

EMPIRE YOUTH SUNDAY



A DEDICATION SERVICE

And an act of preparation for the people's part in the
Coronation of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II.

Empire Youth Sunday is a Family Sunday.

On this day the youth of the Empire unite in seeking the Divine
blessing upon the British Family of Nations.

We pray for the members of the Royal Family, for the Empire and
her youth and for God's blessing upon every home.

3rd MAY, 1953

AT 3 P.M.



An Order of Service for Empire Youth Sunday

3rd MAY, 1953 at 3 p.m.

ENTRY OF YOUTH ORGANISATIONS and RECEPTION OF COLOURS, FLAGS AND BANNERS



HYMN

Praise my soul, the King of Heaven,
To His feet thy tribute bring,
Ransom'd, heal'd, restored, forgiven,
Evermore His praises sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.

Father-like He tends and spares us,
Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely yet His mercy flows.

Praise Him for His grace and favour
To our fathers in distress:
Praise Him still the same as ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious in His faithfulness.

Angels in the height, adore Him;
Ye behold Him face to face;
Saints triumphant, bow before Him,
Gather'd in from every race;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.

PROLOGUE

Leader: We come to-day to join with young people all around the world in a service of worship to Almighty God, and in an act of loyalty to our Queen and Empire family. This is Coronation year, and as we look forward to the day when our beloved Queen will be crowned, our service here is a preparation for the great service that will take place in Westminster Abbey. Our part in the Coronation begins to-day, as we bring to God our gifts of prayer and praise, and to our Queen our gifts of honour and loyalty. Let us, then, begin our service as it will begin on Coronation Day, with an act of prayer, saying together:

CONGREGATION: Hear our cry O God; attend unto our prayer. For thou hast been a shelter for us, and a strong tower from the enemy. We will abide in thy tabernacle for ever: We will trust in the covering of thy wings.
Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE LESSON

St. Matthew 22: 15-22

Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk. And they sent out unto him their disciples, with the Herodians, saying Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not? But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites?



Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription? They say unto him, Cæsar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's: and unto God the things that are God's. When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way.



THE MEANING OF THE CORONATION SYMBOLS

Introductory Hymn

As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold,
As with joy they hail'd its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led to Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped,
Saviour, to Thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before
Thee Whom Heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek Thy mercy-seat.

As they offer'd gifts most rare
At Thy cradle rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,
Ail our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee our heavenly King.

Holy Jesus, every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past
Bring our ransom'd souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

In the Heavenly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its Joy, its Crown,
Thou its Sun, which goes not down;
There for ever may we sing
Alleluia to our King.

(The Congregation should be ready to respond clearly and loudly)

Leader: Before the crown is placed on the head of the Queen in the Abbey Service, she will receive the Coronation symbols. Let us review these gifts and recite their meaning and purpose.

1st Voice: I bring Holy oil,

2nd Voice: What is the meaning of the Holy Oil?



CONGREGATION: By Holy Oil prophets, priests and kings of old were made and consecrated. By this oil may the Queen be blessed with the spirit of wisdom and government, of knowledge and true godliness.

1st Voice: I bring a sword,

2nd Voice: What is the meaning of the sword?



CONGREGATION: With this sword shall the Queen do justice, stop the growth of evil, protect the Church of God, reform what is amiss, and confirm what is good.

1st Voice: I bring the Royal Robe and Stole,



2nd Voice: What do the Robe and Stole signify?



CONGREGATION: This is the robe of righteousness and the garment of salvation. May the Lord endue the Queen with knowledge and wisdom, and embrace her with mercy on every side.

1st Voice: I bring the Orb with the Cross,

2nd Voice: What is the meaning of the Orb?



CONGREGATION: The Orb denotes the circle of the earth, and the cross is set above it to remind us that the whole world is subject to the Power and Empire of Christ our Redeemer.

1st Voice: I bring the Ring and Sceptres,

2nd Voice: What do the Ring and Sceptres signify?



CONGREGATION: This is the ring of royal dignity and the defence of the Christian faith. The sceptres stand for power and justice, equity and mercy.

1st Voice: I bring the Holy Bible,

2nd Voice: What is said when the Bible is presented?



CONGREGATION: This book is the most valuable thing that the world affords. Here is wisdom. This is the royal law, the living word of God.

Leader: Then comes the climax of the Coronation, when St. Edward's crown is brought from the altar to be placed on the Queen's head. This solemn act is the signal for all the peers of the realm assembled in the Abbey to put on their own coronets, and for the people to acclaim their Queen.

1st Voice: I bring the Crown,

2nd Voice: What is the meaning of the Crown?



CONGREGATION: As the crown of pure gold is set upon the head of the Queen, so may God enrich her with His grace and crown her with royal virtues.

Leader: Let us now join with the princes, peers and people at the Abbey as they will unite on Coronation Day in offering recognition and homage to our Queen. For the Archbishop of Canterbury will say: "I here present unto you Queen Elizabeth, your undoubted Queen. Wherefore all you who are come this day to do your homage and service, are you willing to do the same?" And the people will signify their willingness and joy by loud acclamation all with one voice crying out:

CONGREGATION: God save Queen Elizabeth. Long live Queen Elizabeth. May the Queen live for ever.

THE TRUMPETS SHALL SOUND

ROLL OF DRUMS

NATIONAL ANTHEM



Leader: The Queen is crowned and enthroned, but a yet more solemn moment approaches in the Abbey service. For the Queen will set aside the Crown, and humbly kneel before the throne of the King of Kings. She will put off the symbol of her royal power and dignity, in token that she in turn has come to offer her homage and worship to Almighty God. Let us follow her example and join in prayer.

(LET US PRAY FOR THE QUEEN AND THOSE SET IN AUTHORITY OVER US.)

O God, who providest for thy people by thy power, and rulest over them in love, grant unto thy servant Elizabeth our Queen, the spirit of wisdom and government, that being devoted to thee with all her heart, she may so wisely govern, that in her time thy Church and people may continue in safety and prosperity, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, from whom cometh all rule and authority, give we beseech thee of thine abundant grace to Elizabeth the Queen Mother, Queen Mary, Philip Duke of Edinburgh, Charles Duke of Cornwall, and all the members of the royal family. Bless all who bear office throughout the realm, the Governor-General of this Commonwealth and the Governor of this State, that in all things we may be governed righteously, and thy Holy Name may be ever glorified in our midst, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(LET US PRAY FOR THIS OUR EMPIRE YOUTH SUNDAY.)

Almighty God, Father of all men, under whose providence we are become members of a great Commonwealth of Nations, give us, we pray thee, such a spirit of wisdom and understanding, of justice and truth, of knowledge and of fear of the Lord, that we may worthily play our part with the young people of this Empire in strengthening our bonds of fellowship and service, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(LET US PRAY FOR A NEW WORLD.)

O God, the Lord of kings and kingdoms; let thy strong hand control the nations, and cause them to long for Thy love to rule the earth. Strengthen we pray Thee, all who are striving after true brotherhood, and all who are working for righteousness and peace. Guide the hearts and minds of rulers and statesmen, and guard us from all selfishness and pride, that we may seek first Thy kingdom, and so establish justice and freedom for all people. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ Thy Son our Lord, who taught us, when we pray, to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER



HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
The King of creation;
O my soul, praise Him, for He is
thy health and salvation;
All ye who hear,
Now to His temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, Who o'er all
things so wondrously reigneth,
Shieldeth thee gently from harm,
or when fainting sustaineth:
Hast thou not seen
How thy heart's wishes have been
Granted in what He ordaineth.

Praise to the Lord, Who doth prosper
thy work and defend thee,
Surely His goodness and mercy
shall daily attend thee;
Ponder anew
What the Almighty can do,
If to the end He befriend thee.



THE ADDRESS



HYMN

Land of our Birth, we pledge to thee
Our love and toil in the years to be;
When we are grown and take our place,
As men and women with our race.

Father in heaven, who lovest all,
O help Thy children when they call;
That they may build from age to age,
An undefiled heritage.

Teach us to bear the yoke in youth,
With steadfastness and careful truth;
That, in our time, Thy grace may give
The truth whereby the nations live.

Teach us the strength that cannot seek
By deed or thought, to hurt the weak;
That, under Thee, we may possess
Man's strength to succour man's distress.

Teach us delight in simple things,
And mirth that has no bitter springs;
Forgiveness free of evil done,
And love to all men 'neath the sun!

Land of our Birth, our faith, our pride,
For whose dear sake our fathers died;
O Motherland, we pledge to thee,
Head, heart, and hand through the years to be!



A PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Accept, O God, we pray Thee, the lives which we now dedicate, and bestow upon us Thy gifts for service. Guide and sustain us with vision and courage, endurance and faith, so that trusting in Thee, we may keep true to our vows; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour the Queen and all men; love and serve the Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

RETURN OF COLOURS, FLAGS AND BANNERS



SUPPLEMENTARY HYMN

Youth of the world, arise,
Courage and service bring,
Life full and free, before you lies,
Make Christ your Saviour-King.

Youth of the world, arise,
High hope is yours to-day
Life offers many an easy prize,
Christ points the harder way.

Youth of the world, arise,
Adventure is your cry,
Then see before your very eyes
The King who dared to die.

Youth of the world, arise,
To sacrificial deeds,
'Come follow me' the Saviour cries,
Young lives like yours He needs.