



CHESTER  
CATHEDRAL

# Cathedral Eucharist

## Trinity II

11<sup>th</sup> August 2024  
10.30am

President:  
The Revd Canon Rosie Woodall

Preacher:  
The Revd Canon Anthony Lees-Smith

# 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.

Throughout the service, where indicated, please only stand if you feel able to do so.

## Children

Activities for children are available in the side aisles.

## 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](http://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 hymn.*

## Opening Hymn

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,  
first-begotten from the dead,  
thou alone, our strong defender,  
liftest up thy people's head.  
Alleluya, Jesu, true and living Bread!

Here our humblest homage pay we;  
here in loving reverence bow;  
here for faith's discernment pray we,  
lest we fail to know thee now.  
Alleluya, thou art here, we ask not how.

Though the lowliest form doth veil thee  
as of old in Bethlehem,  
here as there thine angels hail thee,  
branch and Flower of Jesse's stem.  
Alleluya, we in worship join with them.

Paschal Lamb, thine Offering, finished  
once for all when thou wast slain,  
in its fullness undiminished  
shall for evermore remain,  
alleluya, cleansing souls from every stain.

Life-imparting heavenly manna,  
stricken Rock with streaming side,  
heaven and earth with loud hosanna  
worship thee, the Lamb who died,  
alleluya, risen, ascended, glorified!

G.H. Bourne 1840-1925

ST HELEN

George Martin 1844-1916

## Greeting

*The President says*

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you  
**and also with you.**

*Informal words of welcome may be added.*

## Opening sentences

I am the bread of life,  
**anyone who comes to me  
shall not hunger,**

and anyone who believes in me  
**shall never thirst.**

# Prayers of Penitence

*Please remain standing. The Deacon says*

As we prepare to celebrate  
the mystery of God's love,  
revealed in Word and Sacrament,  
let us call to mind our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you forgive our sins:  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you feed us  
with your body and blood:

Lord, 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.**

*Please stand, if you are able to sing together.*

## **Gloria in excelsis**

Glory be to God in heaven,  
peace to those who love him well;  
on the earth let all his people  
speak his grace, his wonders tell:  
Lord, we praise you for your glory,  
mighty Father, heaven's king;  
hear our joyful adoration  
and accept the thanks we bring.

Only Son of God the Father,  
Lamb who takes our sin away,  
now with God in triumph seated  
for your mercy, Lord, we pray:  
Jesus Christ, most high and holy,  
Saviour, you are God alone  
in the glory of the Father  
with the Spirit: Three-in-One!

*after Gloria in Excelsis*

*Michael Perry 1942-1996*

*ODE TO JOY*

*Ludvig van Beethoven 1770-1827*



# Collect

*The President says*

Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity:

mercifully grant to us

such a measure of your grace,

that we,

running the way of your commandments,

may receive your gracious promises,

and be made partakers

of your heavenly treasure;

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

*Please be seated.*

## **New Testament reading**

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians.

So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbours, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labour and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all

malice, and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

*Ephesians 4:25-5:2*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gradual hymn**

Bread of heaven, on thee we feed,  
for thy flesh is meat indeed;  
ever may our souls be fed  
with this true and living bread,  
day by day with strength supplied  
through the life of him who died.

Vine of heaven, thy blood supplies  
this blest cup of sacrifice;  
'tis thy wounds our healing give;  
to thy cross we look and live:  
thou our life! O let us be  
rooted, grafted, built on thee.

*Josiah Conder 1789-1855*

*BREAD OF HEAVEN*

*William Maclagan 1826-1910*

*Please stand for the Gospel procession.*

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia.

We do not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes  
from the mouth of God.

**Alleluia.**

## **Holy Gospel**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the crowd, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' They were saying, 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus answered them, 'Do not complain among yourselves. No one can

come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, “And they shall all be taught by God.” Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.’

*John 6:35, 41-51*

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 Revd Canon Anthony Lees-Smith

*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 the power of the Spirit  
and in union with Christ,  
let us pray to the Father.

*After each petition, the following response  
may be used*

Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

*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*

We are all one in Christ Jesus.  
We belong to him through faith,  
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

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

Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts,  
thou fount of life, thou light of men,  
from the best bliss that earth imparts  
we turn unfilled to thee again.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood,  
thou savest those that on thee call,  
to them that seek thee thou art good,  
to them that find thee, all in all.

We taste thee, O thou living bread,  
and long to feast upon thee still;  
we drink of thee, the fountain-head,  
and thirst our souls from thee to fill.

Our restless spirits yearn for thee,  
where'er our changeful lot is cast,  
glad when thy gracious smile we see,  
blest when our faith can hold thee fast.

O Jesu, ever with us stay,  
make all our moments calm and bright;  
chase the dark night of sin away,  
shed o'er the world thy holy light.

*Latin, 12<sup>th</sup> C*

*tr. Ray Palmer 1808-87*

*EISENACH*

*J.H. Schein 1586-1630*

*harm. J.S. Bach 1685-1750*

*Please remain standing.*

## **Preparation of the Altar**

*The President prays*

Blessed be God,  
who feeds the hungry,  
who raises the poor,  
who fills our praise.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

# Eucharistic Prayer

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.**

You are worthy of our thanks and praise,  
Lord God of truth,  
for by the breath of your mouth  
you have spoken your word,  
and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image  
and placed us in the garden of your delight.  
Though we chose the path of rebellion  
you would not abandon your own.

Again and again you drew us  
into your covenant of grace.  
You gave your people the law  
and taught us by your prophets  
to look for your reign of justice,  
mercy and peace.

As we watch for the signs  
of your kingdom on earth,  
we echo the song of the angels in heaven,  
evermore praising you and singing:

## *We sing together*

Holy, most holy, all holy the Lord,  
in power and wisdom for ever adored.  
The earth and the heavens  
are full of your love;  
our joyful hosannas re-echo above.

Blessèd, most blessèd, all blessèd is he  
whose life makes us whole  
and whose death sets us free:  
who comes in the name of the Father of light,  
let endless hosannas resound in the height.

*Michael Forster b 1946*

*SLANE*

*Erik Routley 1917-82*

## *The President continues*

Lord God, you are the most holy one,  
enthroned in splendour and light,  
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ  
you reveal the power of your love  
made perfect in our human weakness.  
Embracing our humanity,  
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;  
loving us to the end,  
he gave himself to death for us;  
dying for his own,  
he set us free from the bonds of sin,  
that we might rise  
and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all  
he 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.

Therefore we proclaim the death  
that he suffered on the cross,  
we celebrate his resurrection,  
his bursting from the tomb,  
we rejoice that he reigns  
at your right hand on high  
and we long for his coming in glory.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice  
of our redemption,  
Father, by your Holy Spirit  
let these gifts of your creation  
be to us the body and blood  
of our Lord Jesus Christ;

form us into the likeness of Christ  
and make us a perfect offering  
in your sight.

Look with favour on your people  
and in your mercy  
hear the cry of our hearts.  
Bless the earth, heal the sick,  
let the oppressed go free  
and fill your Church with power  
from on high.

Gather your people  
from the ends of the earth  
to feast with all your saints  
at the table in your kingdom,  
where the new creation  
is brought to perfection  
in 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

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*

God's holy gifts  
for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

## Agnus Dei

*We sing together*

O Lamb of God, come cleanse our hearts  
and take our sin away.

O Lamb of God, your grace impart,  
and let our guilty fear depart,  
have mercy, Lord, we pray,  
have mercy, Lord, we pray.

O Lamb of God, our lives restore,  
our guilty souls release.

Into our lives your Spirit pour  
and let us live for evermore  
in perfect heav'nly peace,  
in perfect heav'nly peace.

*after the 'Agnus Dei'*  
*Michael Forster b 1946*

*REPTON*  
*C. H. H. Parry 1848-1918*



*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.*

*The organist plays as we receive communion.*

## **Post Communion Prayer**

*The President says*

Let us pray.

Lord of all mercy,  
we your faithful people  
have celebrated that one true sacrifice  
which takes away our sins  
and brings pardon and peace:  
by our communion  
keep us firm  
on the foundation of the gospel  
and preserve us from all sin;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*Please stand, if you are able, to sing*

# THE DISMISSAL

## Hymn

O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray  
that all thy Church might be for ever one,  
grant us at every Eucharist to say  
with longing heart and soul, 'Thy will be done.'  
Oh, may we all one Bread, one Body be,  
one through this Sacrament of unity.

For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;  
make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;  
draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,  
by drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace:  
thus may we all one Bread, one Body be,  
one through this Sacrament of unity.

We pray thee too for wanderers from thy fold;  
O bring them back, good Shepherd of the sheep,  
back to the faith which saints believed of old,  
back to the Church

which still that faith doth keep:  
soon may we all one Bread, one Body be,  
one through this Sacrament of unity.

So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,  
may we be one with all thy church above,  
one with thy saints in one unbroken peace,  
one with thy saints in one unbounded love:  
more blessed still, in peace and love to be  
one with the Trinity in Unity.

*William Turton 1856-1938*

*SONG 1*

*Orlando Gibbons 1583-1625*

# Blessing

*Please remain standing. The President says*

Christ, who has nourished us  
with himself the living bread,  
make you one in praise and love,  
and raise you up at the last day;  
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*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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

# Voluntary

Praeludium in D BuxWV 139

*Dietrich Buxtehude 1637-1707*

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*Material from Common Worship  
included in this service is copyright*

*© The Archbishop's Council 2000-2008*

*Scripture quotations are from*

*New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicized  
Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995*

*National Council of the Churches of Christ  
in the United States of America.*

*Used by permission. All rights reserved.*

*CCLI Licence Number: 177097*