

Choral Evensong

Saturday 13th April



Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong, led by Margaret East, Reader for Coventry Cathedral. We are delighted to be joined today by The Choir of St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford, directed by Nathan Collins. The organist is Robert Stokely. The Responses are by William Smith (1603-1645). The full text of the service is found in the purple booklets.

The Introit

O Lord, increase our faith,
strengthen us and confirm us in thy true faith;
endue us with wisdom, charity, chastity and patience,
in all our adversity.
Sweet Jesu, say Amen.

Music by Henry Loosemore (1607-1670)

Psalm 66

1. O be joyful in God, all ye lands : sing praises unto the honour of his Name, make his praise to be glorious.
2. Say unto God, O how wonderful art thou in thy works : through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies be found liars unto thee.
3. For all the world shall worship thee : sing of thee, and praise thy Name.
4. O come hither, and behold the works of God : how wonderful he is in his doing toward the children of men.
5. He turned the sea into dry land : so that they went through the water on foot; there did we rejoice thereof.
6. He ruleth with his power for ever; his eyes behold the people : and such as will not believe shall not be able to exalt themselves.
7. O praise our God, ye people : and make the voice of his praise to be heard;
8. Who holdeth our soul in life : and suffereth not our feet to slip.
9. For thou, O God, hast proved us : thou also hast tried us, like as silver is tried.

10. Thou broughtest us into the snare : and laidest trouble upon our loins.

11. Thou sufferedst men to ride over our heads : we went through fire and water, and thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.

12. I will go into thine house with burnt-offerings: and will pay thee my vows, which I promised with my lips, and spake with my mouth, when I was in trouble.

13. I will offer unto thee fat burnt-sacrifices, with the incense of rams : I will offer bullocks and goats.

14. O come hither, and hearken, all ye that fear God : and I will tell you what he hath done for my soul.

15. I called unto him with my mouth : and gave him praises with my tongue.

16. If I incline unto wickedness with mine heart : the Lord will not hear me.

17. But God hath heard me : and considered the voice of my prayer.

18. Praised be God, who hath not cast out my prayer : nor turned his mercy from me.

The First Lesson

³²For ask now about former ages, long before your own, ever since the day that God created human beings on the earth; ask from one end of heaven to the other: has anything so great as this ever happened or has its like ever been heard of? ³³Has any people ever heard the voice of a god speaking out of a fire, as you have heard, and lived? ³⁴Or has any god ever attempted to go and take a nation for himself from the midst of another nation, by trials, by signs and wonders, by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and by terrifying displays of power, as the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your very eyes? ³⁵To you it was shown so that you would acknowledge that the LORD is God; there is no other besides him.

³⁶From heaven he made you hear his voice to discipline you. On earth he showed you his great fire, while you heard his words coming out of the fire. ³⁷And because he loved your ancestors, he chose their descendants after them.

He brought you out of Egypt with his own presence, by his great power, ³⁸ driving out before you nations greater and mightier than yourselves, to bring you in, giving you their land for a possession, as it is still today. ³⁹ So acknowledge today and take to heart that the LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other. ⁴⁰ Keep his statutes and his commandments, which I am commanding you today for your own well-being and that of your descendants after you, so that you may long remain in the land that the LORD your God is giving you for all time.

Deuteronomy 4:32 – 40

The Magnificat

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

The Second Lesson

²⁰ Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, 'Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?' ²¹ When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, 'Lord, what about him?' ²² Jesus said to him, 'If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!' ²³ So the rumour spread in the community that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, 'If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?'

²⁴ This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. ²⁵ But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

John 21:20 – end

The Nunc Dimittis

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

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, who hast given thine only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin, and also an ensample of godly life: Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavour ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Anthem

Te lucis ante terminum;
Rerum Creator, poscimus,
Ut pro tua clementia
Sis praesul et custodia.

Procul recedant somnia,
Et noctium phantasmata;
Hostemque nostrum comprime,
Ne pollutantur corpora.

Praesta, Pater piissime,
Patrique compar Unice,
Cum spiritu Paraclito,
Regnans per omne saeculum.
Amen.

*Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray
that, with thy wanted favour, thou
wouldst be our guard and keeper now.*

*From all ill dreams defend our eyes,
from nightly fears and fantasies;
tread under foot our ghostly foe,
that no pollution we may know.*

*O Father, that we ask be done,
through Jesus Christ, thine only Son,
who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,
doth live and reign eternally.
Amen.*

*Office Hymn of Compline
Music by Henry Balfour Gardiner (1877-1950)*

The Hymn

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.**

**In every insult, rift and war,
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.**

**Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise.**

*Words by Brian A. Wren (b. 1936)
Tune CP 140 Truro Psalmodia Evangelica (1789)*

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 Director of Music to arrange a meeting.

rachel.mahon@coventrycathedral.org.uk

COMMUNITY NEWS

Road Closure for the Coventry Half Marathon

Sunday 28th April

Please note that your journey to the Cathedral and ability to park nearby may be affected by the Coventry Half Marathon. Road closures around the start on Gosford Street will be implemented from 4am to 11am whilst the closures around the finish on Priory Street will be implemented from 4am to 3pm. Road closures around the route will be implemented from 8am on the morning of the event with the final road closure re-opened for 1pm. All closures will be re-opened on a rolling basis. For more information on the road closures and re-opening times as well as diversion routes to plan ahead please see our interactive road closure map here:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1MjQmzVAcTHWe33ERDmGNgaA5cTJtuTM&usp=sharing>

Mary Wickens' Funeral

Mary Wickens' funeral will take place in the Cathedral on Monday 29th April at 12:30pm, followed by a committal at the crematorium. Please pray for Mary's sister, Vicki, and for all those who love Mary and miss her.

Cathedral Annual General Meeting **Please note new date******

Sunday 5th May, 12:00 – 1:30pm

Our Annual General Meeting will now be held on Sunday 5th May in the John Laing Centre. That Sunday, refreshments will be served in the John Laing Centre to enable us to have a prompt midday start. The agenda and Annual Report will be available soon to read in advance. Please do prioritise this meeting if you can. The meeting will be preceded by coffee and a simple sandwich lunch, served in the John Laing Centre.

Election of Cathedral Wardens

Each year at the Annual General Meeting we can elect up to five Cathedral wardens including at least one Warden for St Clare's. Please think about who you would like to nominate for this role or, indeed, consider standing yourself. Please email Canon Mary with the name of the person nominated, their proposer and seconder at Mary.Gregory@coventrycathedral.org.uk

St. Michael's Committee - AGM Elections

This is a sub-committee of Chapter which discusses matters concerning the congregation's role in the life of the cathedral.

If you are interested in joining this committee, please email graham.warren@btinternet.com giving your name and those of a proposer and seconder. **Please note:** Nominee, proposer and seconder must all be members of the Electoral Roll.



Introducing our new Canon for Worship and Welcome

We are absolutely delighted to be able to announce that the Revd Nitano Muller has been appointed as our new Canon for Worship and Welcome. We look forward to Nitano's arrival in June when he will be installed to take up his new role.

As we wait to welcome him, you will enjoy this biography as a way of beginning to get to know him and of anticipating all that he will bring to our life together:

Nitano hails from the small fishing-community

of Ocean View, located at the southern-most tip of the Cape Peninsula in South Africa. He completed a degree in Education and worked as a language and history teacher. While working as a teacher, Nitano was discerned for ordination to the priesthood in the Diocese of False Bay within the Anglican Church of Southern Africa and entered residential theological training at the College of the Transfiguration, Makhanda (formerly Grahamstown).

He served his curacies in two vastly different contexts in Mitchells Plain on the Cape Flats and Hermanus along the south-eastern coastline of False Bay (where he ministered to the Late Archbishop Desmond Tutu as a parishioner). He currently serves as Rector of St. Peter's Church, Kleinvelei, False Bay Diocese.

Nitano is one of the youngest serving Rectors in his Diocese. His passions include liturgy, youth development and the work of justice and reconciliation. These are evident in some of the portfolios he holds which include Diocesan Chaplain for Young People, a consultant for the Provincial Liturgical Committee, and a representative of his diocese on the South African Council of Churches (Western Cape). In 2022, Nitano was selected as a Trinity Leadership Fellow, a program run by Trinity Wall Street, New York, for emerging faith leaders from across the world who seek to enhance their skills in order to contribute to meaningful change and transformation in their respective fields and contexts.

Nitano is a self-proclaimed ambivert, who equally enjoys working with people, travelling and exploration as well as quiet time reading, writing reflections or listening to good music.

Nitano's first encounter with Coventry Cathedral was its welcome sign posted at the west-screen entrance, which he says made him feel at home because he identified with many of the traits described on it and is excited to form part of the cathedral team that extends the radical welcome and all embracing-love of God to all who enter the Cathedral's doors.

Welcoming Nitano: making a house a home

Nitano won't arrive from South Africa with any furniture or household goods (bedding, crockery, etc). It would be wonderful if we could begin making his house a home by offering items of furniture, or other goods, which he could use. If you have anything you could offer, please could you email Canon Mary –

Mary.Gregory@coventry.anglican.org Mary will then collate all the offers and then get back to you – either thanking you for your offer and accepting it, or thanking you but explaining that we have had four other offers of chaise longues (for example!) and so won't need to accept yours.

Thank you so much in advance for your generosity!

Coffee Rota

We would be glad for a few more volunteers to help with serving coffee to the congregation after the Sunday morning service.

If you would like to get involved with this important community activity, please either e-mail graham.warren@btinternet.com or speak to Graham at the "contactless offertory" table at the back of the nave chairs.

COMING SOON

A Service to Celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women as Priests

Sunday 21st April at 4pm

Join us as we gather as a Diocese for this service of Holy Communion, where we will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the ordination of women as priests.

All are warmly invited to this service and to the refreshments which follow.

Psalm

Wednesday 24th April, 7:30 – 9pm

Join singer-songwriter Rob Halligan every fourth Wednesday of the month for 'Psalm': a place to explore worship through music, quiet, spoken word and song, using the honesty of the Psalms.

Lunchtime Organ Recitals

12:30 – 1pm every Monday from 6th May – 30th September 2024

Our free lunchtime organ recitals are back! Come along and listen to beautiful organ pieces, performed by a variety of musicians. For the full programme, please visit: <https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/worship-music/the-organ/organ-recitals>