



For The Nursing Profession - Past, Present & Future

## *Annual Service*

**Wednesday October 14, 2020, 6pm  
at St Laurence Church Catford**



**Master: Frances Davies**

Upper Warden: Julia Mingay

Middle Warden: Janet Oxlade

Honorary Clerk: John Allen

Hon. Chaplain: The Rev'd Canon Charles Pickstone

# The Company of Nurses Annual Service, October 14th 2020

## **Organ prelude**

*Voluntary* – Andrew Campling, played by Alderman Dr Sir Andrew Parmley

## **Welcome**

The Hon Chaplain, the Rev'd Canon Charles Pickstone

## **The bidding prayer**

The Hon. Chaplain

*The chaplain invites the congregation to call to mind their sins*

**Lord, have mercy**

**Christ, have mercy**

**Lord, have mercy**

May almighty God have mercy upon you,  
forgive you your sins,  
and bring you to everlasting life. **Amen**

**First reading:** *Jeremiah 1:4–10, in honour of Florence Nightingale's birthday,  
read by Anne Milton (Founder Warden)*

Now the word of the Lord came to me, saying,  
"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
and before you were born I consecrated you;  
I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth." But the Lord said to me,

"Do not say, 'I am only a youth';  
for to all to whom I send you, you shall go,  
and whatever I command you, you shall speak.  
Do not be afraid of them,  
for I am with you to deliver you,  
declares the Lord."

Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth.  
And the Lord said to me,

“Behold, I have put my words in your mouth.  
See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms,  
to pluck up and to break down,  
to destroy and to overthrow,  
to build and to plant.”

This is the word of the Lord.

**Second reading:** *Romans 8: 18–27, read by The Rt Hon the Lord Mayor  
Alderman William Russell*

A reading from the Letter to the Romans

In my estimation, all that we suffer in the present time is nothing in comparison with the glory which is destined to be disclosed for us, for the whole creation is waiting with eagerness for the children of God to be revealed. It was not for its own purposes that creation had frustration imposed on it, but for the purposes of him who imposed it – with the intention that the whole creation itself might be freed from its slavery to corruption and brought into the same glorious freedom as the children of God.

We are well aware that the whole creation, until this time, has been groaning in labour pains. And not only that: we too, who have the first-fruits of the Spirit, even we are groaning inside ourselves, waiting with eagerness for our bodies to be set free.

In hope, we already have salvation; in hope, not visibly present, or we should not be hoping – nobody goes on hoping for something which is already visible – but having this hope for what we cannot yet see, we are able to wait for it with persevering confidence.

And as well as this, the Spirit too comes to help us in our weakness, for, when we do not know how to pray properly, then the Spirit personally makes our petitions for us in groans that cannot be put into words; and he who can see into all hearts knows what the Spirit means, because the prayers that the Spirit makes for God’s holy people are always in accordance with the mind of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Sermon** The Rt Rev’d & Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally DBE, Bishop of London

## **The prayers** The Hon Chaplain

During the prayers, we remember benefactors of the Company, among them Ann Campbell RBNA Memorial Fund, Chantry Robinson Fund, Nightingale Fellowship, Royal British Nurses' Association, Princess Helena and Ethel Mary Fletcher Fund for Nurses and many anonymous benefactors and those who make regular contributions to our Charitable Funds; also members of the Company who have died recently, including Mrs June Allen and Miss Gwladys Law

*The Prayers conclude with an extract from 'Santiago' for electric guitar and organ by Andrew Campling, played by Sarah Freestone and Alderman Dr Sir Andrew Parmley, accompanying a montage of Freemen of the Company*

## **The act of rededication** led by the Master, Frances Davies

**Master:** I invite all members of the nursing profession present to renew our commitment to nursing

Do you rededicate yourself to the health and well being of those in your care?

**Response:** I do, God being my helper

Will you commit yourself to care for those troubled in mind, body, or spirit, and to comfort the sick and the dying, their families and loved ones?

**Response:** I do, God being my helper

Do you, by God's grace, dedicate yourself anew to our nursing profession, and to our contribution to the healing, comfort and welfare of those in need of our care?

**Response:** I do, God being my helper

**Chaplain:** May God, who has called you to follow this your vocation, grant you the grace faithfully to fulfil it. **Amen**

*A poem by Michael Rosen is read by Helen Pickstone, Past Master*

## **The Blessing** The Hon Chaplain

**Recessional:** *'Celebration'* for trumpet and organ, played by Tony Rickard and Alderman Dr Sir Andrew Parmley

In lieu of a Collection, you are invited to make a donation to St Laurence Church, Catford

c/o The Company of Nurses, Account No. 32947968 Sort Code 30-90-92