



CHESTER
CATHEDRAL

Words and music for Easter

Easter Day
31st March 2024
6.00pm

**With the Chester Cathedral
Nave Choir**

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

Anthems

This joyful Eastertide *arr. Charles Wood*

Easter Anthems *Chant*

Upon your heart *Eleanor Daley*

If ye then be risen with Christ *C V Stanford*

I know my redeemer liveth *Cecilia McDowall*

Te Deum in B flat *C V Stanford*

Voluntary

Toccata (Symphonie V)

Charles-Marie Widor 1844-1937

This evening's service is sung by the Cathedral Nave Choir, directed by Alex Lanigan-Palotai, Sub-Organist.

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

COLLECTION

The Cathedral costs around £6000 a day to keep open. We invite you to generously give to ensure our future:

A retiring collection will be taken after 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.

Introit

Please stand as the clergy and choir enter the Quire. The choir sings

This joyful Eastertide,
away with sin and sorrow.
My love, the Crucified,
hath sprung to life this morrow:

*Had Christ, who once was slain,
not burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain;
but now hath Christ arisen.*

My flesh in hope shall rest,
and for a season slumber:
till trump from east to west
shall wake the dead in number:

Death's flood hath lost its chill,
since Jesus crossed the river:
lover of souls, from ill
my passing soul deliver:

George Ratcliffe Woodward 1848-1934

*THIS JOYFUL EASTERTIDE
Melody from David's Psalmen, 1685
arr. Charles Wood 1866-1926*

Introduction

Please be seated.

Words of informal welcome and introduction are said, concluding with

God of glory, by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains
of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

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.

Hymn

Please stand to sing

Alleluya! Alleluya!

Hearts to heaven and voices raise;
sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise;
he who on the Cross a victim
for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of glory,
now is risen from the dead.

Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits
of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield;
then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine
from the furrows of the grave.

Christ is risen, we are risen;
shed upon us heavenly grace,
rain, and dew, and gleams of glory
from the brightness of thy face;
that we, Lord, with hearts in heaven
here on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel-hands be gathered,
and be ever safe with thee.

Alleluya! Alleluya!
glory be to God on high;
to the Father, and the Saviour,
who has gained the victory;
glory to the Holy Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluya! Alleluya!
to the Triune Majesty.

Christopher Wordsworth 1807-85

LUX EOI

Arthur Sullivan 1842-1900

Please be seated.

Bible reading

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

John 20: 1-10

Poem

Sonnet 68 - Easter

Most glorious Lord of life, that on this day,
Didst make thy triumph over death and sin:
And having harrow'd hell, didst bring away
Captivity thence captive, us to win:
This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin,
And grant that we for whom thou diddest die,
Being with thy dear blood clean
wash'd from sin,
May live for ever in felicity.
And that thy love we weighing worthily,
May likewise love thee for the same again:
And for thy sake, that all like dear didst buy,
With love may one another entertain.
So let us love, dear love, like as we ought,
Love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

Edmund Spenser c.1552-99

The Anthem

The choir sings

Set me as a seal upon your heart,
as a seal upon your arm;
for love is strong as death,
passion fierce as the grave.
Its flashes are flashes of fire,
a raging flame.
Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can floods drown it.

If one offered for love
all the wealth of one's house,
it would be utterly scorned.

As the Father has loved me, so I have
loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my
commandments, you will abide in my love,
just as I have kept my Father's
commandments and abide in his love.

I have said these things to you so that my
joy may be in you, and that your joy may
be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love
one another as I have loved you.

*Song of Songs 8:6-7
& John 15:9-12*

Eleanor Daley b.1955

Bible reading

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

Please stand, if able, to sing.

Hymn

A brighter dawn is breaking,
and earth with praise is waking;
for thou, O King most highest,
the power of death defiest;

And thou hast come victorious,
with risen Body glorious,
who now for ever livest,
and life abundant givest.

O free the world from blindness,
and fill the world with kindness,
give sinners resurrection,
bring striving to perfection;

In sickness give us healing,
in doubt thy clear revealing,
that praise to thee be given
in earth as in thy heaven.

*Percy Dearmer 1867-1936 NUN LASST UNS GOTT
Selnecker's Christliche Psalmen, Leipzig, 1587*

Please be seated.

Poem

XV Easter Dawn

He blesses every love that weeps and grieves
And now he blesses hers who stood and wept
And would not be consoled, or leave her love's
Last touching place, but watched as low light crept
Up from the east. A sound behind her stirs
A scatter of bright birdsong through the air.
She turns, but cannot focus through her tears,
Or recognise the Gardener standing there.
She hardly hears his gentle question, 'Why,
Why are you weeping?', or sees the play of light
That brightens as she chokes out her reply,
'They took my love away, my day is night.'
And then she hears her name, she hears Love say
The Word that turns her night, and ours, to Day.

Malcolm Guite 2012

Anthem

The choir sings

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those
things which are above, where Christ sitteth
at the right hand of God.

Set your affection on things above, not on
things of the earth, for ye are dead, and your
life is hid with Christ in God.

When Christ, who is our life, shall appear,
then shall ye also appear with him in glory.
Hallelujah. Amen.

Colossians 3:1-4

C.V. Stanford 1852-1924

Bible reading

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

John 20: 19-23

Poem

Easter

Rise heart; thy Lord is risen. Sing his praise
Without delays,
Who takes thee by the hand, that thou likewise
With him mayst rise:
That, as his death calcined thee to dust,
His life may make thee gold, and much more just.

Awake, my lute, and struggle for thy part
With all thy art.
The cross taught all wood to resound his name,
Who bore the same.
His stretched sinews taught all strings, what key
Is best to celebrate this most high day.

Consort both heart and lute, and twist a song
Pleasant and long:
Or since all music is but three parts vied
And multiplied;
O let thy blessed Spirit bear a part,
And make up our defects with his sweet art.

George Herbert 1593-1633

Anthem

The choir sings

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that
he shall stand at the latter day upon the
earth: And though worms destroy this
body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.
For now is Christ risen from the dead, and
become the first fruits of them that sleep.
I know that my redeemer liveth, I know.

*Job 19:25-27
& 1 Cor 15:20*

Cecilia McDowall b.1951

Bible reading

Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them.

Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

John 20: 24-29

Poem

I know a man who carries heavy loads,
for whom no weight's too sharp
nor yet too sheer.
Who does not ask whence such a burden came
or why it has been carried all these years.
But does not share it, slitting half with half,
or say you get what you deserve, no less.
It is for ones, like me, still undeserving,
that he comes to shoulder and to bless.
He picks up what you press on him, and chides
you with a smile if you persist in keeping
what you cannot bear. His heart is strong.
Though not a strength incapable of weeping.
O come to him, if broken, burdened, sad.
In holding you this strong man's heart is glad.

Stephen Cottrell b. 1958

Please stand, if able, to sing

Hymn

Walking in a garden
at the close of day,
Adam tried to hide him
when he heard God say:
'Why are you so frightened,
why are you afraid?
You have brought the winter in,
made the flowers fade.'

Walking in a garden
where the Lord had gone,
three of the disciples,
Peter, James and John;
they were very weary,
could not keep awake,
while the Lord was kneeling there,
praying for their sake.

Walking in a garden
at the break of day,
Mary asked the gard'ner
where the body lay;
but he turned towards her,
smiled at her and said:
'Mary, spring is here to stay,
only death is dead.'

Hilary Greenwood b.1929

DUN ALUINN

Trad. Irish, arr. Andrew Moore

Prayers

Please be seated. The response is

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

Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
let us pray with confidence
as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Bible reading

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many

convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.'

Acts 1:1-8

Hymn

Please stand to sing together

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,
your sweetest notes employ,
the Paschal victory to hymn
in strains of holy joy.

How Judah's Lion burst his chains,
and crushed the serpent's head;
and brought with him,
from death's domains,
the long-imprisoned dead.

From hell's devouring jaws the prey
alone our Leader bore;
his ransomed hosts pursue their way
where he hath gone before.

Triumphant in his glory now
his sceptre ruleth all,
earth, heaven, and hell before him bow,
and at his footstool fall.

While joyful thus his praise we sing,
his mercy we implore,
into his palace bright to bring
and keep us evermore.

All glory to the Father be,
all glory to the Son,
all glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
while endless ages run. Alleluya! Amen.

St Fulbert of Chartres d. 1028

FULBERT

H.J. Gauntlett 1805-76

Please be seated.

Poem

Easter Week

See the land, her Easter keeping,
Rises as her Maker rose.
Seeds, so long in darkness sleeping,
Burst at last from winter snows.
Earth with heaven above rejoices;
Fields and gardens hail the spring;
Shaughs and woodlands ring with voices,
While the wild birds build and sing.

You, to whom your Maker granted
Powers to those sweet birds unknown,
Use the craft by God implanted;
Use the reason not your own.
Here, while heaven and earth rejoices,
Each his Easter tribute bring-
Work of fingers, chant of voices,
Like the birds who build and sing.

Charles Kingsley 1819-1875

Te Deum

The choir sings

We praise thee, O God: we acknowledge thee
to be the Lord.

All the earth doth worship thee: the Father
everlasting.

To thee all Angels cry aloud: the Heavens, and
all the Powers therein.

To thee Cherubim and Seraphim: continually
do cry,

Holy, Holy, Holy: Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty: of
thy glory.

The glorious company of the Apostles: praise
thee.

The goodly fellowship of the Prophets: praise
thee.

The noble army of Martyrs: praise thee.

The holy Church throughout all the world:
doth acknowledge thee;

The Father: of an infinite Majesty;

Thine honourable, true: and only Son;

Also the Holy Ghost: the Comforter.

Thou art the King of Glory: O Christ.

Thou art the everlasting Son: of the Father.

When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man:
thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.

When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of
death:

thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.

Thou sittest at the right hand of God: in the glory of the Father.

We believe that thou shalt come: to be our Judge.

We therefore pray thee, help thy servants: whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.

Make them to be numbered with thy Saints: in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save thy people: and bless thine heritage.

Govern them: and lift them up for ever.

Day by day: we magnify thee; And we worship thy Name: ever world without end.

Vouchsafe, O Lord: to keep us this day without sin.

O Lord, have mercy upon us: have mercy upon us.

O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us: as our trust is in thee.

O Lord, in thee have I trusted: let me never be confounded.

Te Deum in B flat

C.V. Stanford 1852-1924

Please stand for the blessing.

Blessing

God, who through the resurrection
of our Lord Jesus Christ
has given us the victory,
give you joy and peace in your faith;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you, and remain with you always.
Amen.

*Please remain standing as the choir and clergy
leave.*

Voluntary

Toccata (Symphonie V)

Charles-Marie Widor 1844-1937

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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