to save us.

*All* **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

*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.**

*The people remain standing while the Very Reverend Dr Peter Atkinson, dean of Worcester, introduces the service and leads this gathering prayer*

Eternal God, our maker and redeemer,  
grant us with your servant Philip, duke of Edinburgh, and all the departed  
the sure benefits of your Son's saving passion and glorious resurrection:  
that in the last day,  
when you gather up all things in Christ,  
we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*The people sit.*

## Choir

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 and 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.

Although your Spirit is upon me,  
still I search for shelter from your light.  
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you:  
even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

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.

*Words: Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957),  
based on Psalm 139  
Music: Bernadette Farrell*

*This reading is read by Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Holcroft LVO OBE,  
lord-lieutenant of Worcestershire*

A reading from the book of Revelation.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

‘See, the home of God is among mortals.  
He will dwell with them;  
they will be his peoples,  
and God himself will be with them;  
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away.’

And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.’

*Revelation 21.1-7*

*The Right Reverend Dr John Inge, bishop of Worcester and lord high almoner to Her Majesty the Queen, preaches the sermon.*

*The choir sings this motet*

The tree of life my soul hath seen,  
laden with fruit and always green:  
the trees of nature fruitless be  
compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel:  
by faith I know, but ne'er can tell  
the glory which I now can see  
in Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought,  
and pleasure dearly I have bought:  
I missed of all; but now I see  
'tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil,  
here I will sit and rest awhile:  
under the shadow I will be  
of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,  
it keeps my dying faith alive;  
which makes my soul in haste to be  
with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

*Words: from Joshua Smith, Divine Hymns or Spiritual Songs (1784)  
Music: Elizabeth Poston (1905–1987)*

*The Reverend Canon Dr Michael Brierley and the Reverend Canon Dr Stephen Edwards, residentiary canons, lead the people in these prayers*

*Minister* Lord, have mercy upon us.

*All* **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

*Minister* Lord, have mercy upon us.

*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.**

*Minister* The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,

*All* **and there shall no torment touch them.**

*Minister* You, Lord, have delivered my soul from death,

*All* **my eyes from tears and my feet from falling.**

*Minister* I will walk before the Lord

*All* **in the land of the living.**

A prayer of thanksgiving:

*Minister* God of mercy, Lord of life, you have made us in your image to reflect your truth and light. We give you thanks for Philip, duke of Edinburgh, for the grace and mercy he received from you, for all that was good in his life: for his marriage and support of Her Majesty the Queen; for his strength of character and devotion to duty; for his service to our national life and to the Commonwealth. Bring Philip and all who rest in Christ into the fullness of your kingdom where sins have been forgiven and death is no more. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

A prayer for the soul of Philip, duke of Edinburgh:

*Minister* O eternal Lord God, who alone spreadest out the heavens, and rulest the raging of the sea; who hast compassed the waters with bounds until day and night come to an end: be pleased, most merciful Father, to receive into thy almighty and most gracious protection the soul of our brother Philip; and grant that, with him and all the departed, we may at the last enter into the haven of thine unending joy and felicity; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

A prayer for Her Majesty the Queen, the Royal Family and all who mourn:

*Minister* Almighty and everlasting God, the comfort of the sad, the strength of them that suffer: let the prayers of thy children who cry out of any tribulation come unto thee; and unto every soul that is distressed, grant thou mercy, grant relief, grant refreshment; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

A prayer for us all:

*Minister* O Lord, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the shades lengthen, the evening comes, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then, Lord, in thy mercy, grant us safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*Choir* Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening  
into the house and gate of heav'n:  
to enter into that gate and dwell in that house,  
where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light;  
no noise nor silence, but one equal music;  
no fears nor hopes, but one equal possession;  
no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity;  
in the habitation of thy glory and dominion,  
world without end. Amen.

*Words: John Donne (1571–1631)*  
*Music: William Harris (1883–1973)*

## The Commendation

*The people stand.*

*Dean* Into your hands, O Father and Lord, we commend your servant Philip,  
duke of Edinburgh. Enlighten him with your holy grace and suffer him  
never to be separated from you, O Lord in Trinity, God everlasting.

*All* **Amen.**

*Choir* Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints,  
where sorrow and pain are no more,  
neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of man:  
and we are mortal, formed from the dust of earth,  
and unto earth shall we return.  
For so thou didst ordain when thou created me, saying,  
'Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.'  
All we go down to the dust;  
and weeping o'er the grave we make our song:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*Words: from the Russian Orthodox funeral service, tr. W. J. Birkbeck (1859–1916)*  
*Music: Kiev melody transcribed by W. J. Birkbeck and edited by Walter Parratt (1841–1924)*

*Dean* Grant, Lord, that we may live in your fear,  
die in your favour, rest in your peace,  
rise in your power and reign in your glory;  
for your own beloved Son's sake,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

## Reading

*The people remain standing for this reading, read by the Reverend Canon Dr Georgina Byrne, residentiary canon and chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen*

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied, "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way." So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And he led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

*Louise Haskins (1875–1958),  
quoted by King George VI in his Christmas broadcast of 1939*

*The choir sings the National Anthem.*

## The Blessing

*The people remain standing.*

*Bishop* God grant to the living grace,  
to the departed rest,  
to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth and all people,  
unity, peace and concord,  
and to us and all God's servants, life everlasting;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and all those whom you love  
this day and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*The people remain standing while the ministers depart with the lord-lieutenant, the high sheriff and the mayor of Worcester, and the organist plays Marche Héroïque by Sir Herbert Brewer (1865–1928).*

*A charitable collection for the cathedral is taken as people leave. Please leave at the direction of the stewards and vergers, and take this service-booklet with you.*



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