

Choral Evensong

Sunday 14th September, 2025

Holy Cross Day



Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong, led by the Reverend Su McClellan, Cathedral Associate Minister. Mr John Lloyd, Cathedral Lay Reader, will be preaching. The Choir is directed by Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music. The organist is Colin Druce. The responses are those by Thomas Morley (1557 - 1602).

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

Introit

God be in my head and in my understanding.
God be in mine eyes and in my looking.
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.
God be in my heart and in my thinking.
God be at mine end and at my departing.

Music by Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941)

Psalm 110

1. The Lord said unto my Lord ♦
Sit thou on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.
2. The Lord shall send the rod of thy power out of Sion ♦
be thou ruler, even in the midst among thine enemies.
3. In the day of thy power shall the people offer thee free-will offerings
with an holy worship ♦
the dew of thy birth is of the womb of the morning.
4. The Lord sware, and will not repent ♦
Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedech.
5. The Lord upon thy right hand ♦
shall wound even kings in the day of his wrath.
6. He shall judge among the heathen; he shall fill the places with the
dead bodies ♦
and smite in sunder the heads over divers countries.

7. He shall drink of the brook in the way ♦
therefore shall he lift up his head.

Psalm 150

1. O praise God in his holiness ♦
praise him in the firmament of his power.
2. Praise him in his noble acts ♦
praise him according to his excellent greatness.
3. Praise him in the sound of the trumpet ♦
praise him upon the lute and harp.
4. Praise him in the cymbals and dances ♦
praise him upon the strings and pipe.
5. Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals ♦
praise him upon the loud cymbals.
6. Let every thing that hath breath ♦
praise the Lord.

The First Lesson

- ¹ 'Who is this that comes from Edom,
from Bozrah in garments stained crimson?
Who is this so splendidly robed,
marching in his great might?'
'It is I, announcing vindication,
mighty to save.'
- ² 'Why are your robes red,
and your garments like theirs who tread the wine press?'
- ³ 'I have trodden the wine press alone,
and from the peoples no one was with me;
I trod them in my anger
and trampled them in my wrath;
their juice spattered on my garments,
and stained all my robes.'
- ⁴ For the day of vengeance was in my heart,
and the year for my redeeming work had come.
- ⁵ I looked, but there was no helper;
I stared, but there was no one to sustain me;
so my own arm brought me victory,

and my wrath sustained me.

⁶ I trampled down peoples in my anger,
I crushed them in my wrath,
and I poured out their lifeblood on the earth.'

⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,
because of all that the Lord has done for us,
and the great favour to the house of Israel
that he has shown them according to his mercy,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸ For he said, 'Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely';

and he became their saviour

⁹ in all their distress.

It was no messenger* or angel

but his presence that saved them;*

in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;

he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

¹⁰ But they rebelled

and grieved his holy spirit;

therefore he became their enemy;

he himself fought against them.

¹¹ Then they remembered the days of old,
of Moses his servant.

Where is the one who brought them up out of the sea
with the shepherds of his flock?

Where is the one who put within them
his holy spirit,

¹² who caused his glorious arm

to march at the right hand of Moses,

who divided the waters before them

to make for himself an everlasting name,

¹³ who led them through the depths?

Like a horse in the desert,

they did not stumble.

¹⁴ Like cattle that go down into the valley,
the spirit of the Lord gave them rest.

Thus you led your people,
to make for yourself a glorious name.

¹⁵ Look down from heaven and see,
from your holy and glorious habitation.

Where are your zeal and your might?

The yearning of your heart and your compassion?

They are withheld from me.

¹⁶ For you are our father,
though Abraham does not know us
and Israel does not acknowledge us;
you, O Lord, are our father;
our Redeemer from of old is your name.

Isaiah 63:1-16

The Magnificat

Evening Service in E by Herbert Murrill (1909 – 1952)

The Second Lesson

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The Nunc Dimittis

Evening Service in E by Herbert Murrill (1909 – 1952)

The Collect of the Day

O God, who by the passion of thy blessed Son hast made the instrument of shameful death to be unto us the means of life and peace: Grant us so to glory in the Cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss; for the sake of the same thy Son our Lord. Amen.

The Anthem

This sanctuary of my soul,
unwitting I keep white and whole,
unlatch'd and lit, if thou should'st care
to enter or to tarry there.
With parted lips and outstretch'd hands
and list'ning ears tthy servant stands,
call thou early, call thou late,
to thy great service dedicate.
My soul, keep white, and whole.

Words by C. H. Sorley (1895-1915)
Music by Charles Wood (1866-1926)

The Hymn

**Lord Jesus, think on me,
and purge away my sin;
from earthborn passions set me free,
and make me pure within.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me
with many a care opprest;
let me thy loving servant be,
and taste thy promised rest.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me,
nor let me go astray;
through darkness and perplexity
point thou the heavenly way.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me,
that, when the flood is past,
I may the eternal brightness see,
and share thy joy at last.**

*Words by Synesius of Cyrene (c.365-c.414) tr. A.W. Chatfield (1808-1896)
Tune CP 97 Southwell from Psalm 45 from Psalms in English metre
(1579)
adapted by William Daman (1540-1579)*

Voluntary

Please do stay for the organ voluntary, performed by Colin Druce.

Prelude in C, BWV 547 by J.S. Bach (1685-1750).

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)*

CLERGY PREACHING AWAY:

The Reverend Canon Kate Massey - Deaconess House Anniversary,
Dresden

The Reverend Canon Sacha Slavic- St. Chad's Woodend

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.

This role also involves *manual work*. 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.

ACCOMMODATION NEEDED

A young couple with an infant daughter are urgently in need of reasonably priced accommodation the city. If you are able to help, or suggest any possibilities, please speak to the Dean.

COMING SOON

Summer Organ Recital Series

Monday, 15th September, 12:30pm

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

D. Buxtehude - *Praeludium in D major*

J. S. Bach - *Fantasia and Fugue in C minor BWV 537*

B. Britten - *Prelude and Fugue on a theme of Vittoria*

G. Sieling - *Toccata and Fugue in D minor on a theme of Enrico Mancini*

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

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

'Remembering the forgotten blitz' - Evening Talk

Wednesday, 17th September, 7-8.30pm

in the Chapter House

FREE - but please book online on Coventry Cathedral's Whats On Page

As part of the University of Warwick's 60th Birthday celebrations...

Dr David Lees from The University of Warwick's School of Modern Languages and Cultures, presents; 'Remembering the forgotten blitz: Bombing and reconciliation in Paris and Normandy and how Coventry showed the way.'

"Courageous Conversations" Absence/Presence

Friday, 19th September, 6pm

FREE – but please book online on Coventry Cathedral's What's On Page

Join Professor Nirmal Puwar, Canon Nitano Muller, Monika Brown and Holly Cooper as they discuss the migration of ideas, people and materials that are very much part of the building of Coventry Cathedral. Basil Spence, the architect of the cathedral, was born in India due to empire; workers from the empire, as well as refugees and displaced persons from Europe and local people contributed to the building of the Cathedral. The panel opens a contact zone for courageous conversations. Absence/Presence is an invitation to participate in the making of a living heritage with stories sitting outside the usual frames of reference.

Funded by the West Midlands Racial Justice Initiative

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, 21st 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.

Bishop Sophie visit to the Cathedral

Monday, 22nd September

Bishop Sophie is coming to spend a day with the Cathedral on Monday September 22nd, to get to know us and what we do. If you would like to join the day, we would love to welcome volunteers and members of the Cathedral community to afternoon tea in the John Laing Centre at 4.30pm – 5.15pm (following Evening Prayer at 4.00). Please sign on the welcome table if you know you would like to join this event.

Coffee Morning

Wednesday, 24th September, 10am – 12noon

FREE

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

An opportunity to gather, chat with friends and friends unknown, to help us fulfil our core value of Hospitality.

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

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.

Reconciliation in a Time of Conflict

Saturday, 18th October, 10am – 3.30pm

How can we talk about reconciliation in the midst of war? We know the

Bible calls us to be reconcilers, but what does the Christian ministry of reconciliation look like in a time of conflict? What are the challenges faced by those in the context of war, and what might we learn about being reconcilers in a society increasingly characterised by cultural division and conflict? How can we pray, act and speak in these turbulent times? Christians in Ukraine and Israel Palestine have approached this question in different ways, which will in turn help shape our understanding and action in our own contexts.

This significant day conference is hosted by the British Trust for Tanur, which supports the work of the Tanur Ecumenical institute, on the border between Jerusalem and Bethlehem. We will be welcoming their Rector, Fr. John Paul SJ, along with guests from Ukraine, to lead us in our reflection.

This conference will run from 10.00 – 3.30pm at Coventry Cathedral, a community known for its commitment to reconciliation, and as a place to reflect and respond to these difficult questions. Tickets are now £15 (or £10 for concessions, e.g. ordinands, students). For more information and to book your place visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/wh674s7c>