WESTMINSTER ABBEY



Commemoration

and

Funeral Service

of

Ralph Vaughan Williams, O.M., M.A., D.Mus.

October 12th, 1872—August 26th, 1958

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH, 1958 AT 11.30 A.M.

The hymn "All people that on earth do dwell" will be sung in the arrangement by Ralph Vaughan Williams made for the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, the additional brass parts being played by Trumpeters of the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall (by permission of the Commandant) under the direction of Lt.-Col. David McBain, O.B.E., A.R.C.M., Director of Music.

THE COMMEMORATION

When the Dean and Chapter and the other Officers of the Collegiate Church of Saint Peter in Westminster have been conducted to their places the following music will be played by the London Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sir Adrian Boult:

FIVE VARIANTS OF "DIVES AND LAZARUS"

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Concerto for two violins in D minor - J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

I. Vivace.

II. Largo ma non tanto.

III. Allegro.

Solo Violins:

FREDERICK GRINKE, DAVID MARTIN

PAVANE, GALLIARD, PAVANE AND EPILOGUE (FROM "JOB")

Ralph Vaughan Williams

The Commemoration being ended, silence shall be kept for a short space.

THE FUNERAL SERVICE

Then, all standing, the Sentences following shall be sung by the Choir to the music of William Croft (1678-1727):

I AM the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

St. John xi, 25, 26

I KNOW that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth. And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another.

Job xix, 25, 26, 27

WE brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the Name of the Lord.

I Timothy vi, 7. Job i, 21

Then shall be sung the Psalm following:

Psalm 104, 1-24

PRAISE the Lord, O my soul: O Lord my God, thou art become exceeding glorious; thou art clothed with majesty and honour.

Thou deckest thyself with light as it were with a garment: and spreadest out the heavens like a curtain.

Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: and maketh the clouds his chariot, and walketh upon the wings of the wind.

He maketh his angels spirits: and his ministers a flaming fire.

He laid the foundations of the earth: that it never should move at any time.

Thou coveredst it with the deep like as with a garment: the waters stand in the hills.

At thy rebuke they flee: at the voice of thy thunder they

are afraid.

They go up as high as the hills, and down to the valleys beneath: even unto the place which thou hast appointed for them.

Thou hast set them their bounds which they shall not pass: neither turn again to cover the earth.

He sendeth the springs into the rivers: which run among

the hills.

All beasts of the field drink thereof: and the wild asses quench their thirst.

Beside them shall the fowls of the air have their habitation:

and sing among the branches.

He watereth the hills from above : the earth is filled with the fruit of thy works.

He bringeth forth grass for the cattle : and green herb for

the service of men;

That he may bring food out of the earth, and wine that maketh glad the heart of man: and oil to make him a cheerful countenance, and bread to strengthen man's heart.

The trees of the Lord also are full of sap: even the cedars

of Libanus which he hath planted;

Wherein the birds make their nests: and the fir-trees are a dwelling for the stork.

The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats: and so are the stony rocks for the conies.

He appointed the moon for certain seasons: and the sun knoweth his going down.

Thou makest darkness that it may be night: wherein all the beasts of the forest do move.

The lions roaring after their prey: do seek their meat from God.

The sun ariseth, and they get them away together: and lay them down in their dens.

Man goeth forth to his work, and to his labour: until the

evening.

O Lord, how manifold are thy works: in wisdom hast thou made them all; the earth is full of thy riches.

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.

Lord Mornington (1735-1781)

Then shall all be seated for the reading of

The Lesson

I CORINTHIANS XV, 20

TOW is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come? Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die. And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: but God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body. All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: it is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: it is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

CRD, let me know mine end, and the number of my days: that I may be certified how long I have to live.

Behold, thou hast made my days as it were a span long: and mine age is even as nothing in respect of thee; and verily

every man living is altogether vanity.

For man walketh in a vain shadow, and disquieteth himself in vain: he heapeth up riches, and cannot tell who shall gather them.

And now, Lord, what is my hope: truly my hope is even in thee.

Hear my prayer, O Lord, and with thine ears consider my

calling: hold not thy peace at my tears.

O spare me a little, that I may recover my strength: before I go hence, and be no more seen.

Maurice Greene (1695-1755)

Psalm xxxix, 5-8, 13, 15

Then, all kneeling, the Precentor shall say:

Let us pray
Lord, have mercy upon us.

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

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in 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. Amen.

- V. Enter not into judgement with thy servant, O Lord.
- R. For in thy sight shall no man living be justified.
- V. Grant unto him eternal rest.
- R. And let perpetual light shine upon him.
- V. We believe verily to see the goodness of the Lord.
- R. In the land of the living.
- V. O Lord, hear our prayer.
- R. And let our cry come unto thee.

ALMIGHTY God, with whom do live the spirits of them that depart hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful, after they are delivered from the burden of the flesh, are in joy and felicity: We give thee hearty thanks, for that it hath pleased thee to deliver this our brother out of the miseries of this sinful world; beseeching thee, that it may please thee, of thy gracious goodness, shortly to accomplish the number of thine elect, and to hasten thy kingdom; that we, with all those that are departed in the true faith of thy holy Name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O FATHER of all, we pray to thee for those whom we love, but see no longer. Grant them thy peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and in thy loving wisdom and almighty power work in them the good purpose of thy perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies and giver of all comfort: Deal graciously, we pray thee, with those who mourn, that casting every care on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O HEAVENLY Father, who in thy Son Jesus Christ hast given us a true faith, and a sure hope: Help us, we pray thee, to live as those who believe and trust in the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting, and strengthen this faith and hope in us all the days of our life; through the love of thy Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

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

The Congregation shall rise and remain in their places while the Procession of Clergy and Mourners moves to the Grave-side.

During the Procession to the Grave-side there shall be sung the Hymn following:

DOWN AMPNEY



Hymn 152 E.H.

COME down, O Love divine,
Seek thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let thy glorious light
Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
Mine outward vesture be,
And lowliness become mine inner clothing;
True lowliness of heart,
Which takes the humbler part,
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
With which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;
For none can guess its grace,
Till he become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Bianco da Siena (d. 1434)

When they come to the Grave the Dean shall say:

MAN that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery. He cometh up, and is cut down, like a flower; he fleeth as it were a shadow, and never continueth in one stay.

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may we seek for succour, but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears to our prayer; but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Saviour, thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not, at our last hour, for any pains of death, to fall from thee.

PORASMUCH as it hath pleased Almighty God of his great mercy to take unto himself the soul of our dear brother here departed, we therefore commit his ashes to their resting-place; in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ; who shall change the body of our low estate that it may be like unto his glorious body, according to the mighty working, whereby he is able to subdue all things to himself.

I HEARD a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, From henceforth blessed are the dead which die in the Lord: even so saith the Spirit; for they rest from their labours.

Then shall be sung the Anthem following, the Congregation standing:

O TASTE and see how gracious the Lord is: blest is the man that trusteth in him.

After the Procession has returned from the Grave-side there shall be sung the Hymn following:

Hymn 166 A. & M.R.

People and Choir in Unison

A LL 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.

People and Choir

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.

Choir

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

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.

People and Choir in Unison

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.

Louis Bourgeois (c. 1500-1561) arr. R.V.W.

William Kethe (d. c. 1599)

Then shall the Dean say:

Let us pray

BRING us, O Lord God, at our last awakening into the house and gate of heaven, to enter into that gate and dwell in that house, where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light; no noise nor silence, but one equal music; no fears nor hopes, but one equal possession; no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity; in the habitations of thy glory and dominion world without end. *Amen*.

NOW unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Blessing

After the Blessing there shall be played:

Fugue in E flat - - - J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

A Peal shall then be rung upon the Bells of the Abbey Church, half-muffled.

The Congregation are requested to remain in their seats until directed by the Stewards to move.