



CHESTER
CATHEDRAL

Cathedral Eucharist

Easter Day

31st March 2024
10.30am

President:
The Rt Revd Mark Tanner
Bishop of Chester

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
Messe Solennelle *Jean Langlais 1907-91*

Gradual
Easter Anthems

Motet
Surrexit a mortuis
Charles-Marie Widor 1844-1937

Voluntary
Incantation pour un jour Saint *Jean Langlais*

Children

If you have children with you, activity tables for them are provided in the aisle.

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 during which the choir move to the choir stalls and the ministers to the Easter Garden.

Opening Hymn

Jesus Christ is risen to-day, Alleluya!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluya!
Who did once, upon the Cross, Alleluya!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluya!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluya!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluya!
Who endured the Cross and grave,
Alleluya!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluya!

But the pains that he endured Alleluya!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluya!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluya!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluya!

Lyra Davidica 1708

*EASTER HYMN
Lyra Davidica, 1708 (ad.)*

Welcoming the Easter Candle

Please turn to face west towards the Easter Garden. The President says

Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end,
Alpha and Omega,
all time belongs to him, and all ages;
to him be glory and power,
through every age and for ever.
Amen.

The Deacon brings in the lit Easter Candle and proclaims

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The President says

This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ was raised gloriously from the dead, crushing the power of sin and destroying the sting of death. Throughout the world Christians celebrate the mighty power of God as Christ calls us out of darkness to share in his marvellous light. May we, and all Christ's people, shine as lights in the world to the glory of God the Father.

The Deacon, holding the Candle, says

The light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Prayers at the Easter Garden

The President says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Deacon says

The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said.'

Matthew 28.5,6

The President says

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

To you be glory now and for ever.

In your great mercy

you have given us a new birth

into a living hope

through the resurrection of Jesus Christ
from the dead.

By your blessing,
may we who have prepared this garden
in celebration of his victory
be strengthened in faith,
know the power of his presence,
and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory.
Blessed be God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

*The Easter Garden is censed. The President
prays*

Risen Lord Jesus,
as Mary Magdalene met you in the garden
on the morning of your resurrection,
so may we meet you today and every day:
speak to us as you spoke to her;
reveal yourself as the living Lord;
renew our hope and kindle our joy;
and send us
to share the good news with others.
Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

Please remain standing. The Deacon says

Jesus Christ, risen Master
and triumphant Lord,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,
and confess to you
our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,
and not by the power of your resurrection.
In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived
by the light of our own eyes,
as faithless and not believing.
In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven.
In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

Kyrie

The choir sings

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

Christe eleison.

Christ, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison.

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

*As the servers and clergy move to the dais,
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.

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection
of your Son overcame the old order
of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour,
glory and might,
now and in all eternity.
Amen.

Please be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

New Testament reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then Peter began to speak to them:

‘I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

‘We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Acts 10: 34-43

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual: The Easter Anthems

The choir sings

Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:
therefore let us keep the feast;

Not with the old leaven, nor with the leaven
of malice and wickedness: but with the
unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Christ being raised from the dead dieth no
more: death hath no more dominion over him.

For in that he died, he died unto sin once:
but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead
indeed unto sin: but alive unto God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Christ is risen from the dead:
and become the first fruits of them that slept.

For since by man came death:
by man came also the resurrection
of the dead.

For as in Adam all die:
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

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.

Please stand for the Gospel procession.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

‘I am the resurrection and the life.
Those who believe in me,
even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives
and believes in me will never die.’

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

Matthew 28:1-10

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

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 joy and hope let us pray to the Father.

*After each petition the following response
may be used*

Jesus, Lord of life,
in your mercy, hear us.

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

The risen Christ came
and stood among his disciples and said,
'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad
when they saw the Lord. Alleluia!

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 Day of Resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad;
the Passover of gladness,
the Passover of God!
From death to life eternal,
from earth unto the sky,
our Christ hath brought us over
with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil,
that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection-light;
and, listening to his accents,
may hear so calm and plain
his own 'All hail,' and, hearing,
may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful,
and earth her song begin,
the round world keep high triumph,
and all that is therein;
let all things seen and unseen
their notes in gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord hath risen,
our joy that hath no end.

St John of Damascus c. 750

ELLACOMBE

tr. J.M. Neale 1816-66

Mainz Gesangbuch 1833

Preparation of the Altar

Be present, be present,
Lord Jesus Christ,
our risen high priest;
make yourself known
in the breaking of bread.

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, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
and in these days of Easter
to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,
has conquered the powers
of death and hell
and restored in men and women
and children the image of your glory.
He has placed them once more in paradise
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,
earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels
and the powers of all creation
sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

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

Jesus Christ is Lord:
**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

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.

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
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

Alleluia!
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia!

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.

*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

Surrexit a mortuis, Christus Dei Filius,
pastor bonus,
pastor qui animam pro grege suo posuit.
Pascha nostrum immolatus est Christus.
Surrexit a mortuis. Alleluia.

*He rose from the dead, Christ, the Son of God,
the good shepherd, the shepherd who for his
flock laid down his life.*

*Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.
He rose from the dead. Alleluia.*

John 10:11; 1 Cor 5:7

Charles-Marie Widor 1844-1937

Communion hymn

Please remain seated to sing

Love's redeeming work is done;
fought the fight, the battle won:
lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er!
lo, he sets in blood no more!

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal,
Christ has burst the gates of hell;
death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened Paradise.

Lives again our glorious King;
where, O Death, is now thy sting?
Dying once, he all doth save;
where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led,
following our exalted Head;
made like him, like him we rise;
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!
Praise to thee by both be given:
thee we greet triumphant now;
hail, the Resurrection thou!

Charles Wesley 1707-88

SAVANNAH

MS. Choralbuch, Hernhut c. 1740;

Arr. J. Wesley's Foundery Collection 1742

Post Communion Prayer

The President says

Let us pray.

God of Life, who for our redemption
gave your only-begotten Son
to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us
from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him
in the joy of his risen life;
Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Hymn

Please stand, if you are able, to sing

Thine be the glory,
risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory,
risen, conquering Son,
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo, Jesus meets us,
risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us,
scatters fear and gloom;
let the Church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth,
death hath lost its sting:

No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of Life;
life is nought without thee:
aid us in our strife,
make us more than conquerors
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above:

*Thine be the glory,
risen, conquering Son,
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won.*

Edmond Budry 1854-1932

*MACCABAEUS
G.F. Handel 1685-1759*

Blessing

Please remain standing. The President says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

God the Father, by whose love
Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe
the gates of everlasting life.

Amen.

God the Son,
who in bursting from the grave
has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.
Amen.

God the Holy Spirit,
who filled the disciples
with the life of the risen Lord,
empower you and fill you
with Christ's peace.
Amen.

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

He is not here. He is risen.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia.
In the name of Christ. Amen.
Alleluia, alleluia.

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

Voluntary

Incantation pour un jour Saint

Jean Langlais 1907-91

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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