

Bishop Wordsworth's School



“Courage”

13 March 2025

“Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage”

Psalms 27:14

This service has been designed by and is led by the Cathedral Prefects Baaba Forson and Luke Herbert for their final Cathedral service.

Thank you to Baaba and Luke

I do not know of any other State School in Britain which has a role the equivalent of the ones Baaba and Luke have carried during this last year.

You have to be pro-active: it is up to the Cathedral Prefects to recruit those who take part in services and to ensure that they all know what they are doing. You have to be patient and have nerves of steel: with 1200 students and staff there are always unexpected hitches which it is their job to identify and solve. You have to be creative and organised; be an ambassador; have a sense of humour and deep integrity. It is a tough gig.

This academic year, it was Baaba and Luke who joined me 'under the radar' in what we had thought was going to be Dr. Smallwood's final service. If you remember lining the diagonal path back to school; or ensuring former students distracted Dr Smallwood, that was Baaba and Luke. An exquisite Carol Service was enabled by their hard work, as was the Eucharist. They represented us at conferences and in Darkness to Light. They have, quite simply been incredible and on behalf of all of us, thank you and good luck with all that is to come. We have been lucky to have you and wherever you go onto next year will be blessed to have you.

Stella Wood,
Chaplain.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Dr Smallwood

We stand to sing

HYMN

Great is thy faithfulness, O God, my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Chorus:

*Great is thy faithfulness,
Great is thy faithfulness,
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hast provided;
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord unto me.*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Chorus

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine and ten thousand beside.

Chorus

We sit for the

OPENING PRAYERS

Led by the Chaplain

Lord, because you have promised to hear us
and are willing to make our hearts your home;
Because you give us courage to face life's troubles,
and to know we are not alone;
Because we do not always get it right,
and confusion can reign within us,
let us cherish in our hearts that which we say with our voices:

Goodness is stronger than evil.

Love is stronger than hate.

Light is stronger than darkness.

Truth is stronger than lies.

Lord, hear our prayer,
strengthen our determination,
and change our lives
Until we illustrate the grace
of the God who makes all things new.

Amen.

READING

A reading from the Bible, from Deuteronomy.
Moses, who brought his people from slavery, dies.

Read by Brendan Hau
Year 13

ANTHEM

Nunc Dimittis
Geoffrey Burgon

Used in the BBC adaptation of Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy

The Nunc Dimittis opens with the words “Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace”. It comes from Luke’s Gospel when the infant Jesus was presented in the Temple.

READING

I have been to the mountaintop.

A passage from the final speech delivered by Martin Luther King

Read by Mr Holzer

ADDRESS

Luke Herbert and Baaba Forson,
Cathedral prefects 2024-5.

We sit for our prayers.

PRAYERS

Led by members of the Christian Union.

*The response to the words, ‘Lord in your mercy’ is ‘**hear our prayer**’.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN

A song of freedom and courage from South Africa. We sing the final verse in its original Swahili.

We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, marching, marching,
O, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, marching, marching,
O, we are marching in the light of God.

We are searching for the truth of God
We are searching for the truth of God
We are searching for the truth of God
We are searching for the truth of God
We are searching, searching, searching,
O, we are searching for the truth of God.
We are searching, searching, searching,
O, we are searching for the truth of God.

We are living in the love of God,
We are living in the love of God,
We are living in the love of God,
We are living, living, living,
O, we are living in the love of God.
We are living, living, living,
O, we are living in the love of God.

We are moving in the power of God,
We are moving in the power of God,
We are moving in the power of God,
We are moving, moving, moving,
O, we are moving in the power of God.
We are moving, moving, moving,
O, we are moving in the power of God.

And in the original Swahili

Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos
Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos
Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos
Siyahamba, hamba, Siyahamba, O
Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos
Siyahamba, hamba, Siyahamba, O
Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkos

BLESSING

Canon Probert

Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage.
Hold fast that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil.
Strengthen the fainthearted. Support the weak.
Help the afflicted. Show love to everyone.
Love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*Please take your service sheets back to school and recycle them
wherever possible. Thank you!*