

# **The Cathedral Eucharist**

## **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

### **Corrymeela Sunday**



*The president today is the Reverend Canon Sacha Slavic, Cathedral Associate Minister. The Reverend Dr. Alex Wimberly, Leader of the Corrymeela Community, is preaching. The deacon is the Reverend Mary Gregory, Canon for Arts and Reconciliation. The sub-deacon is the Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry.*

*The Cathedral Choir is directed by Rachel Mahon, Director of Music. The organists are Luke Fitzgerald, Assistant Director of Music, and Stephen Crookes, Organ Scholar. The Setting today is Mass for Four Voices by William Byrd (1540-1623).*

## **The Collect**

God of the grain that falls to earth,  
God of the fruit that grain will bear:  
you have created us to create life,  
even as we lose it;  
you have given us a gift of love  
that grows the more we share it.  
May we, as single grains of life,  
not hold our love within,  
but cast it wide  
and lose ourselves  
so new life can begin.

**Amen.**

## **The First Reading**

*Read by Ian Gilchrist, member of the Corrymeela Community.*

<sup>31</sup> The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD.

<sup>33</sup> But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup> No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the LORD', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

*Jeremiah 31:31 – 34*

## **Gradual Hymn**

**O for a heart to praise my God,  
a heart from sin set free;  
a heart that's sprinkled with the blood  
so freely shed for me.**

**A heart resigned, submissive, meek,  
my great Redeemer's throne;  
where only Christ is heard to speak,  
where Jesus reigns alone.**

**A humble, lowly, contrite heart,  
believing, true, and clean,  
which neither life nor death can part  
from him that dwells within.**

**A heart in every thought renewed,  
and full of love divine;  
perfect and right and pure and good –  
a copy, Lord, of thine.**

**Thy nature, gracious Lord, impart,  
come quickly from above;  
write thy new name upon my heart,  
thy new best name of love.**

*Words by Charles Wesley (1707-1788) cf. Psalm 52.10  
Tune CP 532 Caithness melody from Scottish Psalter (1635)*

## The Gospel Reading

<sup>20</sup> Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup> They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' <sup>22</sup> Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup> Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup> Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup> Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

<sup>27</sup> 'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—"Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup> Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' <sup>29</sup> The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' <sup>30</sup> Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup> Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup> And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' <sup>33</sup> He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

*John 12:20 – 33*

## Prayers of Intercession

Courage comes from the heart,  
and we are always welcomed by God,  
the Croí of all being.

We bear witness to our faith  
knowing that we are called to live lives  
of courage, love and reconciliation  
in the ordinary and  
extraordinary moments of each day.

We bear witness, too,  
to our failures  
and to our complicity  
in the fractures of our world.

May we be courageous today.

May we learn today.

May we love today.

**Amen.**

## **Offertory Hymn**

**We sing the praise of him who died,  
of him who died upon the cross;  
the sinner's hope let all deride;  
for this we count the world but loss.**

**Inscribed upon the cross we see  
in shining letters, 'God is love';  
he bears our sins upon the tree;  
he brings us mercy from above.**

**The cross! It takes our guilt away:  
it holds the fainting spirit up;  
it cheers with hope the gloomy day,  
and sweetens every bitter cup.**

**It makes the coward spirit brave,  
and nerves the feeble arm for fight;  
it takes its terror from the grave,  
and gilds the bed of death with light:**

**The balm of life, the cure of woe,  
the measure and the pledge of love,  
the sinner's refuge here below,  
the angels' theme in heaven above.**

*Words by Thomas Kelly (1769-1855)*

*Tune CP 125 Bow Brickhill S.H. Nicholson (1875-1947)*

## **Anthem**

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes: and I shall keep it unto the end. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law: yea, I shall keep it with my whole heart. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments: for therein is my desire. Incline my heart unto thy testimonies: and not to covetousness. O turn away mine eyes, lest they behold vanity: and quicken thou me in thy way. O stablish thy word in thy servant: that I may fear thee. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

*from Psalm 119.33-38*

*Music by William Byrd (1543-1623)*

## **Communion Hymn**

**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.**

*Words from Horae Beatae Mariae Virginis, London (1514)*

*possibly of French origin*

*Tune CP 439 God Be In My Head*

*H. Walford Davies (1869-1941)*

## **Closing Hymn**

**Praise to the Holiest in the height  
and in the depth be praise:  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways.**

**O loving wisdom of our God!  
when all was sin and shame,  
a second Adam to the fight  
and to the rescue came.**

**O wisest love! that flesh and blood,  
which did in Adam fail,  
should strive afresh against the foe,  
should strive and should prevail;**

**And that a higher gift than grace  
should flesh and blood refine,  
God's presence and his very self,  
and essence all-divine.**

**O generous love! that he, who smote  
in Man for man the foe,  
the double agony in Man  
for man should undergo;**

**And in the garden secretly,  
and on the cross on high,  
should teach his followers, and inspire  
to suffer and to die.**

**Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
and in the depth be praise:  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways.**

*Words by John Henry Newman (1801-1890)  
Tune CP 557 Gerontius John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)*

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## Voluntary

Please do stay for the organ voluntary, performed today by Luke Fitzgerald,  
Assistant Director of Music.

*Fantasia in G minor BWV 542 by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)*

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*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.*



*If you would like to revisit this morning's sermon, please visit this page:*

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/worship-music/services>

*We serve refreshments at the back of the Nave after this service, so please feel free to stay for a chat over a cup of tea or coffee!*

### **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](mailto:rachel.mahon@coventrycathedral.org.uk)

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **Cathedral Annual General Meeting**

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April, 12:00 – 1:30pm

*Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 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 from Easter Sunday to allow you to read these in advance. Please do prioritise this meeting if you can.*

### **Revision of the Electoral Roll**

Applications open until 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

*The Electoral Roll is now open for new applications, which need to be submitted by 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Being on the Electoral Roll allows you to vote in the Annual General Meeting. To join the Electoral Roll you have to be:*

- over the age of 16*
- baptised*
- a member of the Church of England, or a church in communion with the Church of England, or a Church that holds to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity*
- EITHER a resident in the parish OR have worshipped at the Cathedral over a period of six months*

*If you would like to join the Electoral Roll, please email [Alice.hayes@coventrycathedral.org.uk](mailto:Alice.hayes@coventrycathedral.org.uk) and ask for an application form.*

## **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](mailto:Mary.Gregory@coventrycathedral.org.uk)

## **Full-Time and Part-Time Verger Positions Available**

Would you like to work at the Cathedral, playing a vital role in the services and day-to-day operations? We have job openings for full-time and part-time positions as a Verger. As a Verger, you will be responsible for the security of the Cathedral buildings; providing assistance to the clergy, particularly during worship services; representing the Cathedral and welcoming visitors, worshippers and VIPs; and much more.

The full-time position is 35 hours per week for £20,900.88 per annum, and part-time positions of 20 hours per week for £10,878.48 per annum.

For more information and to apply, please visit:

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/support-us/job-opportunities>

## **COMING SOON**

### **A conversation about Prayers of Love and Faith**

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 12pm in the Chapel of Unity

The Dean has shared with us the news that the Prayers of Love and Faith – prayers for same-sex couples in committed, faithful, covenanted relationships – have been authorised by the Church of England. If you would like an opportunity to have a conversation with the Dean about considerations surrounding a decision to offer these Prayers in the Cathedral, and what this might look like, you are invited to a conversation in the Chapel of Unity on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March at midday. The conversation will last about 30 minutes.

### **Coventry Cathedral Chorus' Good Friday Concert**

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm

Presenting a selection of beautiful and inspiring motets for Good Friday, reflecting upon the Easter themes of love, sacrifice and hope.

For more information and to book tickets, please visit:

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/events/coventry-cathedral-chorus-good-friday-concert>

## **Psalm**

*Our monthly 'Psalm' event will not be happening in March, but will resume as normal (every fourth Wednesday of the month) from April.*

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## **Easter Services**

*Please note that throughout Holy Week, Holy Communion will take place at noon rather than at Morning Prayer.*

## **Compline Services**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March, 8 – 8:30pm**

*Join us for a gentle service of prayer and reflection, a wonderful way to end the day in worship of the Lord. There will be a service of Compline on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week with addresses by the Dean.*

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## **Chrism Eucharist**

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 10:30am – 12pm**

*Join the Bishop, clergy, Readers and headteachers of the Diocese in this special service where they will renew their commitment to their ministry, and where the oils used in their ministry will be blessed.*

## **Maundy Thursday Evening Eucharist**

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 7:30 – 9pm**

*At this service, we continue to mark this Holy Week and specifically today the Last Supper Jesus had with His disciples. We also follow the actions of Jesus Christ through the tradition of foot-washing, reflecting on John 13, which details how Jesus washed the feet of His disciples: John 13:14-15 – 'So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.'*

## **Maundy Thursday Watch**

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 9 - 10pm**

*Following the Maundy Thursday evening service, you are invited to keep watch in the Chapel of Christ in Gethsemane, just as Jesus invited his disciples to keep watch with him in the Garden of Gethsemane as he prayed before his arrest. This is a silent vigil and will begin after the service (at around 9pm) and will finish at 10pm when the Cathedral will be secured for the night.*

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### **Good Friday Liturgy**

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 9am

*A solemn, reflective service where we listen again to the story of Jesus' suffering and death and spend time worshipping Him for His service and sacrifice for us.*

### **Stations of the Cross**

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2 – 3pm in the Cathedral Ruins

*A poignant way to observe Good Friday, Stations of the Cross allows us to visually follow the steps Jesus took on His way to the Cross.*

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### **Easter Dawn Eucharist**

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March, 6 – 7am in the Cathedral Ruins

*Join us for this joyous service to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, with the beautiful backdrop of the dawn sky. At this service, Bishop Ruth Worsley will be performing baptisms and confirmations.*

### **Easter Day Eucharist**

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March, 10:30 – 11:45am in the New Cathedral

*All are welcome to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ at this special Easter Eucharist service.*

### **Festal Evensong**

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March, 4 – 5:15pm

*Join us for this Festal Evensong service, with beautiful music to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, a perfect way to end this holy day.*

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