

LAMBETH PALACE

Chapel



BBC RADIO 4

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF WOMEN PRIESTS

FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2019

## Opening Prayer

Loving God, we have come to worship you.

*All* **Help us to pray to you in faith,  
to sing your praise with gratitude,  
and to listen to your word with eagerness;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

*Please stand for the first hymn*

Praise to the Lord,  
the Almighty, the King of creation;  
O my soul, praise him,  
for he is thy health and salvation:  
come ye who hear,  
brothers and sisters draw near,  
praise him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord,  
who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
shelters thee under his wings,  
yea so gently sustaineth:  
hast thou not seen  
all that is needful hath been  
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord,  
who doth prosper thy work, and defend thee;  
surely his goodness and mercy  
here daily attend thee:  
ponder anew  
what the Almighty can do,  
he who with love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord!  
O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath,  
come now with praises before him!  
Let the Amen  
sound from his people again:  
gladly for ay we adore him.

*Joachim Neander (1650-1680)*  
*trans. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)*

## **Welcome by Archbishop Justin Welby**

### **Reading**

*Please sit for the first reading, read by Christina Rees.*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah, Chapter 40, verses 28-31.

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;

but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.

*Please remain seated.*

## **St Martin's Voices**

All things Bright and Beautiful – John Rutter

**Reflection 1** – by the Reverend Canon Dr Emma Percy

### **Prayer chant (sung by St Martin's Voices)**

*I give my work to you, Lord, I give my work to you.  
When the journey's shared, Lord, I turn my thoughts to you;  
I give my mind to you, Lord, I give my mind to you;  
I give my will to you, Lord, I give my will to you.*

**Reflection 2** – by Hannah Barr

### **Prayer chant (sung by St Martin's Voices)**

*I give my joy to you, Lord, my pain and sorrow too.  
I give my heart to you, Lord, I give my heart to you.  
I give my life to you, Lord, I give my life to you.*

*Please sit or kneel to pray*

## **Prayers**

Prayers led by the Reverend Canon Rose Hudson-Wilkin

## **Reading**

*Please remain seated for the reading, read by the Reverend Sally Hitchiner  
From 'All Desires Known' by Janet Morley. Please join in on those lines in  
**bold** type.*

For the darkness of waiting  
of not knowing what is to come  
of staying ready and quiet and attentive  
we praise you O God:

**for the darkness and the light  
are both alike to you.**

For the darkness of staying silent  
for the terror of having nothing to say  
and for the greater terror  
of needing to say nothing  
we praise you O God:

**for the darkness and the light  
are both alike to you.**

For the darkness of loving  
in which it is safe to surrender  
to let go of our self-protection  
and to stop holding back our desire,  
we praise you O God:

**for the darkness and the light  
are both alike to you.**

For the darkness of choosing  
when you give us the moment  
to speak, and act, and change,  
and we cannot know what we have set in motion,  
but we still have to take the risk,  
we praise you O God:

**for the darkness and the light  
are both alike to you.**

For in the darkness of hoping  
in a world which longs for you,  
for the wrestling and the labouring of all creation  
for wholeness and justice and freedom,  
we praise you O God:

**for the darkness and the light  
are both alike to you.**

First written for the *Women in Theology* liturgy group, Advent Sunday 1985

*Please stand for the hymn*

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.  
*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.  
Make us your living voice.  
*Christ, be our light!*

Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.  
*Christ, be our light!*

Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come.  
*Christ, be our light!*

*Bernadette Farrell (b.1957)*

*Please sit.*

### **Reflection 3** – the Reverend Zoe Heming

#### **Prayer chant (sung by St Martin's Voices)**

*I give to you, Lord, I give to you my work, my mind, my will I give to you.*

### **Reflection 4** – the Right Reverend Libby Lane

#### **Prayer chant (sung by St Martin's Voices)**

*I give to you, Lord, I give to you my joy, my heart, my life I give to you.*

### **Reading**

*Please remain seated for the reading, read by the Reverend Angela Berners  
Wilson*

A reading from the Gospel of St Luke, chapter 2, verses 22-38.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the

consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word;  
for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the presence of all  
peoples,  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel.”

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

## **St Martin's Voices**

*All for Thee*



*Please stand to sing the hymn.*

Take my life, and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days,  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet, and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing  
always, only, for my King;  
take my lips, and let them be  
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold;  
not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect, and use  
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine:  
it shall be no longer mine;  
take my heart: it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure-store;  
take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.

*Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879)*

*Please sit for the homily by the Reverend Dr Isabelle Hamley.*

## **The Homily**

*Please remain seated.*

## **St Martin's Voices**

*A Grateful Heart - Mary Plumstead*

## **Prayers**

*Please remain seated for the prayers, led by the Right Reverend Dr Jo Bailey Wells.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*All*    **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against  
us.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

*Please remain seated.*

## **Prayer chant (sung by St Martin's Voices)**

*I give my work to you, Lord, I give my work to you.  
I give my mind to you, Lord, I give my mind to you.  
I give my heart to you, Lord, I give my heart to you.  
I give my life to you, Lord, I give my life to you.*

## **Blessing for women in ministry**

Everlasting God,  
whose Son offered himself on the cross  
for us and our salvation,  
we give you thanks for the women in every generation  
who offer themselves to be priests in your Church:  
strengthen them in your service  
that they may have grace  
to tell afresh the story of your love,  
celebrate the sacraments of our redemption,  
and lead your flock in the steps  
of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All*    **Amen.**

*Please stand to sing the final hymn.*

Now thank we all our God,  
with hearts and hands and voices,  
such wonders he has done!  
in him the world rejoices.  
He, from our mother's arms,  
has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

So may this generous God  
through all our life be near us;  
to fill our hearts with joy,  
and with his peace to cheer us:  
to keep us in his grace,  
and guide us when perplexed;  
to free us from all ills  
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God  
who reigns in highest heaven,  
to Father and to Son  
and Spirit now be given,  
the one eternal God  
whom heaven and earth adore;  
for so it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

*Martin Rinkart (1586-1649)  
trans. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)*

*Please stand for the closing blessing.*

## **Blessing**

May God, who gives patience and encouragement,  
give you a spirit of unity  
to live in harmony as you follow Jesus Christ,  
so that with one voice  
you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

*All*    **Amen.**

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

*All*    **In the name of Christ, Amen.**

## Organ Voluntary