

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

Collegium Regale *Herbert Howells 1892-1983*

Gradual Jubilate *William Walton 1902-83*

Motet

Come, my way, my truth, my life

John Clements 1910-88

Voluntary

Mors et resurrectio

Jean Langlais 1907-91

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 Children's Church: 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 opening hymn.

Opening Hymn

Jesus, the name high over all,
in hell, or earth, or sky:
angels and mortals prostrate fall,
and devils fear and fly,
and devils fear and fly.

Jesus, the name to sinners dear,
the name to sinners giv'n;
it scatters all their guilty fear,
it turns their hell to heav'n,
it turns their hell to heav'n.

Jesus, the pris'ners fetters breaks,
and bruises Satan's head;
pow'r into strengthless souls he speaks,
and life into the dead,
and life into the dead.

O, that the world might taste and see
the riches of his grace!
The arms of love that compass me,
hold all the human race,
hold all the human race.

His only righteousness I show,
his saving grace proclaim:
'tis all my business here below
to cry: 'Behold the Lamb!',
to cry: 'Behold the Lamb!'

Happy, if with my latest breath
I may but gasp his name:
preach him to all, and cry in death:
'Behold, behold the Lamb!'",
'Behold, behold the Lamb!'".

Charles Wesley 1707-88

LYDIA

Thomas Phillips 1735-1807

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

Show us your mercy, O Lord;
and grant us your salvation.

Let your ways be known upon earth;
your saving health among all nations.

Give your people the blessing of peace;
**and may all the earth
be filled with your glory.**

Children's Prayer

The President prays for our children and young people as they go to Children's Church.

Prayers of Penitence

Please be seated. The Deacon says

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins
in penitence and faith,

firmly resolved
to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

Silence may be kept.

**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.

Gloria in excelsis

Please stand. 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.

Lord, you have taught us
that all our doings without love
are nothing worth:
send your Holy Spirit
and pour into our hearts
that most excellent gift of love,
the true bond of peace and of all virtues,
without which whoever lives
is counted dead before you.
Grant this for your only Son
Jesus Christ's sake,
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 Romans.

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person - though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But

God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Romans 5:1-8

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please remain seated as the choir sings.

Gradual

Jubilate

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:
serve the Lord with gladness, and come
before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he
that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
we are his people, and the sheep of his
pasture.

O go your way into his gates with
thanksgiving, and into his courts with
praise: be thankful unto him, and speak
good of his name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is
everlasting: and his truth endureth from
generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the
beginning is now and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

Psalm 100

William Walton 1902-83

Please stand for the Gospel procession.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

I am the light of the world, says the Lord.
Whoever follows me will never walk in
darkness but will have the light of life.

cf John 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

The Deacon says

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus went about all the cities and
villages, teaching in their synagogues, and
proclaiming the good news of the kingdom,
and curing every disease and every
sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had
compassion for them, because they were
harassed and helpless, like sheep without a
shepherd. Then he said to his disciples,
'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers
are few; therefore ask the Lord of the

harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.'

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near." Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for labourers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there

until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgement than for that town.

‘See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell

you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

Matthew 9:35-10:23

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 Canon Missioner

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

Christ is our peace.

He has reconciled us to God

in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name 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.

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

Offertory Hymn

Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you
and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?

Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer in you
and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?

Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?

Will you kiss the leper clean
and do such as this unseen
and admit to what I mean in you
and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound in you
and you in me?

Lord your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you
and you in me.

John L. Bell b. 1949

*KELVINGROVE
Scottish trad.*

Preparation of the Altar

The President says

Lord of all and source of our joy,
receive our sacrifice
of praise and thanksgiving.
Keep us in the love of Christ
and bring us to the vision of his glory;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
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.

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

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink
in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

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.

During communion, the choir sings

Communion motet

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife;
such a life as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length;
such a strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
such a joy as none can move;
such a love as none can part;
such a heart as joys in love.

George Herbert 1593-1633

John Clements 1910-88

Post Communion Prayer

The President says

Let us pray.

Loving Father,
we thank you for feeding us
at the supper of your Son:
sustain us with your Spirit,
that we may serve you here on earth
until our joy is complete in heaven,
and we share in the eternal banquet
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Hymn

Please stand, if you are able, to sing.

We have a gospel to proclaim,
good news for all throughout the earth;
the gospel of a Saviour's name:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,
not in a royal house or hall
but in a stable dark and dim:
the Word made flesh, a light for all.

Tell of his death at Calvary,
hated by those he came to save;
in lonely suffering on the cross
for all he loved, his life he gave.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
empty the tomb, for he was free;
he broke the power of death and hell
that we might share his victory.

Tell of his reign at God's right hand
by all creation glorified;
he sends his Spirit on his church
to live for him, the Lamb who died.

Now we rejoice to name him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth;
this gospel-message we proclaim:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

Edward Burns b. 1938

FULDA

William Gardiner 1770-1873

Blessing

Please remain standing. The President says

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
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

Mors et resurrectio

Jean Langlais 1907-91

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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