

## First Hymn

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
come then and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings from the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every Christian breast,  
and furnished for so great a guest!  
Yea, let us each our heart prepare  
for Christ to come and enter there.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
our refuge and our great reward;  
without thy grace our souls must fade  
and wither like a flower decayed.

Stretch forth thine hand  
to heal our sore,  
and make us rise, to fall no more;  
once more upon thy people shine,  
and fill the world with love divine.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee  
whose advent sets thy people free,  
whom, with the Father, we adore,  
and Spirit blest, for evermore.

*C. Coffin (1676-1749) Tune: Winchester New*

*We remain seated as the Choir sings 3 verses from Psalm 126 with the response*

The Lord has done great things for us and we rejoiced

## Offertory hymn

God is working his purpose out as year succeeds to year,  
God is working his purpose out and the time is drawing near;  
nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.

From utmost east to utmost west where'er man's foot hath trod,  
by the mouth of many messengers goes forth the voice of God,  
'Give ear to me, ye continents, ye isles, give ear to me,  
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.'

What can we do to work God's work, to prosper and increase  
the brotherhood of all mankind, the reign of the Prince of peace?  
What can we do to hasten the time, the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.

March we forth in the strength of God  
with the banner of Christ unfurled,  
that the light of the glorious gospel of truth  
may shine throughout the world;  
fight we the fight with sorrow and sin, to set their captives free,  
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.

All we can do is nothing worth unless God blesses the deed;  
vainly we hope for the harvest-tide till God gives life to the seed;  
yet nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.

*Tune Benson A.C.Ainger 1841 - 1919*

### **Communion Hymn**

Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,  
the Saviour promised long:  
let every heart prepare a throne  
and every voice a song.

He comes, the prisoners to release  
in Satan's bondage held;  
the gates of brass before him burst,  
the iron fetters yield.

He comes, the broken heart to bind,  
the bleeding soul to cure,  
and with the treasures of his grace  
to bless the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
thy welcome shall proclaim;  
and heaven's eternal arches ring  
with thy beloved name.

*P. Doddridge (1702-51)*

*Music: Bristol*

## Final Hymn

Hark! a herald voice is calling:  
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;  
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,  
O ye children of the day!'

Startled at the solemn warning,  
let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,  
shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb so long expected,  
comes with pardon down from heaven;  
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
one and all to be forgiven;

So when next he comes in glory,  
and earth's final hour draws near,  
may he then as our defender  
on the clouds of heaven appear.

Honour, glory, virtue, merit,  
to the Father and the Son,  
with the co-eternal Spirit,  
while unending ages run.

*Latin, tr. E. Caswall (1814-78)    Tune: Merton*