



CHESTER
CATHEDRAL

Cathedral Eucharist

All Saints

1st November 2026
10.30am

President:
The Revd Canon Rosie Woodall

Preacher:
The Very Revd Dr Tim Stratford

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 Psalm 131

Motet
Der Gerechte kommt um *J S Bach 1685-1750*

Voluntary
Fugue in B minor (BWV 544ii) *J S Bach*

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

We welcome back the Cathedral Choir after their half-term break.

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 hymn.

Opening hymn

Christ is the King, O friends rejoice!
Brothers and sisters, with one voice
make all to know he is your choice:
alleluya.

The first apostles round them drew
thousands of faithful ones and true,
sharing a faith for ever new:
alleluya.

Then magnify the Lord and raise
anthems of joy and holy praise
for Christ's brave saints of ancient days:
alleluya.

O Christian women, Christian men,
all the world over, seek again
the Way disciples followed then:
alleluya.

Christ through all ages is the same;
place the same hope in his great name,
with the same faith his word proclaim:
alleluya.

Let love's unconquerable might
God's people everywhere unite
in service to the Lord of light:
alleluya.

George Bell 1883-1958 (alt)

VULPIUS

Melody from Vulpius' Gesangbuch 1909

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

All your works praise you, Lord,
and your faithful servants bless you.

They make known the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your power.

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord:
**let everything bless his holy name
for ever and ever.**

Children's prayer

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

Prayers of Penitence

Please be seated. The Deacon says

Since we are surrounded
by a great cloud of witnesses,
let us also lay aside every weight
and the sin that clings so closely,
looking to Jesus in penitence and faith.

Silence may be kept, then we say together

**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.

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

Please stand, 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 that we may be strengthened
by our communion with all the saints.

Almighty God,
you have knit together your elect
in one communion and fellowship
in the mystical body
of your Son Christ our Lord:
grant us grace
so to follow your blessed saints
in all virtuous and godly living,
that we may come
to those inexpressible joys
that you have prepared
for those who truly love you;
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 the Revelation to John.

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,
'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing,
'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he

said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,

and worship him day and night within his temple,

and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,

nor any scorching heat;

for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd,

and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

Revelation 7:9-end

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual: Psalm 34:1-10

I will always give thanks unto the Lord :
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

My soul shall make her boast in the Lord :
the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.

O praise the Lord with me :
and let us magnify his Name together.

I sought the Lord, and he heard me :
yea, he delivered me out of all my fear.

They had an eye unto him, and were
lightened: and their faces were not
ashamed.

Lo, the poor crieth, and the Lord heareth
him : yea, and saveth him out of all his
troubles.

The angel of the Lord tarrieth round about
them that fear him : and delivereth them.

O taste, and see, how gracious the Lord is
: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

O fear the Lord, ye that are his saints :
for they that fear him lack nothing.

The lions do lack, and suffer hunger :
but they who seek the Lord shall want no
manner of thing that is good.

Please stand for the Gospel procession.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, God's own people,
called out of darkness
into his marvellous light. *I Peter 2:9*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up
the mountain; and after he sat down, his
disciples came to him. Then he began to
speak, and taught them, saying:

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is
the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they
will be comforted.

‘Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit
the earth.

‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst
for righteousness, for they will be filled.

‘Blessed are the merciful, for they will
receive mercy.

‘Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

‘Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matt 5:1-12

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 Dean

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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Please be seated.

United in the company of all the faithful
and looking for the coming of the kingdom,
let us offer our prayers to God,
the source of all life and holiness.

*After each petition, the following response
may be used*

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

At the end

We give you thanks
for the whole company
of your saints in glory,
with whom in fellowship
we join our prayers and praises;
by your grace may we, like them,
be made perfect in your love.

**Blessing and glory and wisdom,
thanksgiving and honour and power,
be to our God for ever and ever.
Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

Please stand. The President says

We are fellow-citizens with the saints
and of the household of God,
through Christ our Lord,
who came and preached peace
to those who were far off
and those who were near.

Ephesians 2:19,17

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

For all the saints
who from their labours rest,
who thee by faith
before the world confest.
Thy name, O Jesu, be for ever blest.
Alleluya! Alleluya!

O blest communion!
Fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle,
they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluya! Alleluya!

The golden evening
brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful
warriors cometh rest:
Sweet is the calm of Paradise the blest.
Alleluya! Alleluya!

But lo! there breaks
a yet more glorious day;
the Saints triumphant
rise in bright array:
the King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluya! Alleluya!

From earth's wide bounds,
from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl
streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluya! Alleluya!

W. Walsham How 1823-97

SINE NOMINE

Ralph Vaughan Williams 1872-1958

Preparation of the Altar

Please remain standing. The President prays

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed
on the hillside are now reunited
on this table in bread and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church
soon be gathered together
from the four corners of the earth
into your kingdom.

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
And now we give you thanks,
most gracious God,

surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses
and glorified in the assembly of your saints.
The glorious company of apostles
praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets
praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs
praise you.

We, your holy Church, acclaim you.

In communion with angels and archangels,
and with all who served you on earth
and worship you now in heaven,
we raise our voices to proclaim your glory,
for ever praising you and singing:

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

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood
of your dear Son.

On the night before he died
he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them
and said: Take, eat; this is my body
which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
When supper was ended
he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all
upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life
and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

The Deacon says

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy
will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ,
and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours,
O loving Father, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Please be seated.

The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer can be offered in your own language.

With saints and martyrs through the ages,
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

I heard the voice of a great multitude
crying, 'Alleluia', the Lord our God
has entered into his kingdom.

**Blessed are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.**

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 motet

The choir sings

Der Gerechte kommt um, Und niemand
ist, der es zu Herzen nehme; Und heilige
Leute werden aufgerafft, Und niemand
achtet drauf. Denn die Gerechten werden
weggerafft vor dem Unglück; Und die
richtig vor sich gewandelt haben, Kommen
zum Frieden und ruhen in ihren Kammern.

The righteous perish, and no one takes it to heart; the devout are taken away, while no one understands. For the righteous are taken away from calamity, and they enter into peace; those who walk uprightly will rest on their couches.

Isaiah 57:1-2

Johann Sebastian Bach 1785-1650

Post Communion Prayer

The President says

Let us pray.

Lord of heaven, in this eucharist
you have brought us near
to an innumerable company of angels and
to the spirits of the saints made perfect:
as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage
we have shared their fellowship,
so may we come to share
their joy in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Hymn

Please stand to sing the hymn.

Jerusalem the golden,
with milk and honey blest,
beneath thy contemplation
sink heart and voice opprest.
I know not, O I know not,
what social joys are there,
what radiancy of glory,
what light beyond compare.

They stand, those halls of Sion,
conjubilant with song,
and bright with many an angel,
and all the martyr throng;
the Prince is ever in them,
the daylight is serene,
the pastures of the blessed
are decked in glorious sheen.

There is the throne of David,
and there, from care released,
the song of them that triumph,
the shout of them that feast;
and they who, with their Leader,
have conquered in the fight,
for ever and for ever
are clad in robes of white.

O sweet and blessed country,
shall I ever see thy face?
O sweet and blessed country,
shall I ever win thy grace?
Exult, O dust and ashes!
The Lord shall be thy part:
his only, his for ever,
thou shalt be, and thou art!

Bernard of Cluny, 12th C

EWING

trans. J.M. Neale 1818-66 Alexander Ewing 1830-95

Blessing

Please remain standing. The President says

May God,
who kindled the fire of his love
in the hearts of the saints,
pour upon you the riches of his grace;
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

Following God's saints
in the ways of holiness and truth,
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

Fugue in B minor (BWV 544ii)

J S Bach 1685-1750

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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