



TRINITY COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY of OXFORD



Virtual Leavers' Service

Sunday of 8th Week, Trinity Term 2020

14th June

❖ Opening Remarks and Prayers

The Chaplain

❖ Anthem: 'Crown of Roses'

Sung by the Choir

❖ First Reading

Read by Aled Evans

Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding, for she is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold. She is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her. Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honour. Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her; those who hold her fast will be blessed. By wisdom the Lord laid the earth's foundations, by understanding He set the heavens in place; by His knowledge the watery depths were divided, and the clouds let drop the dew. My son, do not let wisdom and understanding out of your sight, preserve sound judgment and discretion; they will be life for you, an ornament to grace your neck. Then you will go on your way in safety, and your foot will not stumble. When you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet. Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked, for the Lord will be at your side and will keep your foot from being snared. Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbour, "Come back tomorrow and I'll give it to you" — when you already have it with you. Do not plot harm against your neighbour, who lives trustfully near you. Do not accuse anyone for no reason - when they have done you no harm. Do not envy the violent or choose any of their ways. For the Lord detests the perverse but takes the upright into His confidence. The Lord's curse is on the house of the wicked, but He blesses the home of the righteous. He mocks proud mockers but shows favour to the humble and oppressed. The wise inherit honour, but fools get only shame.

This is the Word of Lord: **thanks be to God.**

❖ Second Reading

Read by Frederick Follows

Unless we work assiduously so that all of God's children, our brothers and sisters, members of our one human family, all will enjoy basic human rights, the right to a fulfilled life, the right of movement, of work, the freedom to be fully human, with a humanity measured by nothing less than the humanity of Jesus Christ Himself, then we are on the road inexorably to self-destruction, we are not far from global suicide; and yet it could be so different. When will we learn that human beings are of infinite value because they have been created in the image of God, and that it is a blasphemy to treat them as if they were less than this and to do so ultimately recoils on those who do this? In dehumanizing others, they are themselves dehumanized. Perhaps oppression dehumanizes the oppressor as much as, if not more than, the oppressed. They need each other to become truly free, to become human. We can be human only in fellowship, in community, in *koinonia*, in peace. Let us work to be peacemakers, those given a wonderful share in Our Lord's ministry of reconciliation. If we want peace, so we have been told, let us work for justice. Let us beat our swords into ploughshares. God calls us to be fellow workers with Him, so that we can extend His Kingdom of Shalom, of justice, of goodness, of compassion, of caring, of sharing, of laughter, joy and reconciliation, so that the kingdoms of this world will become the Kingdom of our God and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever. Amen.

Desmond Tutu, from his Nobel Peace Prize Lecture 1984

❖ Third Reading

Read by Conrad Kunadu

A free bird leaps
on the back of the wind
and floats downstream
till the current ends
and dips his wing
in the orange sun rays
and dares to claim the sky.

But a bird that stalks
down his narrow cage
can seldom see through
his bars of rage
his wings are clipped and
his feet are tied
so he opens his throat to sing.

The caged bird sings
with a fearful trill
of things unknown
but longed for still
and his tune is heard
on the distant hill
for the caged bird
sings of freedom.

The free bird thinks of another breeze
and the trade winds soft through the sighing trees
and the fat worms waiting on a dawn bright lawn
and he names the sky his own

But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams
his shadow shouts on a nightmare scream
his wings are clipped and his feet are tied
so he opens his throat to sing.

The caged bird sings
with a fearful trill
of things unknown
but longed for still
and his tune is heard
on the distant hill
for the caged bird
sings of freedom.

'Caged Bird' by Maya Angelou

❖ Anthem: 'Amazing Grace'

Sung by the Choir

❖ Fourth Reading

Read by Elena Margetts

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you. This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Philippians iv 4-9

❖ Reflection

The Chaplain

*A transcript of this evening's reflection is available on our website at
<https://www.trinity.ox.ac.uk/the-chapel/virtual-chapel/>.*

❖ Anthem: 'My soul, there is a country'

Sung by the Choir

❖ Prayers

The Chaplain

❖ Hymn

This evening's hymn has been recorded from their homes by current members and alumni of Trinity College Chapel Choir, accompanied by Alex Tucker on piano. Those listening are encouraged to join in!

**Lord, for the years Your love has kept and guided,
urged us and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.**

**Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,
Lord of the word, receive Your people's praise.**

**Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.**

**Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt Him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without Him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.**

**Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.**

❖ Trinity College Founder's Prayer

The President

❖ Blessing

The Chaplain

❖ Voluntary: 'Celebration'

Played by Alex Tucker

Music Credits

Anthem 1: 'Crown of Roses'

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Soprano: Megan Bell, Alex Carroll, Lois Heslop, Hayley Myhan, Grace Taylor-West

Alto: Anne Courtney, Kitty Foster, Hazel Gardner, Lily Griffin, Florence Maskell, Alicia Middleton

Tenor: Nathan Cornish, Alex Tucker

Bass: Nick Kenny, Tristan Weymes

Anthem 2: 'Amazing Grace'

Rollo Dilworth

Keys: Liam Gesoff

First: Megan Bell, Alex Carroll, Nathan Cornish, Lois Heslop, Hayley Myhan, Grace Taylor-West, Alex Tucker

Second: Anne Courtney, Kitty Foster, Nick Kenny, Florence Maskell, Tristan Weymes, Osian Williams

Anthem 3: 'My soul, there is a country'

Hubert Parry

Recorded by current members of Trinity College Chapel Choir in Hilary Term 2020.

Hymn

Timothy Dudley-Smith

Piano: Alex Tucker

Voices: Megan Bell, Alex Carroll, Anne Courtney, Kitty Foster, Lois Heslop, Nick Kenny, Florence Maskell, Alicia Middleton, Hayley Myhan, Jess Skelton, Grace Taylor West

Voluntary: 'Celebration'

Alex Tucker

Piano: Alex Tucker

We are grateful to the many current members and alumni of the Trinity College Chapel community who have contributed to this term's virtual services. Our particular thanks and best wishes go to the following, who are leaving us this summer:

Lizzie Dunn, Aled Evans, Frederick Follows, Tamoi Fuji, Hazel Gardner, Callan Meynell, James Milford, Hayley Myhan, Rian Simpson, Alex Tucker (Senior Organ Scholar), Marcus Williamson