



CHESTER
CATHEDRAL

Cathedral Eucharist

Trinity 3

16th June 2024
10.30am

President:
The Revd Canon Richard Walker

Preacher:
The Revd Simon Chesters

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 Walton 1902-83

Gradual

Psalm 92: 1-7

Motet

Jesus Christ the apple tree

Elizabeth Poston 1905-87

Voluntary

Festival Fanfare

Kenneth Leighton 1929-88

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

We welcome as our preacher today The Revd Simon Chesters, Diocesan Director of Ministry. Simon will be installed as a member of the College of Canons of this Cathedral on 29th September.

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

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 during which the choir and clergy enter the Cathedral.

Opening Hymn

Come, let us join our cheerful songs
with angels round the throne;
ten thousand thousand are their tongues,
but all their joys are one.

'Worthy the Lamb that died,' they cry,
'to be exalted thus.'
'Worthy the Lamb,' our lips reply,
'for he was slain for us.'

Jesus is worthy to receive
honour and pow'r divine;
and blessings more than we can give
be, Lord, for ever thine.

Let all creation join in one
to bless the sacred name
of him that sits upon the throne,
and to adore the Lamb.

Isaac Watts 1674-1748

NATIVITY

Henry Lahee 1826-1912

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

O Lord, open our lips
**and our mouth shall proclaim
your praise.**

Give us the joy of your saving help
**and sustain us
with your life-giving Spirit.**

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

Jesus said: Before you offer your gift,
go and be reconciled.
As brothers and sisters in God's family,
we come together
to ask our Father for forgiveness.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence,
through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son
Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
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 stand, if you are able.

Gloria in excelsis

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,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son
into our hearts
whereby we call you Father:
give us grace
to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that we and all creation
may be brought to the glorious liberty
of the children of God;
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 Second Letter to the Corinthians.

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an

opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

2 Corinthians 5:6-17

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 92:1-7

The choir sings

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord : and to sing praises unto thy Name, O most Highest;

To tell of thy loving-kindness early in the morning : and of thy truth in the night-season;

Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the lute : upon a loud instrument, and upon the harp.

For thou, Lord, hast made me glad through thy works : and I will rejoice in giving praise for the operations of thy hands.

O Lord, how glorious are thy works : thy thoughts are very deep.

An unwise man doth not well consider this : and a fool doth not understand it.

When the ungodly are green as the grass, and when all the workers of wickedness do flourish : then shall they be destroyed for ever; but thou, Lord, art the most Highest for evermore.

Please stand for the Gospel procession.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Welcome with meekness
the implanted word that has the power
to save your souls.

James 1:21

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Such a large crowd gathered around Jesus
that he got into a boat and began to teach
them using many parables.

Jesus said, 'The kingdom of God is as if
someone would scatter seed on the
ground, and would sleep and rise night and
day, and the seed would sprout and grow,
he does not know how. The earth
produces of itself, first the stalk, then the
head, then the full grain in the head. But
when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in

with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Mark 4:26-34

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 Simon Chesters,
Diocesan Director of Ministry

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

Blessed are the peacemakers:
they shall be called children of God.
We meet in the name of Christ
and share his 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 is working his purpose out
as year succeeds to year,
God is working his purpose out
and the time is drawing near;
Nearer and nearer draws the time,
the time that shall surely be,
When the earth shall be filled
with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

From utmost east to utmost west
where'er man's foot hath trod,
By the mouth of many messengers
goes forth the voice of God,
'Give ear to me, ye continents,
ye isles, give ear to me,
That the earth may be filled
with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.'

What can we do to work God's work,
to prosper and increase
The brotherhood of all mankind,
the reign of the Prince of Peace?
What can we do to hasten the time,
the time that shall surely be,
When the earth shall be filled
with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea?

All we can do is nothing worth
unless God blesses the deed;
Vainly we hope for the harvest-tide
till God gives life to the seed;
Yet nearer and nearer draws the time,
the time that shall surely be,
When the earth shall be filled
with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

A.C. Ainger 1841-1919

BENSON

Millicent Kingham 1866-94

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.

Blessed are you, Lord God,
our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the beginning
you have created all things
and all your works
echo the silent music of your praise.

In the fullness of time
you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.
You give us breath and speech,
that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

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

How wonderful the work of your hands,
O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.
From them you raised up
Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.
He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body
which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
At the end of supper,
taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
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

Father, we plead with confidence

his sacrifice made once for all

upon the cross;

we remember his dying and rising in glory,

and we rejoice that he intercedes for us

at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit
as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood
of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things
in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple
to your glory.

Bring us at the last with all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
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.**

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

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

The tree of life my soul hath seen,
laden with fruit and always green:
the trees of nature fruitless be
compared to Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel:
by faith I know, but ne'er can tell,
the glory which I now can see
in Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought,
and pleasure dearly I have bought:
I missed of all; but now I see
'tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil,
here will I sit and rest a while:
under the shadow I will be,
of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
it keeps my dying faith alive:
which makes my soul in haste to be
with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

Traditional

Elizabeth Poston 1905-87

Post Communion Prayer

The President says

Let us pray.

O God,
whose beauty is beyond our imagining
and whose power we cannot comprehend:
show us your glory
as far as we can grasp it,
and shield us from knowing
more than we can bear
until we may look upon you without fear;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Hymn

Please stand, if you are able, to sing

The Church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word:
from heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy Bride,
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses
with every grace endued.

'Mid toil, and tribulation,
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great Church victorious
shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.

Samuel Stone 1839-1900

AURELIA

Samuel Sebastian Wesley 1810-76

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 the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

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

Voluntary

Festival Fanfare Kenneth Leighton 1929-88

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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