



MERTON COLLEGE

The Chapel of St Mary and St John

CHORAL EVENSONG  
with the Licensing of  
the Revd Lyndon Webb  
*on the eve of the feast of  
St Michael & All Angels*  
6.00pm Wednesday 28 September

**Welcome** to Merton College Chapel and to this service at which the Revd Lyndon Webb will be licensed by the Bishop of Oxford. A particular welcome to Lyndon, to Bishop Steven, and to all those who have come to support Lyndon this evening.

The service is sung by Merton's Girl Choristers with lower voices. The choristers come from a variety of schools across the city, and sing in the Chapel on Mondays and Wednesdays during term.

This term's Chapel collections will be donated to *Children Heard and Seen*, an Oxfordshire charity supporting children, young people and their families impacted by parental imprisonment. The collection plate is on the table as you move into the Ante-Chapel.

Visitors are welcome to take photos before and after the service. Filming and photography are not permitted during the service.

**Please be aware that this service is being livestreamed.**

The recording will be published, transmitted or broadcast on YouTube and may be published in official University or College publications and in University or College publicity materials, including University-or College-affiliated websites and may be circulated to the press and other broadcast media and websites for publication, transmission or broadcast. If you do not wish to appear in the Livestream, please speak to the Verger.

**PRELUDE** *Organ Sonatine No. 1 "Allegretto"*

Charles Koechlin (1867-1950)



*At the beginning of Evensong, we remain seated as the choir sings the*  
INTROIT *My guardian angel* Judith Weir (b. 1954)

The Angel that presided o'er my birth  
Said, 'Little creature, form'd of Joy & Mirth,  
Go Love without the help of anything on earth.'  
*William Blake (1757-1827)*

*The bell rings and all stand to sing the opening hymn as the procession enters the Chapel.*

HYMN

DARWALL's 148th 66 66 44 44

John Darwall 1731-89



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 blessed souls at rest,  
who ran this earthly race,  
and now, from sin released,  
behold the Saviour's face,  
God's 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 (1615-91)  
and others*

*All remain standing as the Revd Canon Dr Simon Jones (Chaplain)  
welcomes the congregation and introduces the service.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

O praise the Lord of heaven: praise him in the height.  
Praise him, all ye angels of his: praise him, all his host.

*Psalms 148.1-2*

*The Chaplain and choir sing the*  
**RESPONSES**

Humphrey Clucas (b. 1941)

*All sit as the choir sings*

**PSALM 91**

- 1 Whoso dwelleth under the defence of the most High :  
shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 I will say unto the Lord, Thou art my hope, and my strong hold :  
my God, in him will I trust.
- 3 For he shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunter :  
and from the noisome pestilence.
- 4 He shall defend thee under his wings,  
and thou shalt be safe under his feathers : his faithfulness and truth  
shall be thy shield and buckler.
- 5 Thou shalt not be afraid for any terror by night :  
nor for the arrow that flieth by day;
- 6 For the pestilence that walketh in darkness :  
nor for the sickness that destroyeth in the noon-day.
- 7 A thousand shall fall beside thee, and ten thousand at they right hand :  
but it shall not come nigh thee.
- 8 Yea, with thine eyes shalt thou behold :  
and see the reward of the ungodly.
- 9 For thou, Lord, art my hope :  
thou hast set thine house of defence very high.
- 10 There shall no evil happen unto thee :  
neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee :  
to keep thee in all thy ways.
- 12 They shall bear thee in their hands :  
that thou hurt not thy foot against a stone.
- 13 Thou shalt go upon the lion and adder :  
the young lion and the dragon shalt thou tread under thy feet.
- 14 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him :  
I will set him up, because he hath known my Name.
- 15 He shall call upon me, and I will hear him :  
yea, I am with him in trouble, I will deliver him,  
and bring him to honour.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy him : and shew him my salvation.

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.

*All remain seated for the*

**FIRST LESSON**

2 Kings 6.8-17

*read by Dr Emily Rutherford*

*(Junior Research Fellow in History)*

*All stand to sing the*

**HYMN**

HEREFORD LM

Samuel Sebastian Wesley 1810-76



O thou who camest from above,  
The pure celestial fire to impart,  
Kindle a flame of sacred love  
On the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn  
With inextinguishable blaze,  
And trembling to its source return  
In humble prayer, and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire  
To work, and speak, and think for thee;  
Still let me guard the holy fire,  
And still stir up thy gift in me.

*All remain standing as the choir sings the*  
**MAGNIFICAT**     *in B minor*

T. Tertius Noble (1867-1953)

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.

*All remain standing for the*  
**DECLARATION and OATHS**

*Chaplain* Reverend Father in God, Lyndon Webb has been appointed as Associate Chaplain and Career Development Researcher in this College. I present him to you to be licensed.

*Bishop* Lyndon, do you believe, so far as you know your own heart, that God has called you to serve here?

*Lyndon* **I believe that God has called me.**

*Bishop* Will you commit yourself to serve the people of God in this place?

*Lyndon* **With the help of God, I will.**

*All sit.*

*Bishop* The Church of England is part of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church, worshipping the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It professes the faith uniquely revealed in the holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds, which faith the Church is called upon to proclaim afresh in each generation. Led by the Holy Spirit, it has borne witness to Christian truth in its historic formularies, the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion, *The Book of Common Prayer* and the Ordering of Bishops, Priests and Deacons.

In the declaration you are about to make, will you affirm your loyalty to this inheritance of faith as your inspiration and guidance under God in bringing the grace and truth of Christ to this generation and making him known to those in your care?

*Lyndon makes the declaration of assent*

I, Lyndon James Stuart Webb, do so affirm, and accordingly declare my belief in the faith which is revealed in the holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds and to which the historic formularies of the Church of England bear witness; and in public prayer and administration of the sacraments, I will use only the forms of service which are authorised or allowed by canon.



*Lyndon turns and faces the people and, taking a bible in his right hand, swears the oath of allegiance*

I, Lyndon James Stuart Webb, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles the Third, his heirs and successors, according to law: so help me God.

*Facing the bishop, and still holding the bible, Lyndon swears the oath of canonical obedience*

I, Lyndon James Stuart Webb, do swear by almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of Oxford, in all things lawful and honest: so help me God.

*Lyndon signs the declaration and oaths.*

*All stand for*  
**THE LICENSING**

*The bishop reads the Licence and gives it to Lyndon, saying*

Receive this cure of souls, which is both yours and mine;  
in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*All*           **Amen.**

*The bishop anoints Lyndon with the oil of Chrism, saying*

Lyndon, remember your baptism into Christ.  
Remember your ordination in the Church of God.  
May God who anointed Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit  
anoint and empower you for the blessing of God's people.

*All*           **Amen.**

*The bishop blesses Lyndon, saying*

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep  
through the blood of the eternal covenant,  
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,  
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
rest upon you and remain with you always.

*All*           **Amen.**

*All remain standing to sing*

Ready for all thy perfect will,  
My acts of faith and love repeat,  
Till death thy endless mercies seal,  
And make my sacrifice complete.

*Charles Wesley (1707-88)*

*All sit for the*

**SECOND LESSON**

Matthew 18.1-6, 10

*read by the Revd Lyndon Webb  
(Associate Chaplain)*

*All stand as the choir sings the*

**NUNC DIMITTIS**

*in B minor*

Noble

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace  
according to thy word.  
For mine eyes have seen  
thy salvation;  
Which thou hast prepared  
before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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.

*All face east to say together*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

*All* I believe in God the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth:  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
the holy catholic Church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

THE LESSER LITANY, LORD'S PRAYER,  
RESPONSES and COLLECTS

*All remain standing as the Chaplain and choir sing*

The Lord be with you  
**and with thy spirit.**  
Let us pray.

*All kneel or sit.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

*All say together the Lord's Prayer.*

All    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.

*The Chaplain and choir sing the Responses and the Collects (Clucas).*

ANTHEM *Michael, coeli signifier*

Jacob Handl (1550–1591)

Michael, standard-bearer of heaven—  
Gabriel, the light-bringer of the world—  
Raphael— the three archangels  
of Christ and all the angels,  
the beloved ones:  
through all the ages  
they protect our bodily purity  
from the snares and treacheries of our enemies.  
May they always guard us,  
and after death may they receive us.  
Let us sing the praise of the angels  
to the Lord Most High.

*Motet for Michaelmas*

*All remain seated for the*

HOMILY *The Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft  
(Bishop of Oxford)*

*All remain seated or kneel for the*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*At the end of the prayers, all join together in the words of the*

GRACE

All The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us all evermore. Amen.

*All stand to sing the*  
HYMN

Glory to God, the mother of creation,  
in love you brought the universe to birth,  
then gave your life to purchase the salvation  
of all the sons and daughters of the earth.  
Glory to you, for love that's shown through history:  
the warp and weft that patterns time and space.  
By grace you're known, yet known to be a mystery,  
and we can touch eternity in your embrace.

Glory to you for calling us to service,  
shepherds and stewards, messengers and priests,  
we give ourselves in gratitude and gladness  
as guests and hosts at your thanksgiving feast.  
Our hearts exult in loving affirmation,  
We sing with joy, your greatness we proclaim.  
Your praise resounds in every generation,  
Our souls with Mary magnify your holy name.

We are united, in Christ's body dwelling,  
one in the Spirit: wind and fire and dove;  
one in the grace and hope of every calling,  
to lift the ways of earth to heav'n above.  
Through all our lives your power is ever flowing,  
To show your work of love is underway;  
Stir up your gift in us, your grace bestowing,  
so we may speak and live your Word afresh today.

*Ally Barrett (b.1975)*

*The Bishop gives the*  
THE BLESSING

*The organ voluntary is part of the service.  
Please feel free to stay in the Chapel  
to listen to it, if you would like to.*

*There is a retiring collection for the Children Heard and Seen.  
The collection plate is in the Ante-Chapel.*

*Lyndon's former parishioners from Broadstone in Dorset  
and other guests are warmly invited to stay for the reception  
in the Ante-Chapel after the service.*

Hymns are reproduced under CCL Licence No. 1199610