

The Cathedral Eucharist

Sunday, 25th January, 2026

The Third Sunday of Epiphany



The President today is the Reverend Kate Massey, Canon for Arts and Reconciliation. The Deacon is John Lloyd, Cathedral Lay Reader. The sub-deacon is the Reverend Su McClellan, Associate Minister. The preacher is The Reverend Canon Sacha Slavic, Associate Minister.

*The Cathedral Choir is directed by Joe Watson, Acting Director of Music. The organists are Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music, and Adam Heron, Organ Scholar. The service setting is Flor Peeter's (1903–1986) *Missa Festiva*.*

*We encourage our visitors to take photographs of our beautiful cathedral,
but please no photography during the service. Thank you.*

Opening Hymn

**Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
re-clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence praise.**

**In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee.**

**O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!**

**Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.**

**Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still small voice of calm.**

Words by John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892)

*Tune CP 411 Repton arranged from the oratorio Judith by C.H.H. Parry
(1848-1918)*

The Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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.

The First Reading

Read by Otlie Samuel, representing the Cathedral Community.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

¹ But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness

have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Isaiah 9: 1-4

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the Kingdom, and healed every affliction among the people.

Cf. Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gospel Reading

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ ‘Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.’

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’

¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ And he said to them, ‘Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.’ ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³ Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Matthew 4.12–23

Offertory Hymn

**The people that in darkness sat
a glorious light have seen;
the light has shined on them who long
in shades of death have been.**

**To hail thee, Sun of Righteousness,
the gathering nations come;
they joy as when the reapers bear
their harvest treasures home.**

**For thou their burden doest remove,
and break the tyrant's rod,
as in the day when Midian fell
before the sword of God.**

**For unto us a child is born,
to us a Son is given,
and on his shoulder ever rests
all power in earth and heaven.**

**His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
the everlasting Lord,
the Wonderful, the Counsellor,
the God by all adored.**

**His righteous government and power
shall over all extend;
on judgement and on justice based,
his reign shall have no end.**

**Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,
and make us thine alone,
who with the Father ever art
and Holy Spirit One.**

Isaiah 9.2-7 as in Scottish Paraphrases (1791)

arranged by John Morrison (1750-1798)

Tune CP 38 Dundee melody from the Scottish Psalter (1615)

as set in Ravenscroft's Psalter (1621)

Anthem

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. Ye are wash'd, ye are sanctified, ye are justified, in the name of the Lord Jesus; ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath call'd you out of darkness into his marvellous light. I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

from Song of Songs 8, John 15, 1 Peter 2, 1 Corinthians 6, Romans 12

Music by John Ireland (1879-1962)

Communion Hymn

**Blest are the pure in heart,
for they shall see our God;
the secret of the Lord is theirs,
their soul is Christ's abode.**

**The Lord, who left the heavens
our life and peace to bring,
to dwell in lowliness with us,
our pattern and our King,**

**Still to the lowly soul
he doth himself impart,
and for his dwelling and his throne
chooseth the pure in heart.**

**Lord, we thy presence seek;
may ours this blessing be;
give us a pure and lowly heart,
a temple meet for thee.**

*John Keble (1792-1866) and others
Tune CP 391 Franconia Harmonischer Liederschatz (1738)*

Post Communion

Almighty Father,
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
may your people,
illumined by your word and sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory,
that he may be known, worshipped,
and obeyed to the ends of the earth;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does his successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore
till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.**

**Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoner leaps to lose his chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and every child of want is blest.**

**To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like incense shall arise
with every morning sacrifice.**

**Let every creature rise and bring
peculiar honours to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud Amen.**

Words by Isaac Watts (1674-1748)
Tune CP 490(i) Truro Psalmodia Evangelica (1789)

Voluntary

*Please do stay for the organ voluntary, performed today by Adam Heron,
Organ Scholar.*

Toccata by Georgi Mushel (1909-1989)

We invite those joining us for worship to contribute to the costs of mission at the Cathedral. Please use the cash or contactless donation points, or the QR code below. This will take you to the Cathedral's page for the Parish giving Scheme which will enable you to make a one off donation, or set up a regular gift should you wish. Thank you so much for your support and generosity.



*If you would like to revisit this morning's sermon, please visit this page:
<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/worship-music/services/sermons>*

We serve refreshments at the back of the Nave after this service, so please feel free to stay for a chat over a cup of tea or coffee!

Safeguarding at Coventry Cathedral

We are committed to the safeguarding of all people. For details, please visit
www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/about-us/safeguarding

You can report a concern using the same link or by contacting Jane Williams,
Cathedral Safeguarding Officer, calling 024 7650 2349 or
by emailing JaneMLWill@aol.com

Alternatively, you can contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team led by Sarah
Price: 024 7652 1345 or safeguarding@coventry.anglican.org

Daily Services at the Cathedral:

Regular services at the Cathedral follow this pattern. For special services and
up-to-date information about one-off cancellations of the services below,
please check the calendar on the Cathedral website:
<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/full-calendar>

Monday - Friday

8:30 – 9:00am: *Morning Prayer & Holy Communion*

12 – 12:10pm: *The Litany of Reconciliation*
(followed on Thursdays by BCP Holy Communion)

4 – 4:30pm: *Evening Prayer*

(or Wednesday and Thursday during school terms: *Choral Evensong, 5:15 - 6pm*)

Saturday

12 – 12:10pm: *The Litany of Reconciliation*

Sunday

10:30 – 11:45am: *The Cathedral Eucharist*

4 – 5pm: *Choral Evensong*

JOINING OUR CHOIRS

Boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 11 are welcome to audition for our
Cathedral Choir. Do you know a child who loves to sing? There are many
benefits to joining the choir – new friends, a free, world-class music
education, choir pay, singing services and at special events in amazing places,
choir tours, broadcasts, recordings and social events too. If you or someone
you know might be interested in joining the choir, please be in touch with the
Acting Director of Music to arrange a meeting. Email:

MusicAdministrator@CoventryCathedral.org.uk

Our Cathedral Chamber Choir

Our Cathedral Chamber Choir sing voluntarily at various services throughout the year and are currently open for auditions on all voice parts. Rehearsals usually take place on occasional Thursday evenings in the lead up to a service. If you would be interested in joining our Chamber Choir, please get in touch with Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music, for an audition.

Email: Liam.Condon@coventry.anglican.org

COMMUNITY NEWS

Clergy Preaching Away Today:

The Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry - St Chad's, Wood End

Interment of Ashes.

TODAY at 12:30pm

The interment of the ashes of the Late Pauline Lawrence will follow the Cathedral Eucharist. This service will be led by the Dean.

COMING SOON

“How did we get here?”: An Itinerant’s Musical

Saturday, 31st January 2026, 7:30pm

In 2001, Rob Halligan lost his father in the 9/11 terror attacks. A week later he found himself in New York City on the start of a journey, trying to make sense of what he'd seen. From a dysfunctional childhood and life on the streets, to being an ambassador for vulnerable children and an acclaimed songwriter, Rob's journey whistles hope into a hopeless world and invites us to do the same.

Through songs and stories, “How Did We Get Here” takes us down a road underpinned by a simple faith and the belief that love is bigger.

Tickets £10 general admission

For any access questions or queries please contact
events@coventrycathedral.org.uk

Lenten Course: Testament

This Lent, join us for a thought-provoking course built around *Testament*, the contemporary Christian series that brings the opening chapters of the Book of Acts vividly to life. Together we will explore the first ten chapters of Acts and reflect on what the birth of the Church might mean for faith and discipleship today.

The course will meet every Tuesday evening in Lent at 7pm in St Michael's House, beginning on Shrove Tuesday, 17 February.

To sign up, or for further details, please speak to Rob or Canon Nitano.

2026 Dates for Wonder

This last Wednesday, the Wonder community met for the first time for 2026 and would warmly welcome those curious and imaginative, looking to explore what we believe through art, dance, and poetry. Wonder takes place every second Wednesday of the month, led by Canon Kate Massey.

11th February- *Dust*
18th March- *Passion*
15th April- *Encounter*
20th May- *Breathe*
17th June- *Community*
No gathering in July
12th August- *Simplicity*
16th September- *Abundance*
21st October- *Memory*
18th November- *Peace*

February's Family & Community Events

Let's Toddle! Toddler Hangout!

Wednesday, 4th February, 10-11.30am

Suitable for 18months to 3years. Let them explore the sights of the Cathedral, and enjoy a selection of toys, books and a simple craft activity.
Book your FREE space online.

Let's Chill: Baby Hangout!

Wednesday, 11th February, 10-11.30am

Let your little ones be mesmerized by the shapes and colours of the Cathedral. Book your FREE space online

Coffee Morning

Wednesday, 18th February, 10-11.30am

Come and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of the Cathedral, with FREE refreshments.

Any questions, please email events@coventrycathedral.org.uk

Reading Corner with Children's Books!

Available all Half Term during opening hours. 10am - 4pm

Let's Play: Quiet Hour

Thursday, 19th February, 9am-10am

This FREE session is specifically for those families and children who need less bustle and noise, and the space to explore in their own unique ways
Book your FREE places online

Let's Play: Games & Crafts

Thursday, 19th February, 10:30am - 12 noon

Let's play together this Half Term Holiday in the Cathedral! Make the most out of Half Term and enjoy some games and crafts at Coventry Cathedral. FREE and suitable for families of all shapes and sizes.

Let's Watch and Make: Alice in Wonderland (1951)

Saturday, 21st February, 10am - 12 noon

Come and join us this half term for crafts and a classic kids film!

We will gather in St Michael's Gallery to do some crafts and then move to our Chapterhouse Cinema to watch Alice in Wonderland (the 1951 version)

(Book your FREE places online)

Any questions, please email events@coventrycathedral.org.uk