



# READING SCHOOL COMMEMORATION SERVICE 2023

**Friday 20th October 2023  
14:00**

**Reading Minster of St. Mary the Virgin**

**Preacher: Reverend David Walker**

**Welcome & Benediction read by the Reverend Sonya Wratten, Vicar of Reading Minster**

**A service of praise and thanksgiving in commemoration of  
the founders and benefactors of Reading School**



## PRELUDE

Sarabande from Edvard Grieg's 'Holberg Suite' (1884-1907), arranged by Alan Ridout  
Performed by Organist Mr David Pether

## PROCESSION - PLEASE STAND

The entrance of Guests of Honour and Clergy accompanied by the Headmaster and Chair of Governors.

## FANFARE

*Floreat Redingensis Fanfare arr. Shaw*  
Performed by Reading Fanfare Brass, led by Freddie Shaw (13BSA)

## WELCOME

The Reverend Sonya Wratten, Vicar of Reading Minster

*This service will proceed unannounced with no instructions  
other than those printed in this order of service.*

## HYMN

### ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL

accompanied by Organist Mr David Pether

*The 100th Psalm is one of the most well-known Psalms of the Hebrew Bible. It encourages praise of Yahweh – the LORD – whose love and faithfulness extend through all generations. This version, The Old Hundredth, comes originally from the 1562 'Genevan Psalter', the hymn book of the radical Christian reformers in Geneva. It was rearranged and greatly elaborated by Ralph Vaughan Williams for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, where it became the first recorded element of a British Coronation to require the congregation's participation. They had not been warned about the fanfares!*

All people that on earth do dwell,  
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,  
Come ye before him, and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,  
Without our aid he did us make;  
We are his folk, he doth us feed,  
And for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,  
Approach with joy his courts unto;  
Praise, laud, and bless his name always,  
For it is seemly so to do.

### **Choir Only**

For why? The Lord our God is good:  
His mercy is for ever sure;  
His truth at all times firmly stood,  
And shall from age to age endure.

### **All**

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
The God whom heaven and earth adore,  
From men and from the Angel-host  
Be praise and glory evermore.

### **Amen**

**PLEASE REMAIN STANDING**

## THE BIDDING PRAYER

Reverend Dr Chris Evans, Deputy Headmaster & School Chaplain

We pray for the Church universal, for the whole congregation of Christian people dispersed throughout the world, and for those of goodwill in every land. We pray most especially for His Majesty King Charles III; for our leaders in Parliament, and for all who labour in this realm for the sake of your Kingdom.

We give thanks for civic officials, Magistrates of this Borough, and those who uphold justice, liberty and peace in our town. On this day particularly, we remember the generosity, charity, witness and vision of the founders and benefactors of this school.

Henry I, King of England;  
Hugh de Boves, Abbot of Reading;  
Henry VII, King of England; John Thorne, Abbot of Reading;  
Sir Thomas White, Lord Mayor of London, the founder of Scholarships to the College of St John the Baptist in the University of Oxford;  
William Dene;  
Elizabeth I, Queen of England;  
William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury;  
John Kendrick;  
Richard Valpy and Robert Appleton, sometime Headmasters;  
George William Palmer, Privy Councillor;  
Joseph Wells, Warden of Wadham College in the University of Oxford;  
William Conrad Costin, President of St John's College in the University of Oxford;  
Alfred Edgar Milward.

And we give thanks for all other benefactors, who during nearly nine hundred years have laboured, each in their generation to provide opportunities in this Town, and through this school, for growth in Godliness and for sound learning.

Finally, we praise you, Lord, for all those who have departed this life in the faith of Christ, and pray that we may have grace to imitate their good example; that this life ended, through the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, we may share with them the glorious resurrection and all the fullness of everlasting life.

**Amen**

**PLEASE SIT**



## CHORAL ANTHEM

The Chapel Choir  
Directed by Mr James Druce, BMus (Hons) LRAM PGCert'  
Director of Chapel Choir

### My Soul, There is a Country - Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry

My soul, there is a country  
Far beyond the stars,  
Where stands a wingèd sentry  
All skilful in the wars:

There, above noise and danger,  
Sweet Peace sits crown'd with smiles,  
And One born in a manger  
Commands the beauteous files.

He is thy gracious Friend,  
And—O my soul, awake!—  
Did in pure love descend  
To die here for thy sake.

If thou canst get but thither,  
There grows the flower of Peace,  
The Rose that cannot wither,  
Thy fortress, and thy ease.

Leave then thy foolish ranges;  
For none can thee secure  
But One who never changes—  
Thy God, thy life, thy cure.

## THE LESSON

Read by Josha Gupta (13MRC), School Captain

**PLEASE STAND**



## HYMN

### GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT REDEEMER

accompanied by Shaan Sachdeva (13KY)

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
Pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
Hold me with thy powerful hand:  
Bread of heaven,  
Bread of heaven,  
Feed me now and evermore,  
Feed me now and evermore.

Open thou the crystal fountain  
Whence the healing stream shall flow;  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through:  
Strong deliverer,  
Strong deliverer,  
Be thou still my strength and shield,  
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death, and hell's destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side:  
Songs of praises,  
Songs of praises,  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.

**PLEASE SIT**



## SERMON

Reverend David Walker,  
Vicar at Greyfriars & New Hope

## PRAYERS & INTERCESSIONS

Reverend Dr Chris Evans, Deputy Headmaster & School Chaplain

*After which the congregation will say*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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 them that 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**

**PLEASE STAND**



## HYMN

### JERUSALEM

accompanied by Organist Mr David Pether

*This poem by William Blake was probably written whilst the author was awaiting trial in Chichester for high treason (having been accused by a drunk soldier of saying that, 'Soldiers were all slaves').*

*The poem is part of Blake's 'Preface to Milton'. The lyrics may refer to a myth which suggests that when he was a teenager Jesus visited Britain with a relative (Joseph of Arimathea) who was said to have business interests in Cornish tin mines. There is no historical evidence supporting this story.*

And did those feet in ancient time,  
Walk upon England's mountains green:  
And was the holy Lamb of God,  
On England's pleasant pastures seen!  
And did the Countenance Divine,  
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?  
And was Jerusalem builded here,  
Among these dark Satanic Mills?

Bring me my Bow of burning gold;  
Bring me my Arrows of desire:  
Bring me my Spear: O clouds unfold!  
Bring me my Chariot of fire!  
I will not cease from Mental Fight,  
Nor shall my Sword sleep in my hand:  
Till we have built Jerusalem,  
In England's green and pleasant Land.

**PLEASE REMAIN STANDING**

## **THE BLESSING**

The Reverend Sonya Wratten

## **RECESSION- PLEASE REMAIN STANDING**

The departure of Guests of Honour and Clergy accompanied by the Headmaster and Chair of Governors.

## **ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

William Faulkes (1863 - 1933) - Grand Choeur in D  
Organist Mr David Pether

## **POSTLUDE**



# Thanks & Acknowledgements

Reading School gratefully acknowledges the kindness of the Parish and Vicar of St. Mary the Virgin for allowing us to use the Minster for this service of commemoration.

We would also like to thank the St Mary's with St Laurence Society of Change Ringers and our organist Mr David Pether.

## Retiring Collection

We would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation for your attendance and support today. As we celebrate this special event, we also have an opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to a cause that is dear to our hearts.

At the end of the service, there will be a retiring collection to support ReadiFood, operated by the Faith Christian Group, who have been serving the Reading community for more than a quarter-century through its Emergency Food Parcel Service. Their mission is to provide crucial assistance to families and individuals facing food insecurity in the greater Reading area. Your generous donations will go a long way in making a positive impact on the lives of those in need.

Every contribution, no matter how big or small, can create ripples of change and bring hope to individuals and communities.  
Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated.

Thank you for helping us make a difference.





© Reading School,  
Erleigh Road,  
Reading  
RG1 5LW

T: 0118 9015600 | E: [alumni@reading-school.co.uk](mailto:alumni@reading-school.co.uk) | [development@reading-school.co.uk](mailto:development@reading-school.co.uk)

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