

Choral Evensong

Sunday 7th September, 2025

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity



Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong, led by the Reverend Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship and Welcome and Donald Parr, Cathedral Reader, will be preaching. The Cathedral Choir is directed by Rachel Mahon, Director of Music. The organist is Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music. The responses are by Richard Ayleward (1626-1669).

The Introit

Hail gladdening light, of his pure glory poured
Who is the immortal Father, heavenly, blest,
Holiest of holies, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Now we are come to the sun's hour of rest,
The lights of evening round us shine,
We hymn the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit divine.

Worthiest art thou at all times to be sung with undefiled tongue,
Son of our God, giver of life, alone:
Therefore in all the world thy glories, Lord, they own.

*Words from 'At the lighting of the lamps', 2nd century,
translated by John Keble (1792-1866)
Music by John Stainer (1840-1901)*

Psalms 120

When I was in trouble I called upon the Lord
and he heard me.
Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips
and from a deceitful tongue.
What reward shall be given or done unto thee, thou false tongue
even mighty and sharp arrows, with hot burning coals.
Woe is me, that I am constrained to dwell with Mesech
and to have my habitation among the tents of Kedar.
My soul hath long dwelt among them
that are enemies unto peace.

I labour for peace, but when I speak unto them thereof
they make them ready to battle.

Psalm 121

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills
from whence cometh my help.
My help cometh even from the Lord
who hath made heaven and earth.
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved
and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.
Behold, he that keepeth Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord himself is thy keeper
the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand;
So that the sun shall not burn thee by day
neither the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil
yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in
from this time forth for evermore.

The First Lesson

Thus says the Lord,
your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:
For your sake I will send to Babylon
and break down all the bars,
and the shouting of the Chaldeans will be turned to lamentation.
I am the Lord, your Holy One,
the Creator of Israel, your King.
Thus says the Lord,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honour me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

Yet you did not call upon me, O Jacob;
but you have been weary of me, O Israel!
You have not brought me your sheep for burnt-offerings,
or honoured me with your sacrifices.
I have not burdened you with offerings,
or wearied you with frankincense.
You have not bought me sweet cane with money,
or satisfied me with the fat of your sacrifices.
But you have burdened me with your sins;
you have wearied me with your iniquities.

I, I am He
who blots out your transgressions for my own sake,
and I will not remember your sins.
Accuse me, let us go to trial;
set forth your case, so that you may be proved right.
Your first ancestor sinned,
and your interpreters transgressed against me.
Therefore I profaned the princes of the sanctuary,
I delivered Jacob to utter destruction,
and Israel to reviling.

But now hear, O Jacob my servant,
Israel whom I have chosen!
Thus says the Lord who made you,
who formed you in the womb and will help you:
Do not fear, O Jacob my servant,
Jeshurun whom I have chosen.
For I will pour water on the thirsty land,
and streams on the dry ground;
I will pour my spirit upon your descendants,
and my blessing on your offspring.
They shall spring up like a green tamarisk,
like willows by flowing streams.
This one will say, 'I am the Lord's',
another will be called by the name of Jacob,
yet another will write on the hand, 'The Lord's',
and adopt the name of Israel.

Isaiah 43.14 - 44.5

The Magnificat

Evening Service in E by Sydney Watson (1903–91)

The Second Lesson

'I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge; and my judgement is just, because I seek to do not my own will but the will of him who sent me.

'If I testify about myself, my testimony is not true. There is another who testifies on my behalf, and I know that his testimony to me is true. You sent messengers to John, and he testified to the truth. Not that I accept such human testimony, but I say these things so that you may be saved. He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light. But I have a testimony greater than John's. The works that the Father has given me to complete, the very works that I am doing, testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me. And the Father who sent me has himself testified on my behalf. You have never heard his voice or seen his form, and you do not have his word abiding in you, because you do not believe him whom he has sent.

‘You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf. Yet you refuse to come to me to have life. I do not accept glory from human beings. But I know that you do not have the love of God in you. I have come in my Father’s name, and you do not accept me; if another comes in his own name, you will accept him. How can you believe when you accept glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the one who alone is God? Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; your accuser is Moses, on whom you have set your hope. If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. But if you do not believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?’

John 5.30-end

The Nunc Dimittis

Evening Service in E by Sydney Watson (1903–91)

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire, or deserve; Pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy; forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. Amen.

The 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)*

The Hymn

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord;
be thou my great Father, and I thy true heir;
be thou in me dwelling, and I in thy care.**

**Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.**

**Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise:
be thou mine inheritance now and always;
be thou and thou only the first in my heart;
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won;
great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Words c.8th century Irish tr. Mary Byrne (1880-1931)

versified by Eleanor Hull (1860-1935)

Tune CP 386 Slane Irish traditional harmonised by Erik Routley (1917-1982)

Voluntary

Please do stay for the organ voluntary, performed by Liam Condon.

Final from Sonata No.1 Guilmant (1837-1911).

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.



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: *BCP Evening Prayer (Choral Evensong during term time)*

JOINING OUR CHOIRS

Do you know a child who loves to sing? Boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 10 are welcome to audition for the Cathedral Boys' and Girls' Choirs. They sing an average of four times per week during term time in recordings, services and concerts. Children receive a world-class music education completely free and even receive scholarship payments. Please get in touch with the Director of Music to learn more:

rachel.mahon@coventrycathedral.org.uk

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

-JOB OPPORTUNITIES-

HEAD VERGER

We are seeking to appoint an experienced individual who will enable the smooth running of the Cathedral, chiefly as a place of prayer and worship, but also as a popular tourist destination and venue for a wide variety of concerts and other events. The person will lead the verger team and form part of the middle management of the Cathedral.

This is a fulltime role and onsite accommodation is provided.

Please see the Cathedral website for more details or email Nitano.Muller@Coventry.Anglican.org if you have any questions.

Closing date for applications: **Friday, 3 October.**

Interviews: Thursday, 16 October.

VERGER (PART-TIME)

We are seeking to appoint a part-time verger (*15 hours per week*).

The role will primarily be a liturgical one: assisting with the preparation and delivery of Cathedral services on weekends, but as a team player, you must be willing to be flexible in covering other shifts as is needed. The post is subject to DBS clearance and will include weekend and bank holiday working.

Please see the Cathedral website for more details or email Nitano.Muller@Coventry.Anglican.org if you have any questions.

The closing date for applications: **Monday, 15th September 2025**

Interviews will take place at our offices, on Monday, 22nd September 2025.

ICONS SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATOR

The Schools Team are looking for someone with strong administrative skills, experience in digital communication and a passion for reconciliation and education to join their team as an administrator. It is a part-time/term-time only role.

Please submit a CV and letter of application to emma.griffiths@coventry.anglican.org or the Cathedral website for more information.

COMING SOON

Summer Organ Recital Series

Monday, 8th September, 12:30pm

Our 2025 summer organ recital series continues with a recital from Gary Desmond.

S. Campbell Pageantry

Z. Gárdonyi Mozart Changes

H. Andriessen Thema met Variaties

D. Locklair 'And the Peace shall be exchanged' (Rubrics)

F. de la Tombelle Toccata

Details of the rest of the series can be found here:

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/worship-music/the-organ/organ-recitals>

CCN Zoom Meeting

Friday, 11th September, 11:00am

The Community of the Cross of Nails meet on Zoom on the first Friday of the month at 11am. This half hour gathering allows us to meet other members of the CCN, hear something of their work and challenges and we finish by praying the litany together. All are welcome to join. The next online litany is this Friday 7th September at 11am and the Zoom link to access this meeting is

<https://tinyurl.com/mszyvcmc>

Celebration of Lay Ministry

Saturday, 20 September, 5pm

All are warmly invited to the Diocese of Coventry's **Celebration of Lay Ministry** – a special service giving thanks for the many ways lay people serve God's mission in church, community, and daily life. Lay-Readers will be (re)licensed and local lay leaders will be celebrated.

Patronal Festival/CCN Sunday

Sunday, 21st September 2025, 10.30am

Join us as we mark the feast of St Michael and All Angels, as well as CCN Sunday, when we give thanks for the worldwide family of the Community of the Cross of Nails. Celebrating as one community, rejoicing in our calling to be people of reconciliation, hope and renewal.

Chorister Car Wash Fundraiser

Sunday 21 September between the services, from 12:30 until 2pm.

Support the Choirs! The Choristers will be hosting a car wash to raise funds. Have a drink in the pop-up café while you wait for your car to be washed. This will be happening in the Upper Car Park just beside the Cathedral off Priory Row.

National Police Memorial Day Service

Sunday, 28 September, 2pm

We are privileged to host this year's National Police Memorial Service, when we gather with families and representatives from across the country to honour and remember officers who have given their lives in the line of duty. On this important occasion, ***please note there will be no Cathedral Eucharist***, but congregation members are welcome to attend the service at Holy Trinity. A limited number of spaces are available for members of the congregation to attend the NPMD service; names should be submitted to the Churchwardens by Sunday, 21st September.