

Choral Evensong
Sunday, 26th April, 2026
The Third Sunday after Easter



Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong, led by The Reverend Kate Massey, Canon for Arts and Reconciliation. John Lloyd, Cathedral Lay Reader, will be 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 Richard Ayleward (1626-1669).

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

If you would like to access the loop system, please speak to one of the vergers.

Introit

Cantate Domino canticum
novum.
Laus eius in ecclesia sanctorum.
Laetetur Israel in eo qui fecit
eum.
Et filiae Sion exultent in rege suo.

*Sing to the Lord a new song,
let his praise be in the church of the
saints.
Let Israel rejoice in him that made
him
and let the children of Sion be joyful
in their king.*

from Psalm 149.1-2

Music by Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni (1657-1743)

Psalm 29

1. Bring unto the Lord, O ye mighty, bring young rams unto the Lord ♦
ascribe unto the Lord worship and strength.
2. Give the Lord the honour due unto his Name ♦
worship the Lord with holy worship.
3. It is the Lord that commandeth the waters ♦
it is the glorious God that maketh the thunder.
4. It is the Lord that ruleth the sea;
the voice of the Lord is mighty in operation ♦
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.

5. The voice of the Lord breaketh the cedar-trees ♦
yea, the Lord breaketh the cedars of Libanus.
6. He maketh them also to skip like a calf ♦
Libanus also, and Sirion, like a young unicorn.
7. The voice of the Lord divideth the flames of fire;
the voice of the Lord shaketh the wilderness ♦
yea, the Lord shaketh the wilderness of Cades.
8. The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to bring forth young,
and discovereth the thick bushes ♦
in his temple doth every man speak of his honour.
9. The Lord sitteth above the water-flood ♦
and the Lord remaineth a King for ever.
10. The Lord shall give strength unto his people ♦
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

The First Lesson

¹ When the seventh month came, and the Israelites were in the towns, the people gathered together in Jerusalem. ² Then Jeshua son of Jozadak, with his fellow priests, and Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel with his kin set out to build the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt-offerings on it, as prescribed in the law of Moses the man of God. ³ They set up the altar on its foundation, because they were in dread of the neighbouring peoples, and they offered burnt-offerings upon it to the LORD, morning and evening. ⁴ And they kept the festival of booths, as prescribed, and offered the daily burnt-offerings by number according to the ordinance, as required for each day, ⁵ and after that the regular burnt-offerings, the offerings at the new moon and at all the sacred festivals of the LORD, and the offerings of everyone who made a freewill-offering to the LORD. ⁶ From the first day of the seventh month they began to offer burnt-offerings to the LORD. But the foundation of the temple of the LORD was not yet laid. ⁷ So they gave money to the masons and the carpenters, and food, drink, and oil to the Sidonians and the Tyrians to bring cedar trees from Lebanon to the sea, to Joppa, according to the grant that they had from King Cyrus of Persia.

⁸ In the second year after their arrival at the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and Jeshua

son of Jozadak made a beginning, together with the rest of their people, the priests and the Levites and all who had come to Jerusalem from the captivity. They appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upwards, to have the oversight of the work on the house of the LORD. ⁹And Jeshua with his sons and his kin, and Kadmiel and his sons, Binnui and Hodaviah along with the sons of Henadad, the Levites, their sons and kin, together took charge of the workers in the house of God.

¹⁰ When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments were stationed to praise the LORD with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, according to the directions of King David of Israel; ¹¹ and they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the LORD,

‘For he is good,

for his steadfast love endures for ever towards Israel.’

And all the people responded with a great shout when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid. ¹² But many of the priests and Levites and heads of families, old people who had seen the first house on its foundations, wept with a loud voice when they saw this house, though many shouted aloud for joy, ¹³ so that the people could not distinguish the sound of the joyful shout from the sound of the people’s weeping, for the people shouted so loudly that the sound was heard far away.

Ezra 3:1-13

The Magnificat

Evening Service in B Flat by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924).

The Second Lesson

¹¹ So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called ‘the uncircumcision’ by those who are called ‘the circumcision’—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— ¹² remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has

broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

Ephesians 2:11-End

The Nunc Dimittis

Evening Service in B Flat by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924).

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, who shewest to them that be in error, the light of thy truth, to the Intent that they may return into the way of righteousness; grant unto all them that are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may eschew those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Anthem

We praise thee, O God, we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.
To thee all angels cry aloud: the heavens, and all the powers therein.
To thee cherubim and seraphim continually do cry,
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts;
heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.
The glorious company of the apostles praise thee.
The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise thee.
The noble army of martyrs praise thee.

The holy church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee;
the Father of an infinite majesty;
thine honourable, true and only Son;
also the Holy Ghost, the comforter.
Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ.
Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man,
thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,
thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
Thou sittest at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.
We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge.
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,
whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting.
O Lord, save thy people, and bless thine heritage.
Govern them and lift them up for ever.
Day by day we magnify thee;
and we worship thy Name, ever world without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us, as our trust is in thee.
O Lord, in thee have I trusted, let me never be confounded.

Te Deum Laudamus
Music by John Ireland (1879-1962)

The Hymn

**The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine for ever.**

**Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home rejoicing brought me.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.**

**Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!**

**And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never:
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.**

*Words by H.W. Baker (1821-1877)
Tune St Columba (Irish Melody)*

Voluntary

Fantasia and Toccata in D Minor by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924).

*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 here. There are also contactless
donation points and collection boxes near the entrance.*

Thank you for your support.



Safeguarding at Coventry Cathedral

We are committed to the safeguarding of all people. For details, please visit <https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/safeguarding>

Our Safeguarding Team are:



Canon Kate
Chapter
Safeguarding
Lead



Jane Williams
Cathedral
Community
Safeguarding
Officer



Jo Brake
Safeguarding
Lead for Policy
and Process

You can report a concern to our Safeguarding Team by emailing cathedral.safeguarding@coventrycathedral.org.uk

or phoning 02476 52 1360

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

The
**SAFEGUARDING
SURVEY**
2026



iNEQE
SAFEGUARDING GROUP

 **DIocese OF
COVENTRY**

INEQE Survey & Audit

The Cathedral welcomes the INEQE Audit as an opportunity to learn. We want to understand how we can continue to improve our safeguarding culture and practice and keep everyone safe. You can help with this learning by completing an INEQE survey. We want to hear from as many voices as possible. The surveys are completed online. You can use the QR Code or go to: <https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/coventry/> You are welcome to complete more than one survey e.g. if you are a congregation member AND a victim or survivor, you are welcome to complete both surveys. If you would like to feedback to INEQE, but cannot complete the survey, there is more information about how to do that at the bottom of the webpage. If you would like to complete a survey, but don't have a computer or smartphone, ask us and we can help.

Dean John's Farewell Celebration

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 at 7pm. This will be a joyful moment to gather, share stories, and offer our appreciation for his leadership and friendship.



Dean John's final Eucharist service will be on Sunday, 17 May at 10.30am and his final Choral Evensong at 4pm, where he will preach and preside. If you wish to attend either or both of these, please scan this QR code to register your attendance.

There are lists at the back of the nave, should you prefer to register that way. We hope many of you will join us for this special occasion.



Farewell Gift

There will be opportunities for members of the Cathedral Community to contribute to a farewell gift to John and Ricarda as a thank you for their service amongst us for the past 13 years. A box for contributions and a card to sign will be at the back of the cathedral until their final Sunday with us on May 17th.

The Cathedral Churchwardens

Canon Heather Wallace

There will be a Celebration of Heather's life at Evensong on Sunday May 3rd at 4pm, and we hope that many will choose to gather to remember her and honour her legacy as a stalwart of the Cathedral community.

Embrace the Middle East

Communities supported by **Embrace the Middle East** in Lebanon are continuing their vital work in the midst of appalling levels of bombardment and the displacement of over 1.2 million people. As crisis builds on crisis, many of their long-standing funding streams, particularly from the United States, are drying up. These trusted local partners are asking simply not to be forgotten. If you are able you are invited to give to **Embrace's Middle East Emergency Appeal, Keeping Hope Alive** helping to provide emergency medical care, food aid, trauma care and mental health support, for those, particularly the children, caught up in the war. In moments like this, headlines can move quickly - but fear, disruption, and trauma settle deeply and last. Thank you for standing with the Middle East at a time like this. When you give, you are not watching from a distance - you are equipping trusted people on the ground to act with compassion, skill, and urgency. To give visit <https://embraceme.org/emergency-appeal> or use the QR code below. Thank you.



Play the Organ Day

Monday 4th May

As part of our launch of our Coventry Cathedral Monday Lunchtime recital series, we will be running a 'Play the Organ' opportunity for young organists where they can come and play our magnificent Cathedral Organ. The morning session will be for those who have already started learning the organ, whereas the afternoon session is open to anyone who would like to have the opportunity. All are welcome to attend the 12:30pm recital as our Assistant Director of Music, Liam Condon, will present a programme of 'Organ Favourites'! If you know any young organists who would like to sign up, please direct them to our website:

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/events/play-the-organ-day> .



The poster features the Coventry Cathedral logo (a cross with the text 'COVENTRY CATHEDRAL') in the top left. The main title 'Chorister Open Evening' is written in a large, white, curved font across the center, with the date '19th May 2026' below it. To the right of the title are two musical notes. Below the title, the text 'Venue: Coventry Cathedral', 'Who can attend? Open to Boys & Girls in current school Years 2-6', and 'Date: Tuesday 19th May, 16:30-18:30' is listed. At the bottom, there is a bulleted list of activities: 'Open to all children considering auditioning for the cathedral choir', 'Meet and sing with the cathedral choristers in a cathedral liturgy', 'Have a tour of the cathedral, and experience the cathedral organ close up', and 'Parents will hear their children singing in the Cathedral choir, meet with other parents & meet the Director of Music'.

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- Have a tour of the cathedral, and experience the cathedral organ close up
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Sign Up!



Scan the QR code to sign up for this event or click the link: tinyurl.com/choristeropenevening

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