

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE
OF WORCESTERSHIRE



ORDER OF SERVICE

SUNDAY, 15th JULY, 1956
2.30 p.m.

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH
OF CHRIST AND THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
WORCESTER

From 2 to 2.30 p.m.

ORGAN RECITAL BY
MR. DAVID WILLCOCKS, M.C., M.A., Mus.B.

1. PRELUDE and FUGUE in G major *Bach*
2. PRELUDE, FUGUE and VARIATION *Franck*
3. FUGUE on the name "Bach" *Schumann*
4. SUITE : The Water Music *Handel*

ORDER OF SERVICE

- *The congregation will remain seated during the entrance of the first and second Masonic Processions.*
- *At 2.30 p.m. the Choir and Clergy will enter by the Miserrimus Door, singing :*

H Y M N

GLORIOUS things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God ;

He whose word cannot be broken
Form'd thee for his own abode.
On the rock of ages founded,
What can shake thy sure repose ?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters,
And all fear of want removed,
Who can faint while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage ;
Grace, which like the Lord the Giver
Never fails from age to age ?

Round each habitation hovering
See the cloud and fire appear,
For a glory and a covering —
Showing that the Lord is near.
Thus they march, the pillar leading,
Light by night and shades by day ;
Daily on the manna feeding
Which He gives them when they pray.

Saviour, since of Zion's city
I, through grace, a member am,
Let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in Thy Name.
Fading in the world's best pleasure,
All its boasted pomp and show ;
Solid joys and lasting treasure
None but Zion's children know.

- *Then shall follow :*

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

GOD save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen !
Send Her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us ;
God save the Queen !

¶ *Then shall V.W. Bro. the Rev. Canon E. F. Braley, M.A., LL.D., Past Grand Chaplain, exhort the Brethren to Thanksgiving and Remembrance :*

BLESSED is the nation whose God is the Lord.

Blessed is the man whose strength is in Thee, in whose heart are Thy ways ; he shall not be afraid of any evil tidings.

Blessed is the man that provideth for the sick and needy ; the Lord shall deliver him in the time of trouble.

Blessed is the man whose unrighteousness is forgiven, and whose sin is covered.

Brethren, we are met together to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness, to confess our need of His grace and power, to sing His praise in the sanctuary, and to give Him thanks for every blessing that is ours. And it is very meet, right, and our bounden duty that we should give glory to the Most High for His preservation of our Ancient Order through the changes and chances of the years and for the health and harmony of its working in this our land.

Therefore, we remember with gladness before God the founders and benefactors of our Lodges, those who laid their foundations in fidelity and built their walls in uprightness ; those who have supported them by their constancy and enriched them by their sacrifice.

We gather also into our remembrance all our brethren of this Province who have departed this life in God's faith and fear, especially those for whom the trumpets have sounded on the other side since last we thus assembled and met together.

Wherefore I pray you to accompany me with a grateful heart unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying after me :

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give Thee most humble and hearty thanks for all Thy goodness and loving kindness to us, and to all men. We bless Thee for our creation, preservation, and for the blessings of this life. And we beseech Thee, give us that due sense of all Thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth Thy praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to Thy service, and by walking before Thee in holiness and righteousness all our days ; for the honour and glory of Thy great Name.

So mote it be.

¶ *Then shall the Precentor begin :*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- V. O Lord, open Thou our lips ;
R. And our mouth shall show forth Thy praise.
V. O God, make speed to save us ;
R. O Lord, make haste to help us.
V. Praise ye the Lord ;
R. The Lord's name be praised.

¶ *Then shall be sung :*

PSALM CXXII

I WAS glad when they said unto me : We will go into the house of the Lord.

Our feet shall stand in thy gates : O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city : that is at unity in itself.

For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord : to testify unto Israel, to give thanks unto the Name of the Lord.

For there is the seat of judgement : even the seat of the house of David.

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem : they shall prosper that love Thee.

Peace be within thy walls : and plenteousness within thy palaces.

For my brethren and companions' sakes : I will wish thee prosperity.

Yea, because of the house of the Lord our God : I will seek to do thee good.

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.

¶ *W. Bro. H. E. Clive, O.B.E., P.G.D., Dep. Prof. G. Master, shall be preceded to the Lectern by the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, and shall read :*

THE FIRST LESSON

1 Chronicles XXIX, 10-20

H Y M N

O LORD, how joyful 'tis to see
The Brethren join in love to Thee !
On Thee alone their heart relies,
Their only strength Thy grace supplies.

How sweet within Thy holy place
With one accord to sing Thy grace,
Respecting Thine attentive ear
With all the force of fervent prayer !

O may we love the House of God,
Of peace and joy the blest abode ;
O may no angry strife destroy
That sacred peace, that holy joy.

The world without may rage, but we
Will only cling more close to Thee,
With hearts to Thee more wholly given,
More wean'd from earth, more fix'd on Heav'n.

Lord, shower upon us from above
The sacred gift of mutual love :
Each other's wants may we supply,
And reign together in the sky.

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, Angelic host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

¶ *The R. Wor. Bro. E. L. Bunting, M.B., Provincial Grand Master, shall be preceded to the Lectern by the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, and shall read :*

THE SECOND LESSON

I Corinthians, 13

ANTHEM

MY soul, there is a country
Far beyond the stars,
Where stands a winged sentry
All skilful in the wars.

Words : *Henry Vaughan*, 1621-95.

Music : *C. Hubert H. Parry*, 1848-1918.

¶ *Then shall Bro. the Ven. A. P. Shepherd, M.A., D.D., P.P.G. Chaplain, say :*

Let us pray

O LORD our God, let Thine eyes be open and let Thine ears attend unto the prayer that is made in this place. Let Thy priests be clothed with salvation and let Thy saints rejoice in goodness. The Lord God be with us as He was with our fathers ; let Him not leave us nor forsake us, that we may incline our hearts unto Him to walk in His way.

So mote it be.

Let us pray for our Queen and people.

O LORD, our heavenly Father, high and mighty, King of kings, Lord of lords ; we humbly beseech Thee to bless our gracious Queen and all the Royal Family. Give wisdom and understanding to all who are set in authority over us, and grant that the people of our land may meet all times of testing with self-discipline, self-devotion and courage.

So mote it be.

Let us pray for the world.

O LORD God, who art king, be the people never so impatient, who sitteth between the cherubim, be the earth never so unquiet : let all the nations of the earth know that Thou art God, and that there is none else. Turn to Thyself the hearts of all rulers and peoples, that doing justly and loving mercy and walking humbly with Thee, they may live together as one family in the bond of Thy peace.

So mote it be.

Finally, let us pray for the welfare of our Order, and for all who are trusted with its guidance and governance in this Province.

ALMIGHTY Architect of the Universe, deign from Thy celestial abode to bless all members of our fraternity, especially the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master and the Officers and Members of the Province : may brotherly love, relief, and truth prevail among us ; and may we so dedicate and devote our lives to Thy service that we may continue ever to be true and faithful Brethren. We specially commend to Thy care and attention all our Brethren, wheresoever they may be, who are distressed in mind, body or estate, grant them a speedy relief out of all their troubles, if it shall be Thy gracious will. Finally, we pray Thee that we may increase in knowledge of Thee and love of each other, that our work begun in Thy Name may be continued to Thy glory and evermore established in us by obedience to Thy Holy Law.

So mote it be

H Y M N

PRAY that Jerusalem may have
Peace and felicity,
Let them that love Thee and Thy peace
Have still prosperity.

Behold how good a thing it is,
And how becoming well,
Together such as brethren are
In unity to dwell.

Therefore I wish that peace may still
Within Thy walls remain,
And ever may Thy palaces
Prosperity retain.

Now, for my friends' and brethren's sake,
Peace be in Thee, I'll say ;
And for the house of God our Lord
I'll seek Thy good away.

Within the courts of God's own house,
Within the midst of thee,
O city of Jerusalem,
Praise to the Lord give ye.

THE ADDRESS

by Rt. Wor. Bro. the Very Rev. Michael Clarke, M.A., Provincial Grand Master for Warwickshire.

H Y M N

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
All the Almighty can do.
He who with love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who, when tempests their warfare are waging,
Who, when the elements madly around thee are raging,
Biddeth them cease,
Turneth their fury to peace,
Whirlwinds and waters assuaging.

Praise to the Lord, who when sickness with terror uniting,
Deaf to entreaties of mortals, His victims is smiting,
Pestilence quells,
Sickness and fever dispels,
Grateful thanksgiving inviting.

Praise to the Lord, who when darkness of sin is abounding,
Who, when the godless do triumph, all virtue confounding,
Sheddeth His light,
Chaseth the horrors of night,
Saints with His mercy surrounding.

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.

¶ *During the singing of this hymn a collection will be taken for the Cathedral Organ Fund.*

¶ *During the hymn the clergy will go to the Altar, and after the hymn, the congregation still standing, V. W. Bro. the Rev. Canon E. F. Braley, Past Grand Chaplain, will say :*

THE CLOSING PRAYER

LET us with all reverence and humility express our gratitude to the Great Architect of the Universe for favours already received ; may He continue to preserve the Order by cementing and adorning it with every moral and social virtue.

So mote it be.

¶ *After which the congregation shall sing the*

CLOSING ODE

NOW the evening shadows closing,
Warn from toil to peaceful rest
Mystic arts and rights reposing,
Sacred in each faithful breast

God of life, whose love unceasing,
Doth to all thy works extend,
Crown our Order with thy blessing ;
Build, sustain us to the end.

Humbly now we bow before Thee,
Grateful for Thine aid divine,
Everlasting power and glory,
Mighty Architect be thine.

So mote it be.

THE BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN

¶ *During the singing of the hymn, the Choir and Clergy will precede the Masonic Procession out of the Cathedral by the West Door.*

THROUGH the night of doubt and sorrow
Onward goes the pilgrim band,
Singing songs of expectation,
Marching to the Promised Land.

Clear before us through the darkness
Gleams and burns the guiding light ;
Brother clasps the hand of brother,
Stepping fearless through the night.

One the light of God's own presence
O'er his ransomed people shed,
Chasing far the gloom and terror,
Brightening all the path we tread.

One the object of our journey,
One the faith which never tires,
One the earnest looking forward,
One the hope our God inspires.

One the strain that lips of thousands
Lift as from the heart of one :
One the conflict, one the peril,
One the march in God begun.

One the gladness of rejoicing
On the far eternal shore,
Where the One Almighty Father
Reigns in love for evermore.

Onward, therefore, pilgrin. brothers,
Onward with the Cross our aid :
Bear its shame, and fight its battle,
Till we rest beneath its shade.

Soon shall come the great awaking,
Soon the rending of the tomb ;
Then the scattering of all shadows,
And the end of toil and gloom.

ORGAN MUSIC,

FIRST MOVEMENT, SONATA in G *Elgar*