

# Choral Evensong

## Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2025

### 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

*Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong, led by the Reverend Canon Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship and Welcome.*

*The Reverend Gillian Roberts is preaching.*

*We are joined today by the Oakville Singers from Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire, directed by Ivan Oliver. The organist is John Wilderspin on the Organ. The responses are those by Brian Cotterill.*

### Introit

Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away; for lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come; arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

*The Song of Solomon 2: 10-11  
music by James Healey Willan (1880-1968)*

### Psalm 119: 1-16

- <sup>1</sup>. Blessed are those that are undefiled in the way \*  
and walk in the law of the Lord.
- <sup>2</sup>. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies \*  
and seek him with their whole heart.
- <sup>3</sup>. For they who do no wickedness \*  
walk in his ways.
- <sup>4</sup>. Thou hast charged \*  
that we shall diligently keep thy commandments.
- <sup>5</sup>. O that my ways were made so direct \*  
that I might keep thy statutes!
- <sup>6</sup>. So shall I not be confounded \*  
while I have respect unto all thy commandments.
- <sup>7</sup>. I will thank thee with an unfeigned heart \*  
when I shall have learned the judgements of thy righteousness.
- <sup>8</sup>. I will keep thy ceremonies \*  
O forsake me not utterly.

- <sup>9</sup> Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way \*  
even by ruling himself after thy word.
- <sup>10</sup> With my whole heart have I sought thee \*  
O let me not go wrong out of thy commandments.
- <sup>11</sup> Thy words have I hid within my heart \*  
that I should not sin against thee.
- <sup>12</sup> Blessed art thou, O Lord \*  
O teach me thy statutes.
- <sup>13</sup> With my lips have I been telling \*  
of all the judgements of thy mouth.
- <sup>14</sup> I have had as great delight in the way of thy testimonies \*  
as in all manner of riches.
- <sup>15</sup> I will talk of thy commandments \*  
and have respect unto thy ways.
- <sup>16</sup> My delight shall be in thy statutes \*  
and I will not forget thy word.

## **The First Lesson**

- <sup>1</sup> Send out your bread upon the waters,  
for after many days you will get it back.
- <sup>2</sup> Divide your means seven ways, or even eight,  
for you do not know what disaster may happen on earth.
- <sup>3</sup> When clouds are full,  
they empty rain on the earth;  
whether a tree falls to the south or to the north,  
in the place where the tree falls, there it will lie.
- <sup>4</sup> Whoever observes the wind will not sow;  
and whoever regards the clouds will not reap.
- <sup>5</sup> Just as you do not know how the breath comes to the bones in the  
mother's womb, so you do not know the work of God, who makes  
everything.
- <sup>6</sup> In the morning sow your seed, and at evening do not let your hands  
be idle; for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or  
whether both alike will be good.
- <sup>7</sup> Light is sweet, and it is pleasant for the eyes to see the sun.
- <sup>8</sup> Even those who live for many years should rejoice in them all; yet let  
them remember that the days of darkness will be many. All that comes  
is vanity.

<sup>9</sup> Rejoice, young man, while you are young, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth. Follow the inclination of your heart and the desire of your eyes, but know that for all these things God will bring you into judgement.

<sup>10</sup> Banish anxiety from your mind, and put away pain from your body; for youth and the dawn of life are vanity.

12 Remember your creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come, and the years draw near when you will say, 'I have no pleasure in them'; <sup>2</sup>before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars are darkened and the clouds return with the rain; <sup>3</sup>on the day when the guards of the house tremble, and the strong men are bent, and the women who grind cease working because they are few, and those who look through the windows see dimly; <sup>4</sup>when the doors on the street are shut, and the sound of the grinding is low, and one rises up at the sound of a bird, and all the daughters of song are brought low; <sup>5</sup>when one is afraid of heights, and terrors are in the road; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags itself along and desire fails; because all must go to their eternal home, and the mourners will go about the streets; <sup>6</sup>before the silver cord is snapped, and the golden bowl is broken, and the pitcher is broken at the fountain, and the wheel broken at the cistern, <sup>7</sup>and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the breath returns to God who gave it. <sup>8</sup>Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher; all is vanity.

<sup>9</sup> Besides being wise, the Teacher also taught the people knowledge, weighing and studying and arranging many proverbs. <sup>10</sup>The Teacher sought to find pleasing words, and he wrote words of truth plainly.

<sup>11</sup> The sayings of the wise are like goads, and like nails firmly fixed are the collected sayings that are given by one shepherd. <sup>12</sup>Of anything beyond these, my child, beware. Of making many books there is no end, and much study is a weariness of the flesh.

<sup>13</sup> The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God, and keep his commandments; for that is the whole duty of everyone. <sup>14</sup>For God will bring every deed into judgement, including every secret thing, whether good or evil.

*Ecclesiastes 11, 12*

## **The Magnificat**

*The Knaresborough Service by Philip Wilby (1949-)*

### **The Second Lesson**

<sup>1</sup> You then, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; <sup>2</sup>and what you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well. <sup>3</sup>Share in suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. <sup>4</sup>No one serving in the army gets entangled in everyday affairs; the soldier's aim is to please the enlisting officer. <sup>5</sup>And in the case of an athlete, no one is crowned without competing according to the rules. <sup>6</sup>It is the farmer who does the work who ought to have the first share of the crops. <sup>7</sup>Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in all things.

*2 Timothy 2.1-7*

### **The Nunc Dimittis**

*The Knaresborough Service by Philip Wilby (1949-)*

### **The Collect of the Day**

O God, forasmuch as without thee we are not able to please thee; Mercifully grant, that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **The Anthem**

Insanae et vanae curae  
invadunt mentes nostras.  
Saepe furore replent corda,  
privata spe.  
Quid prodest, O mortalis,  
conari pro mundanis,  
si coelos negligas?  
Sunt fausta tibi cuncta,  
si Deus est pro te.

*Foolish and groundless cares  
assail our minds,  
often with madness they fill our hearts,  
which are bereft of hope.  
What does it profit you, O mortal man,  
to strive after earthly things  
if you neglect those of heaven?  
All things are favourable to you  
if God is with you.*

*Music by F.J. Haydn (1732-1809)*

## The Hymn

**Father, hear the prayer we offer:  
not for ease that prayer shall be,  
but for strength that we may ever  
live our lives courageously.**

**Not for ever in green pastures  
do we ask our way to be;  
but the steep and rugged pathway  
may we tread rejoicingly.**

**Not for ever by still waters  
would we idly rest and stay;  
but would smite the living fountains  
from the rocks along our way.**

**Be our strength in hours of weakness,  
in our wanderings be our guide;  
through endeavour, failure, danger,  
Father, be thou at our side.**

*Words by Love Maria Willis (1824-1908)  
Tune CP 416 Sussex English traditional melody  
adapted by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)*

## Voluntary

*Please do stay for the organ voluntary, played by John Wilderspin.*

*Fugue in F Major BWV 549 by J.S.Bach*

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*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)*

## **SAFEGUARDING AT COVENTRY CATHEDRAL**

We are committed to the safeguarding of all people. For details, please visit  
[www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/about-us/safeguarding](http://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](mailto:janeMLWill@aol.com)

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

## **COMMUNITY NEWS:**

### **RIP Pauline Lawrence**

The Funeral will take place tomorrow- Monday, 27 October 2025 at 11.15am, followed by a Private Cremation.

### **Remembrance Sunday Service – TIME CHANGE**

Please note that on Remembrance Sunday (9th November) the morning service will begin at **10.00am**, rather than our usual time of 10.30am.

This will allow us to conclude the service in the ruins with the Act of Remembrance and the traditional two minutes' silence at 11.00am.

### **Congregation Contact Forms**

Canon Kate would like to check that the contact information that we hold for congregation members is up to date and to seek your permission to contact you in various ways. This is to comply with our GDPR policy. If you choose to allow it (and there is no obligation), you can allow the Cathedral to send you the weekly notices and any other community news by email. If you choose, you can be added to a directory given to our clergy and readers to aid them in their ministry. Consent Forms are available at the back of the Cathedral. Please place completed forms in the marked envelope in the box which is addressed to Canon Kate.

### **Dean John's Trip to the USA**

The Dean is travelling to California on Wednesday, 29 October. As part of his travels, he will be speaking at St. Mark's Church, Glendale, near Los Angeles, and then preaching at Grace Cathedral, San Francisco on Sunday 2nd November. On Sunday 9th November he will be preaching and presenting a Cross of Nails to the Cathedral in Sacramento, CA.

Please pray for John as he travels, and for fruitful conversations - and for the lecture he will be delivering on Coventry's arts and reconciliation ministry in Chelmsford Cathedral this coming Tuesday, the night before he travels.

## **A Season of Reconciliation**

*Sunday, 2 November to Sunday, 23 November*

*Theme: “Remembering well to move forward together”*

The month of November is a season of reconciliation; an opportunity to focus on the heart of our calling here at the Cathedral. At each Sunday Eucharist in November we will explore what it means to remember well in a sermon series delivered by local and guest preachers.

### **Date:**

### **Preacher:**

### **Theme:**

**Sunday, 2  
November**  
*(All Saints’ Day)*

The Revd Su McClellan

*“Remembering the saints to  
be inspired in our peace-  
making”*

**Sunday, 9  
November**  
*(Remembrance Day)*

The Revd Canon  
Kate Massey

*“Remembering the war to  
seek peace with justice”*

**Sunday, 16  
November**

The Very Reverend  
Jay Ruka,  
Dean of Taranaki

*“Remembering well: Exploring  
colonial legacy and Māori  
heritage in the hope of  
reconciliation”*

**Sunday, 23  
November**  
*(Feast of Christ the  
King)*

The Revd Canon  
Nitano Muller

*“Remember well the reign of  
Christ: a kingdom of peace”*

## **COMING SOON**

### **Visiting Choir at Evensong**

*Monday, 27 October at 4pm*

Join us for a service of Choral Evensong, with the Schleswig Cathedral Choir and Ely Cathedral Octagon Singers.

## **24 Hours of Prayer for Peace**

*Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> November*

We are launching our Coventry Cathedral Reconciliation Season with 24 hours of prayer for peace from 9.30am on Saturday 1st November all the way through to 9.30am on Sunday 2nd November.

There will be different acts of prayer and worship throughout the 24 hours, as well as some prayer stations and other prayer resources. We would love members of the cathedral community to volunteer to lead either create or offer a prayer resources, to help steward overnight and most of all, to commit to praying for part of the 24 hours (either in the building or at home). If you are able to help with this, please contact Kate ([Kate.massey@coventry.anglican.org](mailto:Kate.massey@coventry.anglican.org) )

## **Requiem Mass – Fauré’s Requiem**

*Sunday, 2 November, 4pm*

Join us for a solemn and beautiful celebration of a Requiem Mass featuring Gabriel Fauré’s *Requiem*, performed under the direction of Rachel Mahon, with Liam Condon and Adam Heron at the organ.

During the service, we will include the traditional reading of the names of those who have died.

If you would like a loved one’s name to be read aloud, please hand it to one of the Churchwardens before the service.

## **City Praise and Prayer at Coventry Cathedral**

*Sunday, 9 November, 6.30pm*

Christians from across Coventry are invited to gather at the Cathedral for an evening of “City Praise and Prayer” - a time of charismatic worship, powerful prayer ministry, and unity in Christ.

Join with followers of Jesus from every tradition as we lift our voices in praise and pray together for our city, the church, and the world.

This event is free to attend - so come in your numbers and be part of what God is doing in Coventry!

## **Summer Choir Adventures Lunch**

*Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2025*

Come and hear about the adventures of the Cathedral Girls' Choir in London and the Cathedral Boys Choir in Germany.

This August the Girls Choir spent a weekend singing services in Southwark Cathedral and sightseeing in London - Tower Bridge, St Paul's Cathedral and a trip up the Thames! The Boys Choir travelled to Darmstadt in Germany to sing in two performances of Britten's *War Requiem*. There are some lovely photos to share!

The fundraising lunch is provided in the John Laing Centre. Tickets are available in advance on sale each Sunday morning after service. Prices: £10 single ticket, £25 family ticket.

## **Gracious Dialogue**

*4th, 11th, 18th, 25<sup>th</sup> November 7.30 pm in St Michael's House*

New for reconciliation season. Gracious Dialogue: A guide to listening and speaking well about Israel and Palestine

Join us for a four week small group course to help us navigate the choppy waters of differing interpretations of scripture and history. Each week we will look at two interpretations of a passage from Paul's Letter to the Romans and snapshots from the recent history of Israel and Palestine. The course aims to equip us to deepen our understanding and to see through an other's eyes.

To register your interest or for further information talk to or email Revd Su. Email: [su.mcclellan@coventry.anglican.org](mailto:su.mcclellan@coventry.anglican.org)