



CHESTER  
CATHEDRAL

# **Cathedral Eucharist**

## **Advent Sunday**

**1<sup>st</sup> December 2024**  
**10.30am**

**President:**  
**The Revd Canon Dr Anthony Lees-Smith**

**Preacher:**  
**The Revd Canon Rosie Woodall**

# 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*

Berliner Mass

*Arvo Pärt b.1935*

### *Motet*

There is no rose

*Elizabeth Maconchy 1907-94*

### *Voluntary*

Prelude & Fugue in G minor BWV 535

*J S Bach 1685-1750*

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

## **Children**

If you have children with you, they are welcome to take part in Sunday groups: please ask any sidesperson for directions.

## **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

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here,  
until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice, rejoice!*

*Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou rod of Jesse, free  
thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell thy people save,  
and give them vic'try o'er the grave.

O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer  
our spirits by thine advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, thou key of David, come  
and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the Law,  
in cloud and majesty and awe.

*from the 'Great O Antiphons'      VENI EMMANUEL*  
*trans. John Mason Neale 1818-1866      French Missal*

## 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

With love and compassion,  
**come, Lord Jesus.**

With judgement and mercy,  
**come, Lord Jesus.**

In power and glory,  
**come, Lord Jesus.**

In wisdom and truth  
**come, Lord Jesus.**

# Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
born in David's city of Bethlehem,  
born like him to be a king:  
be born in our hearts at Christmas,  
be King of our lives today.  
**Amen.**

*The first candle on the Advent wreath is lit.*

## 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*

When the Lord comes, he will bring to  
light the things now hidden in darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.  
Therefore in the light of Christ  
let us confess our sins.

*cf I Corinthians 4:5*

*We say together*

**Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you  
with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours  
as ourselves.  
In your mercy  
forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
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.**

*Please remain seated.*

# Collect

*The President says*

Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace  
to cast away the works of darkness  
and to put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life,  
in which your Son Jesus Christ  
came to us in great humility;  
that on the last day,  
when he shall come again  
in his glorious majesty  
to judge the living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who is alive and reigns  
with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*Please remain seated.*

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## New Testament reading

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

*I Thessalonians 3:9-end*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



# Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

*cf Isaiah 40:3-5*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## Holy Gospel

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

*Luke 21:25-36*

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 Rosie Woodall

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

## **Nicene Creed**

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.**

# Prayers of Intercession

*Please be seated.*

In joyful expectation  
of his coming to our aid  
we pray to Jesus.

*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*

In the tender mercy of our God,  
the dayspring from on high  
shall break upon us,  
to give light to those  
who dwell in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet  
into the way 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

The advent of our God  
with eager prayers we greet,  
and singing haste upon the road  
his glorious gift to meet.

The everlasting Son  
scorns not the Virgin's womb;  
that we from bondage may be won  
he bears a bondsman's doom.

Daughter of Sion, rise  
to meet thy lowly King;  
let not thy stubborn heart despise  
the peace he comes to bring.

On clouds of dazzling light,  
as judge he comes again,  
his scattered people to unite,  
with him in heaven to reign.

Let evil flee away,  
ere that great hour shall dawn,  
let this old Adam day by day  
the new Man all put on.

Praise to the incarnate Son,  
who comes to set us free,  
with Father and with Spirit One,  
to all eternity.

*Charles Coffin 1676-1749*  
*tr. H. Putnam 1861-1935*

*FRANCONIA*  
*W.H. Havergal 1793-1870*

*Please remain standing.*

# Preparation of the Altar

*The President prays*

Look upon us in mercy not in judgement;  
draw us from hatred to love;  
make the frailty of our praise  
a dwelling place for your glory.

**Amen.**

## 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 and good  
to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and everlasting Father,  
through Jesus Christ your Son.  
For when he humbled himself to come  
among us in human flesh,  
he fulfilled the plan you formed  
before the foundation of the world  
to open for us the way of salvation.  
Confident that your promise  
will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day

when Christ our Lord  
will come again in glory.  
And so we join our voices  
with angels and archangels  
and with all the company of heaven  
to proclaim your glory  
for ever praising you and singing:

*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*

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died:**  
**Christ is risen:**  
**Christ will come again.**

## *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*

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*

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.

*Lamb of God, you take away*

*the sin of the world, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away*

*the sin of the world, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away*

*the sin of the world, grant us 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 offered at all communion stations – please do not intinct (dip) the wafer.*

# Communion motet

*The choir sings*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

There is no rose of such virtue  
as is the rose that bare Jesu.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For in that rose contained was  
heaven and earth in little space.

Res miranda.

By that rose we may well see  
that he is God in persons three.

Pari forma.

Alleluia, alleluia.

The angels sungen the shepherds to  
Gloria in excelsis deo.

Gaudeamus.

There is no rose of such virtue  
as is the rose that bare Jesu.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*Anon 15<sup>th</sup> century      Elizabeth Maconchy 1907-1994*

# Post Communion Prayer

*The President says*

Let us pray.

O Lord our God,  
make us watchful and keep us faithful  
as we await the coming  
of your Son our Lord;  
that, when he shall appear,  
he may not find us sleeping in sin  
but active in his service  
and joyful in his praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

# THE DISMISSAL

## Hymn

*Please stand to sing the hymn.*

Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes,  
the Saviour promised long!  
Let every heart prepare a throne,  
and every voice a song.

He comes the prisoners to release  
in Satan's bondage held;  
the gates of brass before him burst,  
the iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,  
the bleeding soul to cure,  
and with the treasures of his grace  
enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,  
thy welcome shall proclaim,  
and heaven's eternal arches ring  
with thy belovèd name.

*Philip Doddridge 1702-51*

*BRISTOL*

*from Thomas Ravenscroft's Psalmes 1621*

# Blessing

*Please remain standing. The President says*

Christ the Sun of Righteousness  
shine upon you,  
scatter the darkness  
from before your path,  
and make you ready to meet him  
when he comes in glory;  
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*

As we await our coming Saviour,  
go in the light and peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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

# Voluntary

Prelude & Fugue in G minor BWV 535  
*J S Bach 1685-1750*

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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