

Southwell
Minster
THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



Nottingham Trent
University



ROGATION SERVICE
and
PROCESSION TO
NTU BRACKENHURST

Sunday 10 May 2026
3.00pm

Welcome to Southwell Minster

Southwell Minster values enormously its relationship with Nottingham Trent University and is grateful for its generous hospitality as we join together in celebrating the glories of creation and the work of human hands. You are encouraged to join the procession to Brackenhurst if the weather permits.



As you prepare for worship, please be sensitive to the needs of those around you who may wish to pray in silence. Please switch off mobile telephones and do not use photographic, video or recording equipment at any time.



A loop system is in operation throughout the Minster. Hearing aids that are equipped to do so should be switched to the 'T' position or the loop setting appropriate to your equipment.



Large print orders of service are available. Please ask a Churchwarden, Sidesperson or Verger for a copy.



Toilet facilities (including disabled access) are situated in the Archbishop's Palace, opposite the South Door of the Minster.



We are a Fairtrade cathedral, committed to continuing and increasing our use of fairly traded goods wherever possible.



This Order of Service is printed on sustainably produced paper.

The congregation is asked to join in all texts printed in **bold**.

Support the Mission and Ministry of the Cathedral. A collection for the Cathedral's mission and ministry will be taken during the Offertory Hymn. If you are a UK



taxpayer, please use one of the Gift Aid envelopes provided – this allows us to increase your donation by 25p for every £1 you give at no extra cost to you. Card donations can be made at the contactless stations located near the main exits. You can also donate online by scanning the QR code or visiting www.southwellminster.org/donate. Thank you for your generous support of the Cathedral and its ongoing work.

Clergy at this Service

This service is led by the Very Revd Dr Stephen Evans, *Dean of Southwell*.
The preacher is the Revd Dr Richard Frith, *Canon Precentor*.

The part of the service that takes place inside the Minster will be live-streamed to the internet, and will be available at www.southwellminster.org/worship-online and on the Minster's YouTube channel, for one day. Live-streaming allows those joining from home to participate in the same act of worship as those in the Cathedral.

Music at this Service

The Cathedral Choir is directed by Paul Provost, *Rector Chori*.
The organ is played by Jonathan Allsopp, *Assistant Director of Music*.

Organ Music before the Service

Schmücke dich, O liebe Seele, BWV 654

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Acknowledgements

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ORDER OF SERVICE

THE PREPARATION

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *Please stand as the organ starts the play the hymn*



All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluya, Alleluya!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam:
*O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya!*

Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise him, Alleluya!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them his glory also show:
O praise him...

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, Alleluya!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in One:
*O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya!*

Words: *St Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)*
trans. *William Draper (1855-1933)*

Tune: *LASST UNS ERFREUEN NEH 263*
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

GREETING

The Very Revd Dr Stephen Evans, Dean of Southwell, welcomes the congregation and says:

We come together in this Cathedral Church
to give thanks to Almighty God for the fruits of the earth
which delight the eye and give sustenance to our lives;
to give him thanks and praise
for the wonder and beauty of his creation;
to acknowledge his care and love for us
in providing food out of the earth;
to confess our misuse of his creation
and to pray for a just and equal sharing of the world's resources;
to ask his blessing on our farms
and on all who work on the land.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Let us ask God to have mercy on our tired land,
and to prosper the work of our soiled hands.
Let us ask God to forgive our delusion of self-sufficiency
so that we may praise him for his provision and goodness.

Please sit or kneel

CONFESSION

Lord, you give us this good earth,
yet we take your generous gifts for granted.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, you give us this good earth,
but we squander its rich resources.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord, you give us this good earth,
but we fail to share your bounty with all of your children.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

May God, who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour,
forgive you your sins
and make you holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COLLECT

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
whose will it is that the earth and the sea
should bear fruit in due season:
bless the labours of those who work on land and sea,
grant us a good harvest
and the grace always to rejoice in your fatherly care;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PSALMODY *sung by the choir*

Psalm 107: 1–9

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious:
and his mercy endureth for ever.
Let them give thanks whom the Lord hath redeemed:
and delivered from the hand of the enemy;
And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the west:
from the north, and from the south.
They went astray in the wilderness out of the way:
and found no city to dwell in;
Hungry and thirsty:
their soul fainted in them.
So they cried unto the Lord in their trouble:
and he delivered them from their distress.
He led them forth by the right way:
that they might go to the city where they dwelt.
O that men would therefore praise the Lord for his goodness:
and declare the wonders that he doeth for the children of men!
For he satisfieth the empty soul:
and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

Chants: Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)

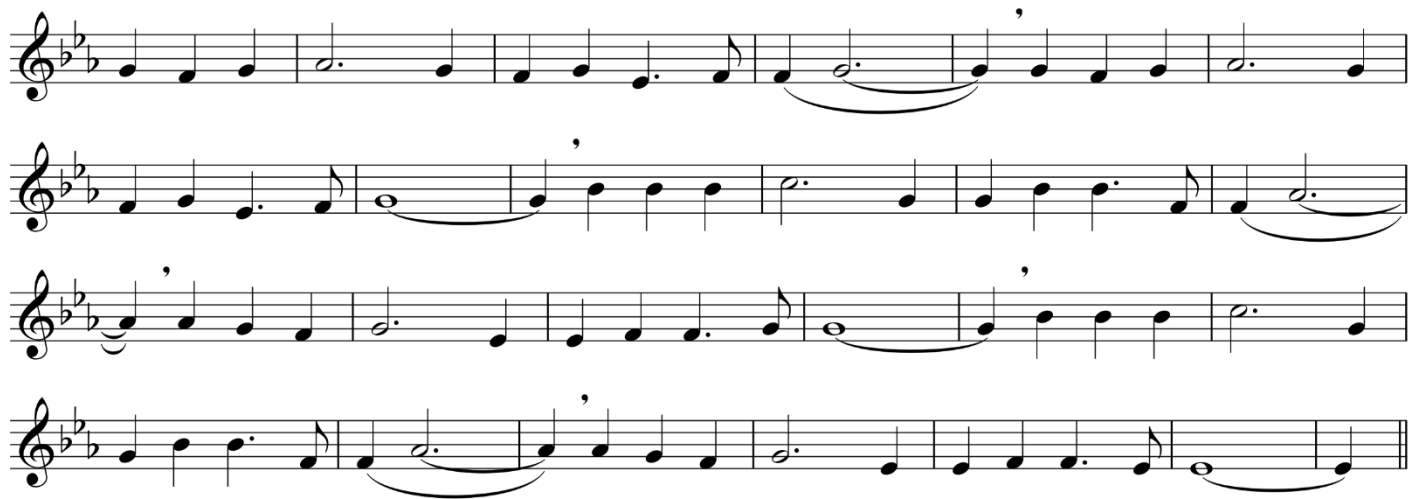
READING *read by Dr Angelo Pernetta, Deputy Dean,
School of Animal Rural and Environmental Sciences, NTU*

Luke 13: 6–9

Jesus told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Please stand

HYMN



**You made a universe so full of wonder,
gave us a world to cherish and to hold.
But we have treated it as ours to plunder:
what you gave freely, we have bought and sold.
What you made perfect, we have torn asunder:
do not, O Lord, your healing power withhold.**

**In generous love, the pattern of your caring,
we have been blessed with more than we could need.
But we have hoarded what was meant for sharing,
corrupting what you gave as fruitful seed;
and still it is your poorest children bearing
the cost of all our selfishness and greed.**

**We hear the voice that calls our generation,
the urgent cry of beauty scarred by pain.
Our lives must change in this and every nation
so prayer and action shall not be in vain;
we pledge to live in ways of restoration
until your earth is whole and good again.**

*Words: Ally Barrett (b. 1975)
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*Tune: FINLANDIA CP 384
Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)*

Please sit

HOMILY *given by the Canon Precentor*

BENEDICITE, OMNIA OPERA *sung by the choir*

O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord:
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye angels of the Lord, O ye heavens,
O ye waters that be above the firmament,
O all ye powers of the Lord,
O ye stars of heaven, O ye sun and moon, bless ye the Lord:
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye showers and dew, O ye winds of God, bless ye the Lord:
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye fire and heat, bless ye the Lord:
O ye winter and summer, bless ye the Lord:
O ye dews and frosts, bless ye the Lord:
O ye frost and cold, bless ye the Lord:
O ye ice and snow, bless ye the Lord:
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye nights and days, bless ye the Lord:
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye light and darkness, bless ye the Lord:
O ye lightnings and clouds, bless ye the Lord:
O let the earth bless the Lord:
yea, let it praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye mountains and hills,
O all ye green things upon the earth, bless ye the Lord:
O ye wells, bless ye the Lord:
O ye seas and floods, bless ye the Lord:
O ye whales and all that move in the waters, bless ye the Lord:
O all ye fowls of the air, bless ye the Lord:
O all ye beasts and cattle, bless ye the Lord:
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye children of men,
O let Israel bless the Lord:
O ye priests of the Lord,
O ye servants of the Lord, bless ye the Lord:
O ye spirits and souls of the righteous, bless ye the Lord:

O ye holy and humble men of heart,
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O Ananias, Azarias and Mizael, bless ye the Lord:
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

*Words: from Book of Common Prayer
after Daniel 3: 57-88 (Apocrypha)*

*Music: BENEDICITE IN F
George Dyson (1883-1964)*

THE PRAYERS

*PRAYERS led by Hugh Middleton,
of Southwell Minster Environmental Action Group*

The following response may be used:

God of creation,
hear our prayer

and concluding with THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
we pray as Jesus our Saviour taught us:

**Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that 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.**

Please stand

HYMN *during which a collection is taken for the mission and ministry of the Cathedral.*



1. Alleluya! Alleluya!
Hearts to heaven and voices raise;
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,
Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the Cross a victim
For the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of glory,
Now is risen from the dead.

2. Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits
Of the holy harvest field,
Which will all its full abundance
At his second coming yield;
Then the golden ears of harvest
Will their heads before him wave,
Ripened by his glorious sunshine
From the furrows of the grave.

3. Christ is risen, we are risen;
Shed upon us heavenly grace,
Rain, and dew, and gleams of glory
From the brightness of thy face;
That we, Lord, with hearts in heaven
Here on earth may fruitful be,
And by angel-hands be gathered,
And be ever safe with thee.

4. Alleluya! Alleluya!
Glory be to God on high;
To the Father, and the Saviour,
Who has gained the victory;
Glory to the Holy Spirit,
Fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluya! Alleluya!
To the Triune Majesty.

Words: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-85)

*Tune: LUX EOI NEH 103
Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900)*

INVITATION TO PROCESSION

Let us go out and praise God in all his creation.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

(If the weather does not allow the procession to take place, the above invitation is omitted and the service continues in the Cathedral with the hymn overleaf.)

THE PROCESSION TO BRACKENHURST

All are invited to follow the procession to Brackenhurst through the West Door.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *sung by all in canon*



**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Words: Thomas Ken (1637-1711)

*Tune: TALLIS' CANON NEH 244
Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-85)*

THE LITANY *will be sung by the Canon Precentor and choir whilst in procession*

O God the Father of heaven: have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

O God the Father of heaven: have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world:
have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

***O God the Son, Redeemer of the world:
have mercy upon us miserable sinners.***

O God the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son:
have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

***O God the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son:
have mercy upon us miserable sinners.***

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three Persons and one God:
have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

*O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three Persons and one God: have
mercy upon us miserable sinners.*

Remember not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers;
neither take thou vengeance of our sins: spare us, good Lord, spare
thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood,
and be not angry with us for ever.

Spare us, good Lord.

From all evil and mischief; from sin, from the crafts and assaults of the
devil; from thy wrath, and from everlasting damnation,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vain-glory, and hypocrisy; from
envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From fornication, and all other deadly sin; and from all the deceits of the
world, the flesh, and the devil,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From lightning and tempest; from plague, pestilence, and famine; from
battle and murder, and from sudden death,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all sedition, privy conspiracy, and rebellion; from all false doctrine,
heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word
and Commandment,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and
Circumcision; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By thine Agony and bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion;
by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and
Ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Ghost,

Good Lord, deliver us.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our wealth; in the hour of
death, and in the day of judgement,

Good Lord, deliver us.

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God: and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church universal in the right way,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to keep and strengthen in the true worshipping of thee, in righteousness and holiness of life, thy Servant CHARLES, our most gracious King and Governor,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to rule his heart in thy faith, fear, and love, and that he may evermore have affiance in thee, and ever seek thy honour and glory,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to be his defender and keeper, giving him the victory over all his enemies,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and preserve Queen Camilla, William Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to illuminate all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living they may set it forth and shew it accordingly,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to endue the Lords of the Council, and all the Nobility, with grace, wisdom, and understanding,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and keep the Magistrates, giving them grace to execute justice, and to maintain truth,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us an heart to love and dread thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give to all thy people increase of grace, to hear meekly thy Word, and to receive it with pure affection, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; and to comfort and help the weak-hearted; and to raise up them that fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to succour, help, and comfort all that are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve all that travel by land or by water, all women labouring of child, all sick persons, and young children; and to shew thy pity upon all prisoners and captives,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to defend, and provide for, the father-less children, and widows, and all that are desolate and oppressed,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all men,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the kindly fruits of the earth, so as in due time we may enjoy them,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant favourable weather, temperate rain and fruitful seasons, that there may be food and drink for all thy creatures,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless the lands and waters, and all who work upon them, to bring forth food and all things needful for thy people,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to look with favour upon all who care for the earth, the water and the air, that the riches of thy creation may abound from age to age,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Son of God: we beseech thee to hear us.

Son of God: we beseech thee to hear us.

O Lamb of God: that takest away the sins of the world; Grant us thy peace.

O Lamb of God: that takest away the sins of the world; Grant us thy peace, grant us thy peace.

O Lamb of God: that takest away the sins of the world; Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God: that takest away the sins of the world; Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, hear us.

O Christ, hear us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Music: Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-85)

The procession stops opposite the entrance to Flower Pod at Home Farm.

You visit the earth and water it,
you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain,
for so you have prepared it.
You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,
softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.
You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.
The pastures of the wilderness overflow,
the hills gird themselves with joy,
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,
the valleys deck themselves with grain,
they shout and sing together for joy.

BLESSING OF THE CROPS

Let the earth bless the Lord:
praise him and magnify him for ever.

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
whose will it is that the earth should bear its fruits in due season,
bless the labours of those who work in the fields,
bless the increase of the crops and grain,
that bread and wholesome food may be shared
and enjoyed by all your people.
Amen.

HYMN



**We plough the fields and scatter
The good seed on the land,
But it is fed and watered
By God's almighty hand;
He sends the snow in winter,
The warmth to swell the grain,
The breezes and the sunshine,
And soft refreshing rain:
*All good gifts around us
Are sent from heaven above,
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,
For all his love.***

Words: German, Matthias Claudius (1740-1815)
trans. Jane Campbell (1817-78)

Tune: WIR PFLÜGEN NEH 262
Johann Abraham Peter Schulz (1747-1800)
arr. John Bacchus Dykes (1823-76)

The procession continues, stopping again by the livestock.

I will make for you a covenant on that day with the wild animals, the birds of the air, and the creeping things of the ground; and I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land; and I will make you lie down in safety. And I will take you for my wife for ever; I will take you for my wife in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love, and in mercy. I will take you for my wife in faithfulness; and you shall know the Lord.

On that day I will answer, says the Lord,
I will answer the heavens
and they shall answer the earth;
and the earth shall answer the grain, the wine, and the oil.

BLESSING OF THE CATTLE

Bless the Lord you beasts and cattle:
praise him and magnify him for ever.

Let us pray.

O Lord,
who surrounds with your love all things living
and promises to save both man and beast;
we thank you for the companionship of animals and birds,
without which there would be a loneliness of spirit on the earth;
bless all your creatures,
preserve them from disease and danger;
bless the shepherds, herdsmen and women, veterinary surgeons,
and all who work with animals
that they may be in harmony with you and your creation.
Amen.

HYMN

**He only is the Maker
Of all things near and far,
He paints the wayside flower,
He lights the evening star.
The winds and waves obey him,
By him the birds are fed;
Much more to us, his children,
He gives our daily bread:
*All good gifts around us
Are sent from heaven above,
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,
For all his love.***

The procession continues to the Victorian Walled Garden.

READING

Genesis 1: 11–13

God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

BLESSING OF THE HORTICULTURE

Bless the Lord all that grows in the ground:
praise him and magnify him for ever.

Let us pray.

O Lord God,
who causes fruit bearing trees and shrubs,
flowers and vegetables to flourish upon the earth,
to provide beauty to the eye and food for all people,
bless all who work in horticulture
that they may exercise their skills
for the welfare and benefit of all
and to your glory and praise.
Amen.

HYMN

**We thank thee then, O Father,
For all things bright and good;
The seed-time and the harvest,
Our life, our health, our food.
No gifts have we to offer
For all thy love imparts,
But that which thou desirest,
Our humble, thankful hearts:**
*All good gifts around us
Are sent from heaven above,
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,
For all his love.*

The procession continues to Brackenhurst Campus.

ANTHEM sung by the choir once all have gathered

Thou visitest the earth and blessest it:
thou crownest the year with thy goodness.

Words: Psalm 65: 9, 12

Music: Maurice Greene (1696-1755)

BLESSING OF BRACKENHURST

O people of God, bless the Lord:
praise him and magnify him for ever.

We pray for Brackenhurst
and the work of Nottingham Trent University.
We remember all who work and study here;
for those who teach and those who inspire
through their care and nurture and leadership.
We pray for students preparing themselves for employment
and those working hard
seeking new opportunities for their gifts to be used.
We ask for God's minding of new work
and the growing vision in this place;
for the gifts of grace to face the risks;
for steadiness of nerve;
for imagination and for openness to the future,
so that work imagined here will bear fruit
for the flourishing of all.
Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

BLESSING

Precentor May he that provides seed for sowing,
hands for working, and hearts for loving,
surround you with his love, visit you with his mercy,
and make you perfect to do his will;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you, upon our county, our town and the University,
the farmers, the homes and the people,
now and for evermore.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation,
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Dr Angelo Pernetta, Deputy Dean, School of Animal Rural and Environmental Sciences, NTU welcomes the congregation to Brackenhurst, after which all are warmly invited to stay for some light refreshments.

Please take this order of service away with you.

The Minster Centre, Church Street, Southwell, NG25 0HD.

Tel.: 01636 812649

office@southwellminster.org.uk

www.southwellminster.org

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