

NOTTINGHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL

THANKSGIVING SERVICE



TUESDAY 24th SEPTEMBER 1991

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, NOTTINGHAM

The Thanksgiving Service today marks the closing era of a much-loved hospital which has been significant in the lives of Nottingham people since 1782. The progress of medical science and technology is visibly reflected in the development of the buildings at the General Hospital site on Standard Hill. The original hospital was a charitable institution 'open to the sick and lame poor of any county', and was a first indication of welfare reforms. The next century saw many extensions to the buildings including a surgical wing, and in 1900 the Jubilee Wing consisting of circular wards was opened to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.

The importance of the General Hospital to Nottingham was again demonstrated as it was chosen to form the Memorial for those who lost their lives in the First World War. Memorial House was opened by HRH the Prince of Wales in 1923 as a nurses home. The General Hospital has featured in the development of cancer treatment, establishing a Radium Centre in 1930. Like other voluntary hospitals Nottingham General was incorporated into the NHS in 1948. The most recent building is the Trent Wing tower block built in 1972 to meet the needs of the new University Medical School. Since that time many acute services have moved from the General to more modern facilities at the two large district hospitals. The last wards on the original Park Row site will transfer early next year to Lings Bar House at Gamston, and the transfer of the Radiotherapy Unit to the City Hospital early in 1993 will be the final move of in-patient services. Some out-patient services will remain on what will then be the vastly reduced city centre site.

ORDER OF SERVICE

INTROIT

Gloria in Excelsis Deo – Martin Shaw
(Nottingham Hospitals Choir)

BIDDING

The congregation standing, the Vicar of St. Mary's, Canon J.E.M. Neale, shall say:

We meet together to lift our hearts in thanksgiving to God for the Nottingham General Hospital and its work of care and healing. We will join our voices to sing His praise, be attentive in mind to hear His word, and offer our spirit in prayer for His ministry and work of love, care and healing. Let us join in the prayer taught us by our Lord and Saviour.

Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us:
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory for ever and ever.
Amen.

HYMN

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
bow down before him, his glory proclaim,
with gold of obedience and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name.

Low at his feet lay the burden of carefulness:
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness
he will accept for the name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Led by:

The Reverend E. Pilling, General Superintendent of
the East Midland Area of the Baptist Union.

For those whose foresight and generosity gave to this City the
General Hospital.

R. We thank Thee, O God.

For the wisdom and skill of the members of the medical profession
who throughout the last 209 years have made the General Hospital a
place of medical excellence.

R. We thank Thee, O God.

For the devotion, skill and loving care of the nursing staff who have
brought relief of suffering to so many, and made the Nottingham
General Hospital a place of hope.

R. We thank Thee, O God.

For the dedication of all paramedical, administrative, clerical,
maintenance and domestic staff.

R. We thank Thee, O God.

For the work of the Linen Guild, the League of Friends and all
voluntary staff.

R. We thank Thee, O God.

For the pastoral care of Chaplains and of local churches in meeting
the spiritual needs of patients, relatives and staff.

R. We thank Thee, O God.

Let us join together in the words of the General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we shew forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, world without end.
Amen.

ANTHEM

God's Goodness hath been great to thee
– *Sir Frederick Bridge*

READING

Ecclesiastes – Chapter 3

Read by:
The Reverend Stephen Williams,
Free Church Chaplain

HYMN

Spirit of God, as strong as the wind
Gentle as is the dove,
Give us your joy, and give us your peace,
Show to us Jesus' love.

You inspired men, long, long, ago,
They then proclaimed your word;
We see their lives, serving mankind:
Through them your voice is heard.

Spirit of God ...

Without your help, we fail our Lord,
We cannot live his way,
We need your power, we need your strength,
Following Christ each day.

Spirit of God ...

READING

St. Matthew Chapter 9 v 35 – Chapter 10 verse 10

Read by:

Canon Brian Dazeley, Roman Catholic Chaplain
(representing the Bishop of Nottingham)

HYMN

Fill thou my life, O Lord my God,
in ev'ry part with praise
that my whole being may proclaim
thy being and thy ways.

Not for the lip of praise alone,
nor e'en the praising heart,
I ask, but for a life made up
of praise in every part:

Praise in the common things of life,
its goings out and in;
praise in each duty and each deed,
however small and mean.

Fill every part of me with praise:
let all my being speak
of thee and of thy love, O Lord,
poor though I be and weak.

So shalt thou, Lord, receive from me
the praise and glory due;
and so shall I begin on earth
the song for ever new.

So shall each fear, each fret, each care,
be turned into song;
and every winding of the way
the echo shall prolong.

So shall no part of day or night
unblest or common be;
but all my life, in every step,
be fellowship with thee.

ADDRESS

The Right Reverend Patrick Harris, Bishop of Southwell

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Led by:

The Reverend David Stoter,
Co-ordinator of Chaplains

Heavenly Father, we bring our petitions before Thy throne

For her Majesty the Queen and all the Royal Family.

O Lord hear our prayer

R. And let our cry come unto Thee

For all who bear authority in Government and as members of
Parliament.

O Lord hear our prayer

R. And let our cry come unto Thee

For our Civic leaders that they may exercise their authority for
the good of all people.

O Lord hear our prayer

R. And let our cry come unto Thee

For all members of staff as they go from the General Hospital
to other hospitals, that they may be strengthened and sustained
in their task of alleviating suffering.

O Lord hear our prayer

R. And let our cry come unto Thee

For the patients that they may know your presence and strength and for the relatives that they may be comforted.

O Lord hear our prayer

R. And let our cry come unto Thee

May the rich legacy of love, care and healing fostered by and incorporated in the General Hospital, be blessed and dedicated anew as the staff disperse to other hospitals and continue their work.

O Lord hear our prayer

R. And let our cry come unto Thee

Let us offer ourselves afresh to our part in the work of healing and in the service of Almighty God.

**R. O God, our Father, wherewith is our peace, strengthen and sustain us in our common task of relieving suffering and caring for the sick and dying. Forgive our sins and negligencies, exalt our purposes; purify our aims; free us from selfish desires; may we be of one mind and heart in thy service; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

HYMN

During which a collection will be taken.

Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,
my daily labour to pursue;
thee, only thee, resolved to know,
in all I think or speak or do.

The task thy wisdom hath assigned
O let me cheerfully fulfil;
in all my works thy presence find,
and prove thy good and perfect will.

Thee may I set at my right hand,
whose eyes my inmost substance see,
and labour on at thy command,
and offer all my works to thee.

Give me to bear thy easy yoke,
and every moment watch and pray,
and still to things eternal look,
and hasten to thy glorious day.

For thee delightfully employ
whate'er thy bounteous grace hath given,
and run my course with even joy,
and closely walk with thee to heaven.

BLESSING

The Right Reverend Patrick Harris,
Bishop of Southwell