



The Requiem Eucharist for the Commemoration of those who have Died in War



*Requiem, Gabriel Fauré
(1845-1924)*

Sunday 12th November 2023 at 4pm

Welcome to Coventry Cathedral

Requiems are sung settings of the Eucharist, offered to remember those who have died, to pray for them, and to entrust them into God's safe-keeping.

Often, requiems are sung at All Souls as we remember with love and longing those close to us who have died.

Today's service is offered especially for those who have died in war - amongst them, those in Israel/Palestine and in Ukraine. We remember, too, all those injured, displaced or traumatised by war. We join with all those longing for peace, and working for peace, asking that, as we wait, we would be filled with God's peace, which surpasses all understanding (Philippians 4:7), that holds us even though the earth should change (Psalm 46:2).

We hope that, alongside praying for those whose lives have been devastated by war, you will find space to remember your own loved ones, asking, 'Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.'

"It has been said that my Requiem does not express the fear of death and someone has called it a lullaby of death.

But it is thus that I see death: as a happy deliverance, an aspiration towards happiness above, rather than as a painful experience."

- Gabriel Fauré

The cover photograph is of a sculpture in the Ruins, called 'Choir of Survivors'. It is by the German sculptor Helmut Heinze (b. 1932) and was given to Coventry Cathedral by the city of Dresden. It is dedicated to civilians killed or injured in war.

The President today is the Reverend Su McClellan, Cathedral Curate. The Deacon is the Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry. The Reverend Mary Gregory, Canon for Arts and Reconciliation, is preaching.

Today's service is sung by the Cathedral Choir, directed by Rachel Mahon, Director of Music. The organist is Luke Fitzgerald, Assistant Director of Music.

In our service today, we say together the words in **bold**. Information is given in *italics*. Please feel free to stay seated if you need to at any point in the service.

If this is your first time here, have particular questions about the service or our work and ministry, or want to know more about the Christian faith, please talk to one of the ministers after the service, who will be delighted to tell you more; or email the Reverend Canon Mary Gregory at Mary.Gregory@coventrycathedral.org.uk

There is no collection taken during the service, but if you would like to donate to our work here at Coventry Cathedral, there are contactless donation points and collection boxes near the entrance, and at the back of this booklet there is a QR code if you would like to donate online. We are immensely grateful for your generosity, which is vital to keep the Cathedral running.

We hope that you will want to come and worship with us again; our regular Sunday services are at 10:30am and 4pm, with various other services throughout the week. For more information, please visit <https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/>

You are welcome to take photographs, but not until after the service, please.

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England and Common Worship: Times and Seasons and Common Worship: Festivals material from which is included in this service booklet are copyright © The Archbishops' Council.

Other material is reproduced under CCL 17597.

The Gathering

*Everyone remains seated as the choir processes in silence to the Chancel.
The servers and ministers process to the Chancel as the choir sings:*

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine: et lux perpetua luceat eis. Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion, et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem. Exaudi orationem meam, ad te omnis caro veniet. Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Grant them eternal rest, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Thou, O God, art praised in Sion: and unto thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem. Thou that hearest the prayer: unto thee shall all flesh come. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

The Greeting

The Reverend Su McClellan, Cathedral Curate, presiding, says,

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
and also with you.

Prayers of Penitence

The Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry, deacon, introduces -

In life and in death we are with the Lord.
Let us turn to the Lord, who is full of compassion and mercy,
and ask that he will forgive us our sins,
and extend his healing love upon our broken world.

Silence is kept.

**Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like the morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The president says,

May almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you your sins,
and bring you to everlasting life.
Amen.

The Collect

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words:

Let us pray for peace amongst the nations, and within those
scarred by war.

Silence is kept.

Lord of the nations,
Saviour and judge of all:
remove from human hearts all bitterness and hate,
grant to those who have died in war
your mercy and forgiveness,
and bring us all to the peace of your eternal Kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who suffered and died,
and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, world without end.
Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Old Testament Reading

Everyone sits for the reading, read by the Reverend Mary Gregory, Canon for Arts and Reconciliation.

¹ You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,

² will say to the LORD, 'My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust.'

³ For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler
and from the deadly pestilence;

⁴ he will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

⁵ You will not fear the terror of the night,
or the arrow that flies by day,

⁶ or the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
or the destruction that wastes at noonday.

⁷ A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you.

⁸ You will only look with your eyes
and see the punishment of the wicked.

⁹ Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
the Most High your dwelling-place,

¹⁰ no evil shall befall you,
no scourge come near your tent.

¹¹ For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.

¹² On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.

¹³ You will tread on the lion and the adder,
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

¹⁴ Those who love me, I will deliver;
I will protect those who know my name.
¹⁵ When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honour them.
¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.

Psalm 91

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

The Gospel

*Everyone stands. The Gospel procession moves to the centre aisle in silence.
The deacon introduces the Gospel:*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

The deacon reads.

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.
¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ I have
said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your
joy may be complete.
¹² This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved
you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for
one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you.
¹⁵ I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not
know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I
have made known to you everything that I have heard from my
Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you
to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you
whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands
so that you may love one another.

John 15:9 – 17

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The Gospel procession returns in silence.

The Homily

We remain standing until the preacher, the Reverend Mary Gregory, has prayed. We sit for the homily. At the end of the homily the preacher prays:

Ever-living God,
we remember those whom you have gathered
from the storm of war
into the peace of your presence;
may that same peace calm our fears,
bring justice to all peoples
and establish harmony among the nations,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Pie Jesu

We stay seated as the choir sings the Pie Jesu.

Pie Jesu, Domine, dona eis requiem sempiternam.
Blessed Jesus, Lord, grant them everlasting rest.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Everyone stands and the president says,

Jesus says: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be
afraid.

The peace of the risen Lord be always with you
and also with you.

The altar is prepared and the choir sings:

Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae, libera animas defunctorum de poenis inferni, et de profundo lacu, de ore leonis; ne absorbeat Tartarus, ne cadant in obscurum. Hostias et preces tibi, Domine, laudis offerimus. Tu suscipe pro animabus illis, quarum hodie memoriam facimus. Fac eas, Domine, de morte transire ad vitam, quam olim Abrahae promisisti et semini ejus. Amen.

O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, deliver the souls of the dead from the pains of Hell, from the deep lake, from the mouth of the lion; let not Tartarus swallow them. Nor let them fall into darkness. Prayers and sacrifices to thee, Lord, we offer. Receive them on behalf of those souls whom we this day commemorate. Grant, Lord, that they pass from death to life, as thou didst promise to Abraham and to his seed. Amen.

Prayer of Preparation

The president says,

Look upon us in mercy, not in judgement;
draw us from hatred to love;
make the frailty of our praise
a dwelling place for your glory.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The president says, and everyone responds,

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

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 of life,
creator of heaven and earth,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
For through his death on the cross,
your Son Jesus Christ has broken the power of evil,
and by his glorious resurrection
has opened for us the gate of life eternal.

In him you seek the lost, restoring those whose lives
have been shattered and torn apart.
In the fullness of time, he will gather all things to himself,
enfolding us and all who have died in war in his undying love.

And so we pray that we who have set our hope on Christ
may come to the peace of heaven,
there, with angels and archangels,
to sing your praise for ever:

The choir sings the Sanctus.

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth
Pleni sunt coeli at terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. 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 introduces:

Praise to you Lord Jesus.
**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

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.

The congregation sits or kneels and silence is kept.

The Lord's Prayer

The president says,

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven,
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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the bread, saying,

Jesus is the living bread which came down from heaven:
if anyone eats of this bread, they will live for ever.
Lord, give us this bread always.

The Communion

The president invites the people to receive Communion.

Jesus said: Gather up the fragments that nothing may be lost.
Lord, feed us with the bread of heaven.

The ministers and choir receive Communion during a short organ improvisation. While the congregation receives Communion, the choir sings the Agnus Dei and Libera Me. Please wait in your seat to be directed by a churchwarden or steward. If you wish to receive gluten-free bread, please ask at the Communion station and we will be happy to provide. Those who do not intend to receive Communion, but would prefer to receive a blessing, are asked to carry this booklet as an indication of your preference to the ministers.

Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona eis requiem sempiternam.
Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine: cum sanctus tuus in aeternam, quia pius es. Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant them eternal rest. Let eternal light shine upon them, Lord, with thy saints for ever, for thou art good. Grant them eternal rest, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Libera Me

Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna, in die illa tremenda: quando coeli movendi sunt et terra: Dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem. Tremens factus sum ego, et timeo dum discussio venerit, atque ventura ira. Dies illa, dies irae, calamitatis et miseriae, Dies magna et amara valde. Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine: et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death, on that awful day when the heavens and the earth shall quake, when Thou shalt come to judge the world by fire. I am full of fear, afraid of the trial and the wrath to come. That day shall be a day of wrath, calamity and misery, a mighty day, and exceedingly bitter. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Prayer after Communion

The president introduces:

Lord God, in this Eucharist which we have shared,
you have spoken your word of life
and nourished us with the mysteries
of Christ's body and blood;
bring us, with all who have died in combat
or through the injuries of war,
to know the joys of heaven.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lived and died
and was raised to newness of life,
to whom be glory in every age and for eternity.
Amen.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.
**And weeping o'er the grave we make our song:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

from the Russian Kontakion of the Dead

The Dismissal

The Blessing

The president says,

May the God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
comfort and assure you of his love
in this world and the next;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

The deacon says,

Go in peace to love your neighbour.
Go in power to work for reconciliation.
Go in hope to proclaim the resurrection.
Thanks be to God.
Amen.

As the ministers move to the West Screen, the choir sings:

In paradisum deducant te angeli: in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres, et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem. Chorus angelorum te suscipiat, et cum Lazaro quondam paupere aeternam habeas requiem.

May the angels lead you into Paradise. At your coming may the martyrs receive you and bring you into the Holy City, Jerusalem. May the choir of angels receive you, and with Lazarus, once a beggar, may you have eternal rest.

Everyone is asked to leave their seats in silence, but you are welcome to stay and talk quietly for a while at the back of the Cathedral.

*If you would like to make a one-off donation to the Cathedral via your phone, or set up a recurring donation, please use the QR code below. There are also contactless donation points and collection boxes near the entrance.
Thank you for your support.*



COMMUNITY NEWS

Winter programme: services and events

This is now available to pick up from the back of the Cathedral with details of all our services and events throughout December. Please do take one home today.

Reconciliation season and sermon series

Last year, we began to mark the Sundays in November as a season of reconciliation; an opportunity to focus on the heart of our calling here at Coventry Cathedral. This year, we have developed a Eucharist liturgy to reflect this, and will be following a series of sermons helping us to explore what reconciliation might mean for each of us. The series will use the parable of the prodigal son as its starting point, with a different focus each week:

Sunday 5th November – Reconciling to ourselves

Sunday 19th November – Reconciling to God

Sunday 26th November – Reconciling to others

(On Sunday 12th November we will, of course, be marking Remembrance Sunday.)

Seeking a new Bishop of Coventry: your views are invited

As part of the process of identifying the next Bishop of Coventry, the Diocese have set up a short survey on some of the qualities you might like to see in the person appointed. Completing the survey will only take a few minutes. Could you add your voice to those who have already responded? Please follow this link to complete the survey: <https://www.equiphub.org.uk/diocesan-wide-poll/>

Process to appoint a new Canon for Worship and Welcome

You might be aware that back in July we held a selection process to identify a Canon for Worship and Welcome - a similar, but not identical role to that which was fulfilled by Canon Kathryn. Although the process ran very well, and we identified an exciting and hugely gifted candidate, that candidate ultimately withdrew from the process. After much prayer and reflection, we have, in the last few days, advertised the post again and will interview at the end of November. Please do hold the interviewing panel, chaired by the Dean, in your prayers, as well as those discerning whether they have a vocation to this post.

Priory Row

Thank you for your support in our project to secure Priory Row numbers 9 and 10 for the Cathedral. You may recall that these are the properties beside St Michael's

House, which houses some of our offices and meeting spaces, as well as accommodation for our Assistant Director of Music, and the Dean's current home.

The vision for the project is to create a 'Cathedral Close' for the Dean and residentiary Canons, to relocate the offices currently in St Michael's House and Youell House, and to secure this sector of the city as a Cathedral 'campus'. We hope that we are nearing the end of the legal processes to complete the sale, and are beginning to plan in earnest how the project will be managed. We will keep you updated as things progress.

The Organ Project

Work on developing a grant application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund continues, and will now be submitted in February. Once again, we are so grateful for your support for this important project.

The conflict in Israel/Palestine

For measured, prayerful, up-to-date information on the conflict in Israel/Palestine, you might like to regularly check the Embrace website - <https://embraceme.org/> As you will know, the Reverend Su McClellan works for Embrace, and she would be very glad to engage with you in conversation about your questions and concerns on this conflict and how we might respond. Please continue to pray for her at this challenging and distressing time, and of course continue to pray for all those suffering as a result of the conflict.

COMING SOON

Vigil on the 83rd Anniversary of the Coventry Blitz

14th November, 6pm

In the Ruins: a quiet, simple service of remembrance and praying for peace.

What are you looking for?

From 18th November

An exhibition of paintings by Michael Cook and textiles by Michelle Holmes, responding to the questions Jesus asked in the Gospels.

Psalm

Wednesday 22nd November, 7:30 – 9pm

Join singer-songwriter Rob Halligan every fourth Wednesday of the month for 'Psalm': a place to explore worship through music, quiet, spoken word and song, using the honesty of the Psalms.

Light in Our Darkness

Sunday 3rd December, 6:30pm

This is a special service of music and readings for Advent, looking towards the light and hope of Christmas.

A Christmastide Celebration

Saturday 9th December, 6 – 8pm

Get in the Christmas mood at our annual concert in aid of Coventry & Warwickshire Children's Charity. There will be a wide variety of your favourite Christmas tunes and carols. Refreshments available during the interval(s).

For more information and to book your tickets, visit:

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/events/a-christmastide-celebration>

Wonder

Wednesday 13th December, 7:30 – 9pm

Join our worship gathering for those curious and imaginative, looking to explore themes of faith through art, dance, and poetry. Wonder takes place every second Wednesday of the month! All are warmly invited to join us.