

Choral Evensong

Sunday, 8th February, 2026



The Sunday called Sexagesima or The Second Sunday Before Lent

Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong, led by the Reverend Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship and Welcome. The Reverend Gillian Roberts is preaching.

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 responses are those by Humphrey Clucas (1941-).

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

Introit

Exultate, justi, in Domino; rectos
deceat collaudatio.

Confitemini Domino in cithara;
in psalterio decem chordarum
psallite illi.

Cantate ei canticum novum;
bene psallite ei in vociferatione.

Exsultate, justi, in Domino;
rectos deceat collaudatio.

*Rejoice in the Lord, O ye just; praise
befits the upright.*

*Give praise to the Lord on the harp;
sing to him with the psaltery, the
instrument of ten strings.*

*Sing to him a new canticle, sing well
unto him with a loud noise.*

*Rejoice in the Lord, O ye just; praise
befits the upright.*

*from Psalm 32:1-3
Music by Ludovico Viadana (1560-1627)*

Psalm 148

1. O praise the Lord of heaven ♦
praise him in the height.
2. Praise him, all ye angels of his ♦
praise him, all his host.
3. Praise him, sun and moon ♦
praise him, all ye stars and light.
4. Praise him, all ye heavens ♦
and ye waters that are above the heavens.
5. Let them praise the Name of the Lord ♦
for he spake the word, and they were made;
he commanded, and they were created.
6. He hath made them fast for ever and ever ♦
he hath given them a law which shall not be broken.
7. Praise the Lord upon earth ♦
ye dragons, and all deeps;
8. Fire and hail, snow and vapours ♦
wind and storm, fulfilling his word;
9. Mountains and all hills ♦
fruitful trees and all cedars;
10. Beasts and all cattle ♦
worms and feathered fowls;
11. Kings of the earth and all people ♦
princes and all judges of the world;
12. Young men and maidens, old men and children,
praise the Name of the Lord ♦
for his Name only is excellent, and his praise above heaven and earth.
13. He shall exalt the horn of his people;
all his saints shall praise him ♦
even the children of Israel, even the people that serveth him.

The First Lesson

¹ Does not wisdom call,
and does not understanding raise her voice?
²² The LORD created me at the beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of long ago.
²³ Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
²⁴ When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.
²⁵ Before the mountains had been shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth—
²⁶ when he had not yet made earth and fields,
or the world's first bits of soil.
²⁷ When he established the heavens, I was there,
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
²⁸ when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,
²⁹ when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
³⁰ then I was beside him, like a master worker;
and I was daily his delight,
rejoicing before him always,
³¹ rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.

Proverbs 8:1, 22-31

The Magnificat

Collegium Regale by Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

The Second Lesson

¹ After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' ²At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! ³And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks

like an emerald. ⁴Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. ⁵Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; ⁶and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal.

Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: ⁷the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. ⁸And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing,

‘Holy, holy, holy,
the Lord God the Almighty,
who was and is and is to come.’

⁹And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, ¹⁰the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,

¹¹ ‘You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created.’

Revelation 4

The Nunc Dimittis

Collegium Regale by Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

The Collect

O Lord God, who seest that we put not our trust in any thing that we do: Mercifully grant that by thy power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Anthem

His yoke is easy, and his burden is light.

Words based on Matthew 11:30

Music from 'Messiah' by George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

The Sermon

Given by the Reverend Gillian Roberts

Hymn

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see;
only thou art holy, there is none beside thee
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Words by Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

Tune CP 202 Nicæa J.B. Dykes (1823-1876)

Voluntary

Fuga alla Handel by Alexandre 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: *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:

Music.Administrator@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

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

Dean John's Farewell Celebration

Saturday, 9 May

As we prepare to give thanks for Dean John's ministry among us, all members of the congregation are warmly invited to his Farewell Do on Saturday, 9 May. This will be a joyful moment to gather, share stories, and offer our appreciation for his leadership and friendship.

Please register your attendance by scanning the QR code below, or by emailing your name(s) to the Dean's Executive Assistant, at Meshail.Daud@Coventry.Anglican.org

We hope many of you will join us for this special occasion.



Prayer Requests

- This weekend, *Dean John and Revd. Su McClellan* are visiting the Holy Land, spending time with friends and partners, and presenting a Cross of Nails to St George's Cathedral, Jerusalem. Please hold them, and the people of Palestine, in your prayers at this time.
- Please pray for *Canon Kate and the Coventry Diocese delegation* as they travel to and participate in General Synod this week.
- We remember with thanksgiving *Canon Emeritus Susan Simms*, former Honorary Lay Canon of the Cathedral and Head Teacher at Harris CoE Academy, who has recently passed away. Please pray for her husband Michael and the family, asking for comfort and peace in their grief.

COMING SOON

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 on the cathedral website.

Wonder

Wednesday, 11th February, 7:30pm

As Lent draws near, the *Wonder* community gathers again to explore the theme of **Dust**. Through music, silence, image, and story, this gathering will open space to reflect on mortality, mercy, humility and hope. Join us for an evening of prayerful imagination as we prepare our hearts for the journey of Lent.

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.

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

Ash Wednesday Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

Wednesday, 18 February at 12noon

Join us for the Midday Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes, as we begin the season of Lent together in prayer and reflection.

The service will be presided over by Bishop Sophie Jelley, who will also be our preacher. All are welcome to come and receive the sign of ashes and the promise of grace, as we step into this penitential season.

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.

“I shall not hate”

Friday, 20th February, 7pm

The TUDORS, the English drama group from Technische Universität Dresden, return to Coventry Cathedral to perform, a stage adaptation of Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish's inspiring memoir about loss, resilience, and reconciliation.

The performance will be followed by a panel discussion/Q&A, including Dr. Abuelaish, exploring themes of peace and shared humanity. All proceeds will support the “Daughters for Life Foundation”, founded in memory of Dr. Abuelaish's three daughters.

Doors: 18:15 | Suitable for all ages | Register via the cathedral website to attend.

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

Ukrainian Vigil

Tuesday, 24th February, 6.30pm

Join us at Coventry Cathedral for a vigil in solidarity with our Ukrainian community, marking the 4th anniversary of the war in Ukraine. Together we will pray, reflect, and stand in hope, remembering those affected and affirming our commitment to peace and support.

A poster for Coventry Cathedral's Lenten music series. The background is a soft-focus image of a hand drawing a cross in white powder on a pile of grey gravel. In the top left corner is the Coventry Cathedral logo, which consists of a stylized purple cross with the words 'COVENTRY CATHEDRAL' in purple capital letters to its right. The main title 'Music at Lent' is written in a large, purple, serif font. Below the title, five service dates and themes are listed in purple text: 'Sunday 1st March: Organ Meditation - Liam Condon', 'Sunday 8th March: Organ Meditation - Adam Heron (After Evensong)', 'Sunday 15th March: Lenten excerpts of Messiah', 'Sunday 22nd March: Pergolesi Stabat Mater', and 'Sunday 29th March: Lamentations of Jeremiah - Tallis'. A note in purple text states '(All start at 4pm, and will be preceded by a short service of Evening Prayer)'. At the bottom, an orange banner contains the address 'Coventry Cathedral, Priory St, Coventry CV1 5AB' in purple text.

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL

Music at Lent

Sunday 1st March: Organ Meditation - Liam Condon

Sunday 8th March: Organ Meditation - Adam Heron
(After Evensong)

Sunday 15th March: Lenten excerpts of Messiah

Sunday 22nd March: Pergolesi Stabat Mater

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