

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

Mass in A minor *Imogen Holst 1907-1984*

Motet

Come away *Charlotte Bray b.1982*

Voluntary

Final (Symphonie I) *Louis Vierne 1870-1937*

We welcome as our preacher today The Rt Revd Lynne Cullens, Bishop of Barking in the Diocese of Chelmsford. Bishop Lynne was formerly Rector of Stockport in this diocese.

We are delighted to be joined by some of those ordained in the first cohort in 1994, both in this diocese and elsewhere.

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 minister 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 retiring collection today will be split between the Cathedral and the Chester Clergy Family Charitable Trust, supporting clergy families in need across the diocese.

Donations can 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

ORDAINED IN 1994

The following women were ordained priest in the Diocese of Chester in 1994

Helen Bridge

Jane Brooke

Helen Chantry

Pat Clark

Joyce Clarke

Diane Cookson

Una Gambles

Gay Gill

Judy Hunt

Margaret Jones

Jacqui Kendall

Brenda Lowe

Mercia Malcolm

Dorothy Mellor

Debbie Moore

Wendy Patchell

Liz Pearce

Pauline Pullan

Mandy Rylands

Anne Samuels

Mary Sharp

Joan Wagstaff

Pauline Wainwright

Sandra Woodhead

THE GATHERING

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

Opening Hymn

Lord for the years
your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us,
cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us,
pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years,
we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word,
the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts
and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains,
rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word,
receive your people's praise.

Lord, for our land
in this our generation,
spirits oppressed
by pleasure, wealth and care:
for young and old,
for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land,
be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world;
when we disown and doubt you,
loveless in strength,
and comfortless in pain,
hungry and helpless,
lost indeed without you:
Lord of the word,
we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord for ourselves;
in living power remake us –
self on the cross
and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us,
for the future take us:
Lord of our lives,
to live for Christ alone.

Timothy Dudley-Smith b 1926 LORD OF THE YEARS
Michael Baughen b 1930

Greeting

The President says

Blessed be God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
**Blessed be his kingdom,
now and for ever. Amen.**

There is one body and one spirit.

There is one hope

to which we were called;

one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

one God and Father of all.

Peace be with you

and also with you.

Spirit of love and mystery,

we hear your call

and are surprised that you invite us

to share in your ministry.

Enable all of us to be women and men

eager to work amongst your people.

In memory of all the women

who have served as deaconesses,

deacons and priests in your Church;

in celebration of all

who minister today –

lay women, religious and ordained;

in anticipation of those

who are yet to come:

we join to praise the Spirit of God,

the life-giving Spirit

who sets us free in Christ Jesus.

from 'The Mantle of Praise', WATCH 2012

Please be seated. Informal words of welcome are added.

Prayers of Penitence

*The Deacon, The Rt Revd Mark Tanner,
Bishop of Chester, says*

God has called us to follow Christ,
and has formed us into a royal priesthood,
a holy nation,
to declare the wonderful deeds
of him who has called us out of darkness
into his marvellous light.
Let us confess the times
when we have failed to heed this call.

Silence is kept.

**Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you
is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes early away.
Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds
and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Absolution

The President says

May almighty God
have mercy on you,
forgive you your sins,
and bring you to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gloria in excelsis

Please stand if you are able. 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.

God our Father, Lord of all the world,
through your Son
you have called us into the fellowship
of your universal Church:
hear our prayer for your faithful people
that in their vocation and ministry
each may be an instrument of your love,
and give to all priests in your Church
the needful gifts of grace;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
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.

Old Testament reading

*Read by The Revd Anne Samuels, ordained
priest in Chester in 1994*

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the
oppressed,
to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his
glory.

They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former
devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.
Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks,
foreigners shall till your land and dress
your vines;
but you shall be called priests of the Lord,
you shall be named ministers of our God;
you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations,
and in their riches you shall glory.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of
salvation, he has covered me with the robe
of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a
garland, and as a bride adorns herself with
her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it
to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness
and praise to spring up before all the
nations.

Isaiah 61:1-6, 10-11

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual hymn

Please stand, if able, to sing

I will offer up my life
in spirit and truth,
pouring out the oil of love
as my worship to you.
In surrender I must give
my every part;
Lord, receive the sacrifice
of a broken heart.

*Jesus, what can I give, what can I bring
to so faithful a friend, to so loving a King?
Saviour, what can be said, what can be sung
as a praise of your name
for the things you have done?
O my words could not tell, not even in part
of the debt of love that is owed
by this thankful heart.*

You deserve my every breath
for you've paid the great cost,
giving up your life to death,
even death on a cross.
You took all my shame away,
there defeated my sin;
opened up the gates of heaven
and have beckoned me in.

Matt Redman b. 1974

Please remain standing for the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

‘Go and make disciples of all the nations,’ says the Lord; ‘I am with you always, to the end of the age’.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

The deacon says

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.’ When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus

standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.” ’ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

John 20:11-18

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 Bishop of Barking

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

Affirmation of faith

The President says

Let us affirm our faith.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Please be seated.

Prayers of Intercession

Our intercessions are led by women at different stages of their ministry: The Revd Clair Jaquiss ,Vicar, All Saints, Hale Barns with Ringway; The Revd Holly Torr, Chaplain, Countess Chester Hospital and SSM at Eccleston; and The Revd Charlie Laver, Curate in Charge, St James, Millbrook

We pray for the flourishing of God's gifts to his Church, saying:

Lord of the Church,
in your mercy hear us.

After each petition the same response is used.

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

As many of us were baptized into Christ have clothed ourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for all are one in Christ Jesus. We belong to him. He is our 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

God of the women who answered your call,
trusting your promises, giving their all,
women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —
give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way,
giving their resources, learning to pray,
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more —
may we give freely as they did before.

God of the women long put to the test,
left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,
quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" —
in Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

God of the women who ran from the tomb,
prayed with the others in that upper room,
then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day —
may we so gladly proclaim you today.

O God of Phoebe and ministers all,
may we be joyful in answering your call.
give us the strength of your Spirit so near
that we may share in your ministry here.

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette 1998

SLANE

Irish trad. melody

Harm. Martin Shaw 1875-1958

Please remain standing.

Preparation of the Altar

The President prays

Heavenly Father, as we set before you these gifts of bread and wine, bless also the gift of our hearts and minds as we offer our lives in your service; for Jesus Christ's sake.

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 and good, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks through your servant Jesus Christ our Lord.

At his baptism
he was revealed as your beloved Son
and coming among us as one who serves,
he taught that they are greatest
in your kingdom
who make themselves least
and the servants of all.
Although he was their teacher
and their Lord,
he washed the feet of his disciples,
and commanded us to do the same.

Through your Holy Spirit
you bestow upon your people
a rich diversity of gifts and ministries,
and from this royal priesthood
you raise up men and women
to proclaim your word,
to care for your people
and to be the stewards
of the mysteries of Christ.
You call them to serve the world
your Son redeemed
and build up his body, the Church,
to the greater glory of your name.

And so with angels and archangels
and all the heavenly host,
we proclaim your glory
and join their unending hymn of praise:

The choir sings

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
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.

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,
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,
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, 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 now offered at all communion
stations – please do not intinct (dip) the wafer.*

Communion motet

The choir sings

My beloved spake, and said unto me, rise up,
my love, my fair one, and come away. For, lo,
the winter is past, the rain is over and gone;
the flowers appear on the earth; the time of
the singing of birds is come, and the voice of
the turtle is heard in our land; the fig tree
putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with
the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my
love, my fair one, and come away.

Song of Solomon 2:10-13

Charlotte Bray b.1982

Communion hymn

We remain seated to sing the hymn – sung at the first ordinations here thirty years ago.

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.

Come bow before him now,
with reverence and fear.

In him no sin is found,
we stand on holy ground.

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;

he burns with holy fire,
with splendour he is crowned.

How awesome is the sight,
our radiant King of light!

Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place;

he comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister his grace.

No work too hard for him,
in faith receive from him.

Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.

David J. Evans b. 1957

Post Communion Prayer

The President says

Let us pray.

Eternal God, giver of love and power,
your Son Jesus Christ
has sent us into all the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:
confirm us in this mission,
and help us to live the good news
we proclaim;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**We thank you, gracious Father,
for welcoming your children
to feast in your kingdom;
by your love unite us
and with your Spirit send us,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Hymn

Please stand, if you are able

Hope of our calling:
hope through courage won
by those who dared to share
all Christ had done.
Saints of today,
Christ's banner now unfurled,
will bring his gospel to a waiting world.

Hope of our calling:
hope with strength empowered,
inspired by all
that we have seen and heard;
this call is ours,
for we are chosen too,
to live for God in all we say and do.

Hope of our calling:
hope with grace outpoured,
from death's despair
the gift of life restored;
our call to serve,
to wash each other's feet,
to bring Christ's healing touch
to all we meet.

Hope of our calling:
hope by faith made bold
to sow God's righteousness
throughout the world;
bring peace from conflict,
fruitfulness from weeds,
the kingdom's harvest
from the kingdom's seeds.

Hope of our calling:
Spirit-filled, unbound,
old joys remembered
and new purpose found,
our call refreshed
by sacrament and word,
we go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Ally Barrett b. 1975

WOODLANDS
Walter Greatorrex 1877-1949

Thanksgiving for ministry

Please remain standing. The President says

For women and men who,
by word and example,
inspired the movement
for an inclusive priesthood.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God.

For our women priests,
who have served in the Diocese of Chester
and beyond for the first thirty years.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God.

For the enrichment this ministry has gifted
to the Church and the nation.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God.

For women and men
who have borne the pain of fear
and the anxiety of change in these years.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God.

For those who minister together today
as men and women, lay and ordained,
in God's Church.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God.

Blessing

Please remain standing. The President says

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who has made heaven and earth.
Blessed be the name of the Lord
now and for ever. Amen.

The God of Sarah and Abraham,
God holy and strong, make you pioneers
and pilgrims of the Lord.
Amen.

The God of Mary and Joseph,
God holy and vulnerable, help you to
embody the good news of Christ.
Amen.

The God of countless women and men,
God holy and immortal,
give you Wisdom that she may reveal
to you the mysteries of God.
Amen.

The Holy Trinity,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
enfold you, nurture you and fill you
with joy now and always.
Amen.

Michael Perham

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

Final (Symphonie I) *Louis Vierne 1870-1937*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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