



Evensong Hymns and Readings **22nd June 2025**

Introit

Hail gladdening light

Sir John Stainer

♪ **Hymn (706)** ♪

Let us, with a gladsome mind,
praise the Lord, for He is kind:

*For His mercies aye endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.*

Let us blaze His name abroad,
for of gods He is the God:

He, with all-commanding might,
filled the new-made world with light:

He the golden-tressèd sun
caused all day his course to run:

And the hornèd moon at night,
'mid her spangled sisters bright:

All things living He doth feed,
His full hand supplies their need:

Let us, with a gladsome mind,
praise the Lord, for He is kind:

John Milton, the younger (1608-1674) based on Psalm 136

Psalm 57

Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful
unto me, for my soul trusteth in thee: and
under the shadow of thy wings shall be my
refuge, until this tyranny be over-past.

I will call unto the Most High God: even
unto the God that shall perform the cause
which I have in hand.

He shall send from heaven: and save me
from the reproof of him that would eat me
up.

God shall send forth his mercy and truth:
my soul is among lions;

And I lie even among the children of men,
that are set on fire: whose teeth are spears
and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.

Set up thyself, O God, above the heavens:
and thy glory above all the earth.

They have laid a net for my feet, and
pressed down my soul: they have digged a
pit before me, and are fallen into the midst
of it themselves.

My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed:
I will sing and give praise.

Awake up, my glory; awake, lute and harp: I
myself will awake right early.

I will give thanks unto thee, O Lord, among
the people: and I will sing unto thee among
the nations.

For the greatness of thy mercy reacheth
unto the heavens: and thy truth unto the
clouds.

Set up thyself, O God, above the heavens:
and thy glory above all the earth.

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.

First Reading

Genesis 24:1-17

Now Abraham was old, well advanced in years; and the Lord had blessed Abraham in all things. ²Abraham said to his servant, the oldest of his house, who had charge of all that he had, 'Put your hand under my thigh ³and I will make you swear by the Lord, the God of heaven and earth, that you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I live, ⁴but will go to my country and to my kindred and get a wife for my son Isaac.' ⁵The servant said to him, 'Perhaps the woman may not be willing to follow me to this land; must I then take your son back to the land from which you came?' ⁶Abraham said to him, 'See to it that you do not take my son back there. ⁷The Lord, the God of heaven, who took me from my father's house and from the land of my birth, and who spoke to me and swore to me, "To your offspring I will give this land", he will send his angel before you; you shall take a wife for my son from there. ⁸But if the woman is not willing to follow you, then you will be free from this oath of mine; only you must not take my son back there.' ⁹So the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master and swore to him concerning this matter.

¹⁰Then the servant took ten of his master's camels and departed, taking all kinds of choice gifts from his master; and he set out and went to Aram-naharaim, to the city of Nahor. ¹¹He made the camels kneel down outside the city by the well of water; it was towards evening, the time when women go out to draw

water. ¹²And he said, 'O Lord, God of my master Abraham, please grant me success today and show steadfast love to my master Abraham. ¹³I am standing here by the spring of water, and the daughters of the townspeople are coming out to draw water. ¹⁴Let the girl to whom I shall say, "Please offer your jar that I may drink", and who shall say, "Drink, and I will water your camels"—let her be the one whom you have appointed for your servant Isaac. By this I shall know that you have shown steadfast love to my master.'

¹⁵Before he had finished speaking, there was Rebekah, who was born to Bethuel son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, coming out with her water-jar on her shoulder. ¹⁶The girl was very fair to look upon, a virgin whom no man had known. She went down to the spring, filled her jar, and came up. ¹⁷Then the servant ran to meet her and said, 'Please let me sip a little water from your jar.' ¹⁸'Drink, my lord,' she said, and quickly lowered her jar upon her hand and gave him a drink. ¹⁹When she had finished giving him a drink, she said, 'I will draw for your camels also, until they have finished drinking.' ²⁰So she quickly emptied her jar into the trough and ran again to the well to draw, and she drew for all his camels. ²¹The man gazed at her in silence to learn whether or not the Lord had made his journey successful.

²²When the camels had finished drinking, the man took a gold nose-ring weighing a half-shekel, and two bracelets for her arms weighing ten gold shekels, ²³and said, 'Tell me whose daughter you are. Is there room in your father's house for us to

spend the night?’ ²⁴She said to him, ‘I am the daughter of Bethuel son of Milcah, whom she bore to Nahor.’ ²⁵She added, ‘We have plenty of straw and fodder and a place to spend the night.’ ²⁶The man bowed his head and worshipped the Lord ²⁷and said, ‘Blessed be the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who has not forsaken his steadfast love and his faithfulness towards my master. As for me, the Lord has led me on the way to the house of my master’s kin.’

Second Reading

Mark 5.21–43

When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered round him; and he was by the lake. ²²Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet ²³and begged him repeatedly, ‘My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.’ ²⁴So he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. ²⁵Now there was a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years. ²⁶She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. ²⁷She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸for she said, ‘If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well.’ ²⁹Immediately her haemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. ³⁰Immediately aware that power had gone forth from

him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, ‘Who touched my clothes?’ ³¹And his disciples said to him, ‘You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, “Who touched me?”’ ³²He looked all round to see who had done it. ³³But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. ³⁴He said to her, ‘Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.’

³⁵While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader’s house to say, ‘Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?’ ³⁶But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, ‘Do not fear, only believe.’ ³⁷He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. ³⁸When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. ³⁹When he had entered, he said to them, ‘Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.’ ⁴⁰And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child’s father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. ⁴¹He took her by the hand and said to her, ‘Talitha cum’, which means, ‘Little girl, get up!’ ⁴²And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. ⁴³He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Anthem

Blessed be the God and Father - Samuel

Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

♪ **Hymn (753)** ♪

O praise ye the Lord!
Praise Him in the height;
rejoice in His word, ye angels of
light;
ye heavens, adore Him
by Whom ye were made,
and worship before Him,
in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord!
Praise Him upon earth,
in tuneful accord, ye sons of new
birth;
praise Him who hath brought you
His grace from above,
praise Him Who hath taught you
to sing of His love.

O praise ye the Lord,
all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, His glory
forth tell in deep tone,
and sweet harp, the story
of what He hath done.

O praise ye the Lord!
Thanksgiving and song
to Him be outpoured all ages along:
for love in creation,
for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation,
O praise ye the Lord!
(Amen, amen.)

*Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877) based on Psalms 148
and 150*

♪ **Hymn (826)** ♪

Ye holy angels bright,
who wait at God's right hand,
or through the realms of light
fly at your Lord's command,
assist our song,
for else the theme
too high doth seem
for mortal tongue.

Ye blessèd souls at rest,
who ran this earthly race,
and now, from sin released,
behold the Saviour's face,
His praises sound,
as in His sight
with sweet delight
ye do abound.

Ye saints, who toil below,
adore your heavenly King,
and onward as ye go
some joyful anthem sing;
take what He gives
and praise Him still,
through good or ill,
who ever lives.

My soul, bear thou thy part,
triumph in God above,
and with a well-tuned heart
sing thou the songs of love!
Let all thy days
till life shall end,
whate'er He send,
be filled with praise!

*Richard Baxter (1615-1691) and John Hampden Gurney
(1802-1862)*

Responses: *Thomas Ebdon (1738-1811)*

Lord's Prayer: *Robert Stone (1516-1613)*

Canticles: (Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis) by
Ernest Moeran (1894-1950)