



CHESTER
CATHEDRAL

Cathedral Eucharist
Third Sunday
of Easter

14th April 2024
10.30am

President:
The Revd Canon Richard Walker

Preacher:
The Very Revd Dr Tim Stratford

WELCOME

We welcome you to Chester Cathedral!
It is a place where the mission of the church to proclaim God's love is central, and your welcome presence here for worship helps to strengthen this vital act of witness.

We're a paperless Cathedral and are working environmentally to save paper. The service can be downloaded to your device using the QR code at the back of the nave, or by visiting [Services - Chester Cathedral](#). Hymns, readings and responses will be presented on the screens.

Music

Communion setting

A Simple Communion Service in F

William Harris 1883-1973

Gradual

Psalm 4

Motet

Verleih uns Frieden *Felix Mendelssohn 1809-1847*

We welcome The St John Singers,
conducted by Jeremy Jackman, as our choir
this morning.

Receiving Communion

We warmly invite Christians of all
denominations to come and receive bread
and wine at the distribution of Holy
Communion. Gluten-free wafers are
available; please indicate to the priest if you
require one. If you prefer not to receive
you are invited either to come forward for
a blessing or to remain in your seat.

We are offering the chalice to every
communicant at all communion stations.
**Please do not intinct (dip) the wafer
yourself.** If you prefer only to receive the
wafer, then please do so.

COLLECTION

The Cathedral costs around £6000 a day to keep open, and we need your support.

We invite you to generously give to ensure our future:

A collection will be taken during the service; donations can otherwise be left with cash or using the

Contactless Donation Plates.

A sidesperson can help you with this.

Via the Cathedral Website

www.chestercathedral.com/donate

We need your help to make sure that services like this one can continue and that we can keep the doors open for everyone. Thank you for your generous contributions.

THE GATHERING

Please stand, if able, to sing the opening hymn during which the procession enters the Cathedral.

Opening Hymn

Come, ye faithful, raise the anthem,
cleave the skies with shouts of praise;
sing to him who found the ransom,
ancient of eternal days,
God eternal, Word incarnate,
whom the heaven of heaven obeys.

Ere he raised the lofty mountains,
formed the sea, or built the sky,
love eternal, free, and boundless,
forced the Lord of life to die,
lifted up the Prince of princes
on the throne of Calvary.

Now on those eternal mountains
stands the sapphire throne, all bright,
with the ceaseless alleluias
which they raise, the sons of light;
Sion's people tell his praises,
victor after hard-won fight.

Bring your harps, and bring your incense,
sweep the string and pour the lay;
let the earth proclaim his wonders,
King of that celestial day;
he the Lamb once slain is worthy,
who was dead, and lives for ay.

Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One,
One in love, and One in splendour,
while unending ages run. Amen.

Job Hupton 1762-1849

NEANDER

& J.M. Neale 1818-66

Joachim Neander 1650-80

Opening sentences

The President says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Here are words you may trust. Remember
Jesus Christ, risen from the dead:

he is our salvation, our eternal glory.

If we die with him, we shall live with him;
if we endure, we shall reign with him.

For he has broken the power of death
**and brought life and immortality
to light through the gospel.**

Children's prayer

The President prays for the children and young people as they go to their Sunday groups.

Prayers of Penitence

Please be seated. The Deacon says

Christ our passover lamb
has been sacrificed for us.
Let us therefore rejoice
by putting away all malice and evil
and confessing our sins
with a sincere and true heart.

1 Corinthians 5.7,8

**Father, we have sinned
against heaven and against you.
We are not worthy
to be called your children.
We turn to you again.
Have mercy on us,
bring us back to yourself
as those who once were dead
but now have life
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Kyrie

The choir sings

Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.*

Absolution

The President says

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you
from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you
in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gloria in excelsis

Please stand. The choir sings

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax
hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te,
benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te,
gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam
tuam. Domine Deus, rex coelestis, Deus pater
omnipotens, Domine fili unigenite Jesu
Christe. Domine Deus, agnus Dei, filius patris.
Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Qui
tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem
nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram patris,
miserere nobis. Quoniam tu solus sanctus, tu
solus Dominus, tu solus altissimus, Jesu
Christe. Cum sancto spiritu, in Gloria Dei
patris. Amen.

*Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his
people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father, we worship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord
God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the
right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For
you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the
Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the
Father. Amen.*

Collect

The President says

Let us pray.

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy
gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge
of his presence with us,
that we may be strengthened
and sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually
in righteousness and truth;
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.

Please be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

New Testament reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. 'And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold

through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.

Acts 3:12-19

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual: Psalm 4

Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness : thou hast set me at liberty when I was in trouble; have mercy upon me, and hearken unto my prayer.

O ye sons of men, how long will ye blaspheme mine honour : and have such pleasure in vanity, and seek after leasing?

Know this also, that the Lord hath chosen to himself the man that is godly : when I call upon the Lord he will hear me.

Stand in awe, and sin not : commune with your own heart, and in your chamber, and be still.

Offer the sacrifice of righteousness : and put your trust in the Lord.

There be many that say :
Who will show us any good?

Lord, lift thou up:
the light of thy countenance upon us.

Thou hast put gladness in my heart :
since the time that their corn and wine
and oil increased.

I will lay me down in peace, and take my
rest : for it is thou, Lord, only,
that makest me dwell in safety.

Please stand for the Gospel procession.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

‘I am the resurrection and the life.
Those who believe in me,
even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives
and believes in me will never die.’

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus himself stood among them and said
to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ They were

startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Luke 24: 36b-48

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

After the gospel procession has returned to the altar, and after the preacher's opening prayer, please be seated.

Sermon

The Dean

After the sermon, a brief period of silence is kept. Please stand, if you are able.

Nicene Creed

The President says

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,**

**true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated
at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father
and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the
prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated.

Prayers of Intercession

In joy and hope let us pray to the Father.

After each petition the following response may be used

Jesus, Lord of life,
in your mercy, hear us.

At the end

Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

Please stand. The President says

The risen Christ came
and stood among his disciples and said,
'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad
when they saw the Lord. Alleluia!

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

The Deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn

Now is eternal life,
if risen with Christ we stand,
in him to life reborn,
and held within his hand;
no more we fear death's ancient dread,
in Christ arisen from the dead.

For God, the living God,
stooped down to man's estate;
by death destroying death,
Christ opened wide life's gate:
he lives, who died; he reigns on high;
who lives in him shall never die.

Unfathomed love divine,
reign thou within my heart;
from thee nor depth nor height,
nor life nor death can part;
our life is hid with God in thee,
now and through all eternity.

George Wallace Briggs 1875-1959

GOPSAL

G.F. Handel 1685-1759

Please remain standing.

Preparation of the Altar

The President prays

Be present, be present,
Lord Jesus Christ,
our risen high priest;
make yourself known
in the breaking of bread.

Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The President says

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
and in these days of Easter
to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,
has conquered the powers
of death and hell
and restored in men and women
and children the image of your glory.
He has placed them once more in paradise
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,
earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels
and the powers of all creation
sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

The choir sings

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

The President continues

Lord, you are holy indeed,
the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power
of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood
of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night
that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take, eat; this is my body
which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

The Deacon says

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.**

You are the Saviour of the world.

The President continues

And so, Father, calling to mind
his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once
for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection
and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial
of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice
of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you

this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours,
almighty Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

The Lord's Prayer

*The Lord's Prayer can be offered in your own
language.*

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The President says

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many,
we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Giving of Communion

The President says

Alleluia!

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Alleluia!

Agnus Dei

The choir sings

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

*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.*

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

*All Christians are welcome to receive Holy
Communion or a blessing. Sidespeople will direct
and assist the congregation in coming forward.
The chalice is now offered at all communion
stations – please do not intinct (dip) the wafer.*

Communion motet

The choir sings

Verleih uns Frieden gnädiglich,
Herr Gott, zu unsern Zeiten.
Es ist doch ja kein anderer nicht,
der für uns könnte streiten,
denn du, unser Gott, alleine.

*Grant us Thy peace, Almighty Lord
O Source of ev'ry blessing!
We cannot keep Thy saving Word
Unless Thy peace possessing.
Thy peace O give
By which we live.*

Martin Luther

Felix Mendelssohn 1809-47

Post Communion Prayer

The President says

Let us pray.

Living God,
your Son made himself known
to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him
in all his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns,
now and for ever.

Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Hymn

Please stand, if you are able, to sing

Christ the Lord is risen again!
Christ hath broken every chain!
Hark, the angels shout for joy,
singing evermore on high,
Alleluya!

He who gave for us his life,
who for us endured the strife,
is our Paschal Lamb to-day!
We too sing for joy, and say
Alleluya!

He who bore all pain and loss
comfortless upon the Cross,
lives in glory now on high,
pleads for us, and hears our cry.
Alleluya!

He whose path no records tell,
who descended into hell;
who the strong man armed hath bound,
and in highest heaven is crowned.
Alleluya!

Now he bids us tell abroad
how the lost may be restored,
how the penitent forgiven,
how we too may enter heaven.
Alleluya!

Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed,
Christ, to-day thy people feed;
take our sins and guilt away,
that we all may sing for ay,
Alleluya!

Michael Weisse c. 1480-1534

WÜRTEMBERG
W.H. Monk 1823-89

Blessing

Please remain standing. The President says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

God, who through the resurrection
of our Lord Jesus Christ
has given us the victory,
give you joy and peace in your faith;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Deacon says

We are raised to new life with Christ.
Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

*Please remain standing as the procession
leaves, and then be seated for the organ
voluntary.*

Voluntary

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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