



The Parish of Boxmoor

St John's Boxmoor
St Stephen's Chaulden & St Francis Hammerfield

Choral Evensong on the eve of the Feast of The Holy Cross

Sunday 13 September 2020

A very warm welcome to this special Service of Choral Evensong as we give thanks to God for the Cross of Jesus. Our service tonight will be sung entirely by the choir - their first outing in 6 months since the introduction of restrictions and guidance to limit the spread of Covid-19. You are invited to listen to the music and meditate upon the words being sung for you as we are drawn closer into God's presence and offer, with the angels, the praise due to his Holy name.

Introit: Ave verum corpus

Ave verum Corpus natum de Maria Virgine
vere passum immolatum in cruce pro homine.
Cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit et sanguine.
Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.

*Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary,
who truly suffered upon the cross for mankind;
from whose pierced side there came forth water and blood;
give us now, and at the time of our death, yourself to be our food.*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–91)

Office Hymn: The Royal banners forward go

The royal banners forward go,
the Cross shines forth in mystic glow;
where he in flesh, our flesh who made,
our sentence bore, our ransom paid.

Fulfilled is now what David told
in true prophetic song of old,
how God the heathen's King should be;
for God is reigning from the tree.

O Tree of glory, Tree most fair,
ordained those holy limbs to bear,
how bright in purple robe it stood,
the purple of a Saviour's blood!

Upon its arms, like balance true,
he weighed the price for sinners due,
the price which none but he could pay,
and spoiled the spoiler of his prey.

To thee, eternal Three in One,
let homage meet by all be done:
as by the Cross thou dost restore,
so rule and guide us evermore. Amen.

Gonfalon Royal 58(ii) AMNS

Responses: Smith 5-part

Psalm 150

O praise God in his holiness: praise him in the firmament of his power.
Praise him in his noble acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.
Praise him in the sound of the trumpet: praise him upon the lute and harp.
Praise him in the cymbals and dances: praise him upon the strings and pipe.
Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals: praise him upon the loud cymbals.
Let every thing that hath breath: praise the Lord.

All 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.

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 63: 1–16

Magnificat: Evening Service in D

Herbert Brewer (1865-1928)

New Testament Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1: 18–25

Nunc Dimittis: Evening Service in D

Herbert Brewer (1865-1928)

Anthem: Greater Love hath no man

John Ireland (1879–1962)

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this: that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus. Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Sermon: The Vicar

Hymn: When I survey the wondrous cross

When I survey the wondrous Cross,
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his Blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

His dying crimson like a robe,
spreads o'er his body on the Tree;
then am I dead to all the globe,
and all the globe is dead to me.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Rockingham 67 AMNS

The Prayers

Hymn: Lift high the cross

*Lift high the Cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Come, brethren, follow where our Captain trod,
our King victorious, Christ the Son of God: *Lift high...*

Saved by this Cross whereon their Lord was slain,
the sons of Adam their lost home regain: *Lift high...*

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious Tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us unto thee: *Lift high...*

Set up thy throne, that earth's despair may cease
beneath the shadow of its healing peace: *Lift high...*

For thy blest Cross which doth for all atone
creation's praises rise before thy throne: *Lift high...*

Crucifer 72 AMNS

The Blessing

Voluntary: