



CHESTER  
CATHEDRAL

# **Cathedral Eucharist**

# **Trinity Sunday**

**31<sup>st</sup> May 2026**  
**10.30am**

**President:**  
**The Very Revd Dr Tim Stratford**

**Preacher:**  
**The Revd Canon Dr Anthony Lees-Smith**

# 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*

Communion Service in D

*George Oldroyd 1886-1951*

*Gradual*

Psalm 8

*Motets*

Holy, holy, holy

*Franz Schubert 1797-1828*

Peace I leave with you

*Amy Beach 1867-1944*

*Voluntary*

Allegro Marziale

*Frank Bridge 1879-1941*

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

We welcome back The Advent Singers to sing the Eucharist this morning while the Cathedral Choir are on holiday after their tour to Malvern Priory earlier this week.

Canon Rosie is preaching at Neston this morning for their matronal festival.

## **Children**

If you have children with you, activities are available - please ask any sidesperson.

## **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](http://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

Holy, holy, holy!  
Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning  
our song shall rise to thee;  
holy, holy, holy!  
Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons,  
blessèd Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy!  
All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns  
around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim  
falling down before thee,  
who wert, and art,  
and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy!  
Though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye of sinful man  
thy glory may not see,  
Only thou art holy,  
there is none beside thee  
perfect in power,  
in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy!  
Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name,  
in earth, and sky, and sea;  
holy, holy, holy!  
Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons,  
blessèd Trinity!

*Reginald Heber 1783-1826*

NICAEA  
*J.B. Dykes 1823-76*

## **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*

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts:  
**the whole earth is full of his glory.**

Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength;  
**ascribe to the Lord  
the honour due to his name.**

The Lord shall give strength to his people;  
**the Lord shall give his people  
the blessing of peace.**

## **Prayers of Penitence**

*Please remain standing. The Deacon says*

We have too often exchanged  
the worship of the living God  
for idols of our own imagining.  
As we gather to offer our praises  
to the holy and undivided Trinity,  
and to worship him in spirit and in truth,  
let us call to mind our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

Father, you come to meet us  
when we return to you:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus, you died on the cross for our sins:  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit, you give us life and peace:

Lord, 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 remain standing as 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 and everlasting God,  
you have given us your servants grace,  
by the confession of a true faith,  
to acknowledge the glory  
of the eternal Trinity  
and in the power of the divine majesty  
to worship the Unity:  
keep us steadfast in this faith,  
that we may evermore be defended  
from all adversities;  
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.**

*Please be seated.*

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## New Testament reading

A reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians.

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

*2 Corinthians 13:11-end*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please remain seated as the choir sings the psalm.*

# Gradual

# Psalm 8

O Lord our Governor, how excellent is thy Name in all the world : thou that hast set thy glory above the heavens!

Out of the mouth of very babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength, because of thine enemies : that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

For I will consider thy heavens, even the works of thy fingers : the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained.

What is man, that thou art mindful of him : and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Thou madest him lower than the angels : to crown him with glory and worship.

Thou makest him to have dominion of the works of thy hands : and thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet;

All sheep and oxen :  
yea, and the beasts of the field;

The fowls of the air, and the fishes of the sea : and whatsoever walketh through the paths of the seas.

O Lord our Governor :  
how excellent is thy Name in all the world!

*Please stand for the Gospel procession.*

## **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
one God, who was, and who is,  
and who is to come, the Almighty.

*cf Revelation 1.8*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **Holy Gospel**

*The Deacon says*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy

Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

*Matthew 28:16-end*

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.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*Please be seated.*

We come boldly to the throne of grace, praying to the almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for mercy and grace.

*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*

Peace to you from God  
our heavenly Father.

Peace from his Son Jesus Christ  
who is our peace.

Peace from the Holy Spirit, the life-giver.

The peace of the triune God

be always with you

**and also with you.**

*The Deacon says*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## Offertory Hymn

Bright the vision that delighted  
once the sight of Judah's seer;  
sweet the countless tongues united  
to entrance the prophet's ear.

Round the Lord in glory seated  
cherubim and seraphim  
filled his temple, and repeated  
Each to each the alternate hymn:

'Lord, thy glory fills the heaven;  
Earth is with its fullness stored;  
unto thee be glory given,  
holy, holy, holy Lord.'

Heaven is still with glory ringing,  
Earth takes up the angels' cry,  
'Holy, holy, holy,' singing,  
'Lord of hosts, the Lord most high.'

With his seraph train before him,  
with his holy Church below,  
thus unite we to adore him,  
bid we thus our anthem flow:

'Lord, thy glory fills the heaven;  
Earth is with its fullness stored;  
unto thee be glory given,  
holy, holy, holy, Lord.'

*Richard Mant 1776-1848*

*REDHEAD NO. 46*

*Richard Redhead 1820-1901*

# Preparation of the Altar

*The President says*

Holy God, holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
give us the bread of everlasting life,  
and make us branches of the true vine.  
**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,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For with your only-begotten Son  
and the Holy Spirit  
you are one God, one Lord.  
All that you reveal of your glory,  
the same we believe of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit,

without any difference or inequality.  
We, your holy Church, acclaim you,  
Father of majesty unbounded,  
your true and only Son,  
worthy of all worship,  
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.  
Three Persons we adore,  
one in being and equal in majesty.

And so with angels and archangels,  
with cherubim and seraphim,  
we sing for ever of your glory:

*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*

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.*

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 and anyone can receive a blessing. Sidespeople will direct and assist the congregation in coming forward. The chalice is offered at all communion stations – please do not intinct (dip) the wafer.*

# Communion motets

*The choir sings*

Holy, holy, holy  
God almighty Lord!  
Holy, holy, holy  
everywhere adored!

He without beginning,  
he th'eternal one,  
reigns and rules for ever  
all things 'neath the sun,

Power and love and wonder  
circling round his throne,  
praise him, holy, holy,  
Lord of life alone

*Sanctus from 'Deutsche Messe'*

*Franz Schubert 1797-1828*

Peace I leave with you,  
my peace I give to you.  
Not as the world giveth give I unto you.  
Let not your heart be troubled.

*John 14:27*

*Amy Beach 1867-1944*

# Post Communion Prayer

*The President says*

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God,  
you have revealed yourself  
as Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
and live and reign  
in the perfect unity of love:  
hold us firm in this faith,  
that we may know you in all your ways  
and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory,  
who are three Persons yet one God,  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

# THE DISMISSAL

## Hymn

*Please stand, if you are able, to sing*

Father of heaven, whose love profound  
a ransom for our souls hath found,  
before thy throne we sinners bend:  
to us thy pardoning love extend.

Almighty Son, incarnate Word,  
our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord,  
before thy throne we sinners bend:  
to us thy saving grace extend.

Eternal Spirit, by whose breath  
the soul is raised from sin and death,  
before thy throne we sinners bend:  
to us thy quickening power extend.

Thrice Holy! Father, Spirit, Son,  
mysterious Godhead, Three in One,  
before thy throne we sinners bend:  
grace, pardon, life to us extend.

*Edward Cooper 1770-1833*

*RIEVAULX  
J.B. Dykes 1823-76*

# Blessing

*Please remain standing. The President says*

God the Holy Trinity  
make you strong in faith and love,  
defend you on every side,  
and guide you in truth and peace;  
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 choir, servers  
and clergy process out of the Cathedral, and  
then be seated for the organ voluntary.*

# Voluntary

Allegro Marziale      *Frank Bridge 1879-1941*

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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