



THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITICAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTERBURY

Choral Evensong

with the Canterbury United Nations Association

Renewing commitment to the
Sustainable Development Goals



UNA CANTERBURY

Sunday 27th October 2024

5.30pm

Quire

Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Service

We are grateful to the Lynwood Singers for singing this service

United Nations Association, Canterbury Branch (UNA-CB) is the local branch of United Nations Association, London: *Founded in 1945, United Nations Association – UK, or UNA-UK, is a charity that builds movements, provides expert insight, and designs campaigns dedicated to promoting human rights, peace and security, and UN reform. Our work links the local, the national, and the global and centres grassroots power at the heart of all we do.*

<https://una.org.uk/who-we-are/about-us>

UNA-CB has pursued the above goals by supporting various campaigns and activities of the parent body (UNA-UK), but also crucially initiated activities on its own and in partnership with local, national, and international organisations.

We have supported through advocacy and practical help by making small donations, for example to UNICEF (for its work with children in Afghanistan), Kent-based organisations working with refugees, and piloting an Essay competition for school children in Entebbe Municipality in Uganda to foster empathy.

We are a member of wider networks in Canterbury, such as the Canterbury Climate Action Partnership and the SDG Forum, and interface with the work of some members focused especially on Faith and Gender-based approaches to societal wellbeing.

Please contribute to our work by supporting our work, through participation in our campaigns or by donating via a Bank Transfer to the United Nations Association Canterbury Branch, Bank of Scotland account: Sort Code 16-15-20 Account Number 12369853 or send a crossed cheque to United Nations Association Canterbury Branch, NatWest Bank, Canterbury City Centre, 11 The Parade, Canterbury, CT1 2SQ.

Livestreaming

This service will be livestreamed and you may be seen on camera, although we will not deliberately take any close-ups of the congregation.

By attending you agree to be seen in this way.

If you have any concerns please speak to a member of the clergy.



Please ensure that mobile phones are switched off. No form of visual or sound recording, or any form of photography, is permitted during Services. Thank you for your co-operation.



An induction loop system for the hard of hearing is installed in the Cathedral. Hearing aid users should adjust their aid to T.



Large print orders of service are available from the stewards and virgers. Please ask.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals



Goal 1	End poverty in all its forms everywhere
Goal 2	End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
Goal 3	Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
Goal 4	Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
Goal 5	Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
Goal 6	Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
Goal 7	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
Goal 8	Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
Goal 9	Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
Goal 10	Reduce inequality within and among countries
Goal 11	Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
Goal 12	Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
Goal 13	Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
Goal 14	Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
Goal 15	Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
Goal 16	Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
Goal 17	Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

ORDER OF SERVICE

All stand as the choir and clergy enter the Quire

The Canon in Residence welcomes the congregation

We remain standing to sing our opening hymn during which the banners of local organisations led by the servers process into the Quire

Hymn



God of freedom, God of justice,
you whose love is strong as death,
you who saw the dark of prison,
you who knew the price of faith—
touch our world of sad oppression
with your Spirit's healing breath.

²Rid the earth of torture's terror,
you whose hands were nailed to wood;
hear the cries of pain and protest,
you who shed the tears and blood—
move in us the pow'r of pity
restless for the common good.

³Make in us a captive conscience
quick to hear, to act, to plead;
make us truly sisters, brothers
of whatever race or creed—
teach us to be fully human,
open to each other's need.

Words: Shirley Erena Murray (b. 1931)

Tune: RHUDDLAN

AM 559

Sit

Reading of Preamble to UN Charter

by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Jean Butcher

WE THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS DETERMINED

to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

AND FOR THESE ENDS

to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours, and to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security, and to ensure, by the acceptance of principles and the institution of methods, that armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest, and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

HAVE RESOLVED TO COMBINE OUR EFFORTS TO ACCOMPLISH THESE AIMS.

The Cantor and choir sing the **Preces**

O Lord, open thou our lips
and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.*

Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

Music: Peter Nardone (b. 1965)

Remain seated as the choir sings

Psalm 146

Praise the Lord, O my soul; while I live will I praise the Lord :
yea, as long as I have any being, I will sing praises unto my God.

O put not your trust in princes, nor in any child of man :
for there is no help in them.

For when the breath of man goeth forth he shall turn again to his earth :
and then all his thoughts perish.

Blessed is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help :
and whose hope is in the Lord his God;

Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that therein is :
who keepeth his promise for ever;

Who helpeth them to right that suffer wrong :
who feedeth the hungry.

The Lord looseth men out of prison :
the Lord giveth sight to the blind.

The Lord helpeth them that are fallen :
the Lord careth for the righteous.

The Lord careth for the strangers, he defendeth the fatherless and widow :
as for the way of the ungodly, he turneth it upside down.

The Lord thy God, O Sion, shall be King for evermore :
and throughout all generations.

Stand

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.

Sit

Reading

Matthew 25.31-46

Jesus said: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

We stand for

Magnificat

My soul doth magnify the Lord :
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded :
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
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.

Music: George Dyson (1883-1964) in D

Sit

Address Alan Baldock

Remain seated as the choir sings

Anthem

For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,
*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our joyful hymn of praise.*

For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light:

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
pleasures pure and undefiled:

For each perfect gift of thine,
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven:

Words: Folliot Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917)

Music: John Rutter (b. 1945)

Sit or kneel

Short Readings and Prayers

Around the world, 648 million people live in extreme poverty. They survive on less than \$2.15 a day, an amount which is impossible to support a healthy livelihood in any part of the world.

Without sufficient and sustainable incomes, families cannot afford access to nutritious food, clean water, or health care. As a result, one in three children in low- and middle-income countries suffers from chronic undernutrition. Without treatment, hunger can lead to stunted growth, limited mental and emotional development, and even death.

Action Against Hunger

Lord Jesus, you fed the hungry, you shared your bread with all.
Your people hunger now, and we are called to share your bread.
May rains fall upon the dry and broken earth and quench your people's thirst,
so seeds grow tall and flourish, producing a bountiful harvest.
May we share the blessings you give us and bring comfort to those in need.
May we show love through our actions so all have enough to eat.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A most important goal is a humanity that is educated on daily sustainability, human rights, gender equality, notions of non-violence, as well as what it means to be a global citizen. As with many of the SDGs, efforts need to be more concentrated if we can even hope to meet the goals. 260 million school-aged children are still not regularly in the classroom and over 600 million children fail to meet minimum proficiency levels in reading and mathematics. Illiteracy is still quite high, and there is still a noticeable discrepancy in the quality of facilities and education in places like South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa as compared to the more developed countries.

Oxford Global

O God, your Son, Jesus Christ, came to earth as a teacher, using stories to instruct. We pray for all those who enable learning to happen.
We pray for learners, as they absorb new information, gain new skills and, discover their particular route through education. We pray for schools, colleges, universities and all places of education around the world. May they be safe places, filled with inspiration and aspiration. We particularly pray for those who have disappeared from the education system: where circumstances have prevented them continuing; where schools have closed; and for all those who are denied an education. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Humanity stands at a defining moment in history. We are confronted with a perpetuation of disparities between and within nations, a worsening of poverty, hunger, ill health and illiteracy, and the continuing deterioration of the ecosystems on which we depend for our well-being. However, integration of environment and development concerns and greater attention to them will lead to the fulfilment of basic needs, improved living standards for all, better protected and managed ecosystems and a safer, more prosperous future. No

nation can achieve this on its own; but together we can - in a global partnership for sustainable development.

Preamble to UN Agenda 21, 1992

God of blessings, the universe sings of your glory.
Deepen our gratitude for all you have made and awaken in us a renewed commitment to care for the earth and each other.
Inspire leaders with openness to listen to those most affected by climate change and with courage to act urgently and wisely, so that our common home may be healed and restored and all people, and generations to come, may delight in it. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In today's world, we are all interconnected. Problems and challenges like poverty, climate change, migration or economic crises are never just confined to one country or region. Even the richest countries still have communities living in abject poverty. The oldest democracies still wrestle with racism, homophobia and transphobia, and religious intolerance. Global inequality affects us all, no matter who we are or where we are from.
Equality can – and should be – achieved to ensure a life of dignity for all. Political, economic and social policies need to be universal and pay particular attention to the needs of disadvantaged and marginalized communities.

United Nations, Sustainable Development Goals

Lord, you hate sin and injustice. Through your Holy Spirit, give us your righteous judgement to understand your heart, that there are neither black or white, rich or poor, slave or free, female or male, but we are all one in Christ Jesus. Inspire the leaders of communities and nations to stand up and speak on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves; restore the privilege of equality to them, that they may use their gifts, their talents and their skills to glorify your name and make a difference in the world today.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

We say, each in our own language the prayer that Jesus taught us

**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.**

We stand to sing the closing hymn during which the banner bearers pick up their banners in preparation for the final procession



1. Beau ty for bro - ken ness,
3. Re - fuge from cruel_ wars,

7



hope for des - pair, Lord, in your suf - fer - ing world this is our prayer. Bread for the
ha - vens from fear, ci - ties for sanc - tu - ary, free doms to share. Pease to the

14



chil - dren, just - ice, joy, peace sun - rise to sun set your king - dom in -
kil - ling fields, scorched earth to green, Christ for the bit - ter - ness, his cross for the

20



crease. pain. 2. Shel - ter for fra - gile lves, cures for their
4. Rest for the ra - vaged earth, o - ceans and
5. Ligh - ten our dark - ness, breathe on this

27



ills, work for the crafts men, trade for their skills. Land for the dis - pos - essed,
streams, plun - dered and poi - soned our fu - ture, our dreams. Lord, end our mad - ness,
flame, un - til your ju - stice burns bright ly a gain; un - til the na - tions

34



rights for the weak, voi - ces to plead the cause of those who can't speak. *God of the poor*
care - less - ness, greed; make us con - tent with the things that we need.
learn of your ways, seek your sal - va - tion and bring you their praise.

41



— friebd of the weak, — give us com - pas - sion, we pray; melt our cold hearts, let

49



tears fall like_ rain. Come change our love_ from a spark_ to a_ flame.

Remain standing for

The Blessing

All remain standing as the procession departs

Organ Voluntary

There will be a retiring collection



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Produced by the Music & Liturgy Department:

precentor@canterbury-cathedral.org

01227 865281

www.canterbury-cathedral.org