



CHESTER
CATHEDRAL

Cathedral Eucharist

Trinity 13

30th August 2026
10.30am

President:
The Revd Canon Rosie Woodall

Preacher:
The Revd Tina Lightfoot

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

Missa Brevis

William Mathias 1934-92

Motet

Hear, O my Lord, I see thee face to face

Percy Whitlock 1903-46

Voluntary

Toccata (from Plymouth Suite)

Percy Whitlock 1903-46

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

Today, we welcome our visiting choir Quindici to sing our services.

Children

If you have children with you, activities are available for them: please ask any sidesperson.

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.



**ROGER HEARING ASSISTANCE
IS AVAILABLE
IN THIS CATHEDRAL**

**Please ask a Welcome Team
member for a receiver**

THE GATHERING

Please stand, if able, to sing the opening hymn.

Opening Hymn

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
dayspring from on high, be near;
daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see;
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

Charles Wesley 1707-88

RATISBON

W.H. Havergal 1793-1870

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 Responses

The President says

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.

His own right hand and his holy arm
have won for him the victory.

The Lord has made known his salvation;
**his deliverance has he openly shown
in the sight of the nations.**

Prayers of Penitence

Please remain standing. The Deacon says

My brothers and sisters,
as we prepare to celebrate
the presence of Christ
in word and sacrament,
let us call to mind and confess our sins.

Silence may be kept.

In a dark and disfigured world
we have not held out the light of life:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

In a hungry and despairing world
we have failed to share our bread:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

In a cold and loveless world
we have kept the love of God to ourselves:
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.

Gloria in excelsis

Please remain standing. The choir sings

Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son,
Jesu Christ: O Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away
the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand
of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art the Most High,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Collect

The President says

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
who called your Church to bear witness
that you were in Christ
reconciling the world to yourself:
help us to proclaim
the good news of your love,
that all who hear it may be drawn to you;
through him who was lifted up
on the cross,
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 Romans.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never

avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Romans 12: 9-end

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if able, to sing together

Gradual hymn

As pants the hart for cooling streams
when heated in the chase,
so longs my soul, O God, for thee,
and thy refreshing grace.

For thee, my God, the living God,
my thirsty soul doth pine:
O when shall I behold thy face,
thou Majesty Divine!

Why restless, why cast down, my soul?
hope still, and thou shalt sing
the praise of him who is thy God,
thy health's eternal spring.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
the God whom we adore,
be glory, as it was, is now,
and shall be evermore. Amen.

Psalm 42
Tate & Brady 1696

MARTYRDOM
Hugh Wilson 1766-1824

*Please remain standing for the Gospel
procession.*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

Matt 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

The Deacon says

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

‘For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.’

Matthew 16:21-end

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 Priest Vicar

A brief period of silence is kept for reflection.

Nicene Creed

Please stand. 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

‘Where two or three are gathered together in my name,’ says the Lord, ‘there am I in the midst of them.’

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.

*Please remain standing as we sing together,
during which a collection is taken.*

Offertory Hymn

Earth's fragile beauties we possess
as pilgrim gifts from God,
and walk the slow and dangerous way
his wounded feet have trod.
Though faith by tragedy is rocked,
and love with pain is scored,
we sing the pilgrims' song of hope:
'Your kingdom come, O Lord!'

Earth's human longings we possess
by love or grief compelled
to take and bear the heavy cross
Christ's wounded hands have held.
By cloud and fire he leads us on
through famine, plague or sword,
singing with faith the pilgrims' song:
'Your kingdom come, O Lord!'

God's own true image we possess
in innocence first known,
now tainted by the hate and spite
to Christ's own body shown.
By that same wounded heart of love
God's image is restored,
to sing again the pilgrims' song:
'Your kingdom come, O Lord!'

Robert Willis 1947-2024

KINGSFOLD

Ralph Vaughan Williams 1872-1958

Preparation of the Altar

The President says

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness
we have this bread to set before you,
which earth has given
and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness
we have this wine to set before you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

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.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,

holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word;
through him you have created all things
from the beginning,
and formed us in your own image.
Through him you have freed us
from the slavery of sin,
giving him to be born of a woman
and to die upon the cross;
you raised him from the dead
and exalted him to your right hand on high.
Through him you have sent upon us
your holy and life-giving Spirit,
and made us a people
for your own possession.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

The choir sings

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.
Blessed is he that cometh
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The President continues

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example
and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;
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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection
and glorious ascension;

we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial
of Christ your Son our Lord.

The Deacon says

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

The President continues

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you
in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and
power be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Please be seated. 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

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

The choir sings

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 and anyone can receive 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

During communion, the choir sings

Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;
here faith would touch and handle
things unseen;
here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,
and all my weariness upon thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the Bread of God;
here drink with thee the royal wine of heaven;
here would I lay aside each earthly load;
here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.

English Hymnal

Percy Whitlock 1903-46

Post Communion Prayer

The President says

Let us pray.

God our creator, you feed your children
with the true manna,
the living bread from heaven:
let this holy food sustain us
through our earthly pilgrimage
until we come to that place
where hunger and thirst are no more;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Hymn

Please stand, if you are able, to sing.

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
first-begotten from the dead,
thou alone, our strong defender,
liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluia, 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.
Alleluia, 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.
Alleluia, 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,
alleluia, 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,
alleluia, risen, ascended, glorified!

G.H. Bourne 1840-1925

ST HELEN

George Martin 1844-1916

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 choir, servers
and clergy process out of the Cathedral, and
then be seated for the organ voluntary.*

Voluntary

Toccata (from Plymouth Suite)

Percy Whitlock 1903-46

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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