



Girton College

Opening Choral Evensong of the Academic Year

with

The Inauguration of Revd Dr Tim Boniface as the new Chaplain

Sunday 11 October 2020

The Mistress welcomes the congregation, and asks Revd Dr Boniface the following inaugural questions.

Mistress: Will you care pastorally for this College community and all its members, of any faith or none?

Chaplain: With the help of God, I will.

Mistress: Will you uphold the tradition of inclusion, and foster the values of equality and diversity that are foundational to this College?

Chaplain: With the help of God, I will.

Mistress: Will you pray daily for God's blessing on this place and its people?

Chaplain: With the help of God, I will.

Inaugural prayers, led by The Vice-Mistress.

Prayer for the new chaplain and his family:

Loving God, hear us as we pray for Tim at the beginning of his ministry among us.

Enfold him in your love, that he may serve among us with compassion, faithfulness, humility and a zeal for justice.

Guide him as he opens the scriptures;

inspire him as he leads worship;

and grant him wisdom as he leads the life of this chapel community.

We pray also for your blessing upon his wife Beth and daughters Anastasia and Eloise, that with Tim they may know the welcome and richness of the community here at Girton, and flourish in their life together in Cambridge.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

All: Amen

A prayer for all of us at the beginning of this new stage of chapel life:

Eternal God,

The light of the minds that know you,

The joy of the hearts that love you,

And the strength of the wills that serve you:

Grant us so to know you that we may truly love you,

So to love you that we may truly serve you,

Whose service is perfect freedom;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

All: Amen.

After Augustine of Hippo (430)

The Mistress invites the Chaplain to take his place; he then welcomes students and commences Evensong.

Music and readings for Evensong:

Service Theme: Jesus said 'I Am the Bread of Life'

Music: O Lord Hear My Prayer (Moses Hogan); Responses – Trevor Weston, Evening Service in B minor (Thomes Tertius Noble); Let All The World (Greta Tomlins)

Psalm: 127

Nisi Dominus

EXCEPT the Lord build the house : their labour is but lost that build it.
2 Except the Lord keep the city : the watchman waketh but in vain.
3 It is but lost labour that ye haste to rise up early, and so late take rest,
and eat the bread of carefulness : for so he giveth his beloved sleep.
4 Lo, children and the fruit of the womb : are an heritage and gift that cometh of the Lord.
5 Like as the arrows in the hand of the giant : even so are the young children.
6 Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them : they shall not be ashamed when they speak with their enemies in the gate.

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 18:1-8

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground.

He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

New Testament Reading: John 6:25-40

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which^a comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.”

Please see the [term card](#) on the College Website for details of other Chapel services this term.

