

The Cathedral Eucharist

Sunday 2nd March 2025

The Sunday Next Before Lent



The President today is the Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry. The Reverend Canon Sacha Slavic, Cathedral Associate Minister, is preaching. The Deacon is the Reverend Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship and Welcome. The Reverend Su McClellan, Cathedral Associate Minister, is the Sub-Deacon.

The Cathedral Choir is directed by Luke Fitzgerald, Acting Director of Music. The organists are David Rice, Acting Assistant Director of Music, and Amelia Parkin, Organ Scholar. The Setting today is the Missa Brevis by Zoltán Kodály (1882-1967).

Opening Hymn

**Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.**

**Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.**

**Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.**

Words by Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Tune CP 2 Ratisbon melody from Werner's Choralbuch Leipzig (1815)

The Collect

Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The First Reading

Read by Jim Newton, representing the Friends of Coventry Cathedral and the Community.

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶ but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

¹ Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

2 Corinthians 3:12 – 4:2

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

You have the words of eternal life.

1 Samuel 3:9; John 6:68

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gospel Reading

²⁸ Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰ Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³ Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah' — not knowing what he said. ³⁴ While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

Luke 9:28 – 36

Offertory Hymn

**'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
thy glory fills the night;
thy face and garments, like the sun,
shine with unborrowed light.**

**'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
thy beauty to behold,
where Moses and Elijah stand,
thy messengers of old.**

**Fulfiller of the past,
promise of things to be,
we hail thy body glorified,
and our redemption see.**

**Before we taste of death,
we see thy kingdom come;
we fain would hold the vision bright,
and make this hill our home.**

**'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
yet we may not remain;
but since thou bidst us leave the mount,
come with us to the plain.**

*Words by J. Armitage Robinson (1858-1933)
Tune CP 248 Carlisle Charles Lockhart (1745-1815)*

Anthem

Ave verum corpus,
natum de Maria Virgine,
vere passum, immolatum
in cruce pro homine,
cuius latus perforatum
vero fluxit sanguine,
esto nobis praegustatum,
in mortis examine.
O clemens, O pia,
O dulcis Jesu, Fili Mariae.
miserere mei. Amen.

*Hail true body,
born of the Virgin Mary,
which suffered and was offered truly
on the cross for all humankind,
whose side, pierced,
flowed with true blood;
for us our food, now
and in the testing time of death.
O compassionate, O holy,
O sweet Jesus, Son of Mary,
have mercy on me. Amen.*

Music by E. F. Richter (1808-1879)

Communion Hymn

**Transform us as you, transfigured,
stood apart on Tabor's height.
Lead us up our sacred mountains,
search us with revealing light.
Lift us from where we have fallen,
full of questions, filled with fright.**

**Transform us as you, transfigured,
once spoke with those holy ones.
We, surrounded by the witness
of those saints whose work is done,
Live in this world as your Body,
chosen daughters, chosen sons.**

**Transform us as you, transfigured,
would not stay within a shrine.
Keep us from our great temptation-time
and truth we quickly bind.
Lead us down those daily pathways
where our love is not confined.**

Words by Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993)

Tune CP 309 Picardy harmonised by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Closing Hymn

**Alleluia! Song of gladness,
Voice of everlasting joy;
Alleluia! Sound the sweetest
Heard among the choirs on high,
Hymning in God's blissful mansion
Day and night incessantly.**

**Alleluia! Church victorious,
Thou may'st lift the joyful strain:
Alleluia! Songs of triumph
Well befit the ransomed train.
Faint and feeble are our praises
While in exile we remain.**

**Alleluia! Songs of gladness
Suit not always souls forlorn;
Alleluia! Sounds of sadness
'Midst our joyful strains are borne;
For in this dark world of sorrow
We with tears our sins must mourn.**

**Praises with our prayers uniting,
Hear us, blessèd Trinity;
Bring us to Thy blissful presence,
There the Paschal Lamb to see,
There to Thee our Alleluia
Singing everlastingly.**

*Translation from Cooke and Denton's Hymnal (1853), based upon Chandler
Tune CP 409 Neander Joachim Neander (1650-1680)*

Voluntary

Please do stay for the organ voluntary, performed today by Amelia Parkin.

Cortège by Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

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/sermons>*

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. 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. We are also currently recruiting adult members for all voice parts in both our Cathedral Choir and Chamber Choir. If you or someone you know might be interested in joining one of our choirs, please be in touch with the Acting Director of Music to arrange a meeting.

luke.fitzgerald@coventrycathedral.org.uk

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 Canon Nitano Muller, Chapter Safeguarding Lead, at Nitano.Muller@Coventry.Anglican.org or call 07365 200 359 while Jane Williams is away.

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

COMING SOON

‘And the earth shall melt away’

18th February – 17th March, Chapel of Christ the Servant
An exhibition in the time of climate change inspired by Psalm 46, by Caroline Meynell and Claire Christie Sadler.

The title of the exhibition comes from Psalm 46, and the words resonate as much today as when they were written centuries ago, bringing to mind global warming and climate change.

Caroline Meynell and Claire Christie Sadler, two Oxford-based artists, have created a series of paintings and drawings that form their individual response to environmental and spiritual themes suggested by the psalm. Their work is both challenging and contemplative, and incorporates questions of faith.

Lent Course 2025

Beginning on Tuesday 4th March, 7pm – 8:30pm, St Michael's House
This year's Lent Course is titled 'Hope in Hard Places'. As our world faces huge
challenges, the course invites us to ask, "Where is God in all of this?"

Written by the team at Embrace the Middle East, it is our hope that you will find
encouragement and strength in stories that span over 3000 years of history -
showing us that, no matter how dark the times we live in, God remains with us.

We will begin each week at 7pm and end at 8:30pm in the lounge
at St Michael's House.

Ash Wednesday Services – Wednesday 5th March

We will be having two services to observe Ash Wednesday:

Ash Wednesday Eucharist at Coventry Cathedral

12 pm

Ash Wednesday Evening Eucharist Service at Holy Trinity Church

7:30 pm

Visiting Choir Evensong

Tuesday 11th March, 4pm

All are welcome to join us for this Choral Evensong service with
Kimbolton School Chamber Choirs.

Is a lasting and just peace possible in Israel and Palestine?

Wednesday 2nd of April, 7pm

Occupation, war, extremism, terrorism and fear are all words we hear used to
describe what is happening in Israel and Palestine. In such a context it's hard to
imagine a future where Israeli Jews and Palestinian Muslims and Christians may live
in peace, either together or side by side.

Is that a pipe dream or is such a future still possible?

Daniel Munayer, director of Musalaha - a reconciliation ministry in Israel and
Palestine - and the only Palestinian ever to have addressed the UN Security Council,
will explore this question at 7 pm on Wednesday 2nd of April here in the Cathedral.
His talk will be followed by a conversation with Dean John and Jamie Eyre, CEO of
Embrace the Middle East. Entry is free but you will need to register using the
following link. [https://embraceme.org/events/lecture-is-peace-possible-in-israel-
palestine](https://embraceme.org/events/lecture-is-peace-possible-in-israel-palestine) If you need help registering or have any questions, please do speak to
Revd Su McClellan.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

Palm Sunday Eucharist

Sunday 13th April, 10:30am

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week when we process to the Cathedral Ruins to remember Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem. There we will listen to the Passion Narrative – the account of Jesus' arrest, trial, and death. All are welcome to join our Palm Sunday Eucharist service, with a Palm Sunday Procession.

Compline Services

14th, 15th & 16th April, 8pm

Join us for a gentle service of prayer and reflection, a wonderful way to end the day in worship of the Lord during Holy Week.

Chrism Eucharist

Thursday 17th April, 10:30am

Join us for the Chrism Eucharist to mark Maundy Thursday on this Holy Week.

Maundy Thursday Eucharist

Thursday 17th April, 7:30pm

Join us for an evening Eucharist service with foot washing to mark Maundy Thursday. 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.

Good Friday Liturgy

Friday 18th April, 9am

All are welcome to join this service to mark the holy day of Good Friday. Good Friday marks the day that Jesus was rebuked, tortured, and ultimately crucified. Join us for a solemn, reflective service, where we listen to the accounts of Jesus' suffering and death, and spend time worshipping Him for His service and sacrifice for us.

Stations of the Cross

Friday 18th April, 2pm 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. In the Cathedral Ruins, you can visually follow the steps Jesus took on His way to the Cross as a way of remembering His sacrifice for us all on this holy day of Good Friday.

Easter Dawn Eucharist Service

Sunday 20th April, 5:30am

Join us for this joyous service to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, with the beautiful backdrop of the dawn sky.

Easter Day Eucharist

Sunday 20th April, 10:30am

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

RAF Odiham are celebrating 100 years of aviation this year

They see one of their most notable actions as being in 1962 when one of their Belvedere helicopters installed the spire atop of Coventry Cathedral. To commemorate this, they would like to come here and make a short video with someone who watched this happen back in 1962.

*The date they would like to film this is **Wednesday, 26th March.***

If you were there to see the spire being installed and want to be interviewed for this video, please let us know as soon as you can!

Email sarah.scouller@coventrycathedral.org.uk for more information

Livestreaming information from Canon Mary

Canon Mary's consecration was livestreamed on the Canterbury Cathedral YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/@CanterburyCathedralOfficial/streams>

You can still watch the video if you missed it.

*Canon Mary's welcome service at Reading Minster on **2nd March at 3pm** is being livestreamed to their YouTube page -*

<https://www.youtube.com/@readingminster2354/streams> - and people are really welcome to attend in person if they would like to.

*Canon Mary's installation is at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, on **8th March at 6pm**; anyone who wants to attend in person is welcome. We will provide an update on if this service will be livestreamed.*

Investors in Hope is Coventry Cathedral's Regular Giving Option

Becoming an Investor connects us with the past while looking forward with hope. Helping with the ever-increasing operational costs with regular giving is essential for our mission and the very existence of our building. Please sign up through the website, Coventry Cathedral 'Investors in Hope' or email fundraising@coventrycathedral.org.uk

Ask for Mandy or Rachel at the Welcome Desk for a chat Monday-Thursday.