

The Cathedral Eucharist

Sunday 6th April 2025

The Fifth Sunday in Lent



The President today is the Reverend Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship and Welcome. Margaret East, Cathedral Reader, is deacon. The sub-deacon is The Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry, who is also preaching. 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 Mass for Five Voices by William Byrd (1540 – 1623).

The Collect

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
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 Linda Twibill, representing the Cathedral Community.

- ¹⁶ Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸ Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

²⁰ The wild animals will honour me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹ the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

Isaiah 55:1-9

Gradual Hymn

**My song is love unknown,
my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown,
that they might lovely be.**

**O who am I,
that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh, and die?**

**He came from His blest throne,
salvation to bestow;
but men made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know.
But O, my Friend,
my Friend indeed,
who at my need
his life did spend!**

**Sometimes they strew his way,
and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King.
Then 'Crucify!'
is all their breath,
and for His death
they thirst and cry.**

**Here might I stay and sing:
no story so divine;
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine!
This is my Friend,
in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend.**

*Words by Samuel Crossman (1624-1683)
Tune CP 112 Love Unknown by John Ireland (1879-1962)*

The Gospel Reading

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial.' ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

John 12:1-8

Offertory Hymn

**When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the cross of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.**

**See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown!**

**His dying crimson, like a robe,
spreads o'er his body on the tree:
then am I dead to all the globe,
and all the globe is dead to me.**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.**

Words by Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Tune CP 127 Rockingham adapted by Edward Miller (1731-1807)

Anthem

**O vos omnes qui transitis per viam, attendite et videte:
Si est dolor sicut dolor meus.**

*O all you who walk by on the road, pay attention and see:
if there be any sorrow like my sorrow.*

Words from the Antiphon at 3rd Nocturn for Holy Saturday

Music by Pablo Casals (1876-1973)

Communion Hymn

**O sacred head, surrounded
by crown of piercing thorn!
O bleeding head, so wounded,
so shamed and put to scorn!
Death's pallid hue comes o'er thee,
the glow of life decays;
yet angel-hosts adore thee,
and tremble as they gaze.**

**Thy comeliness and vigour
is withered up and gone,
and in thy wasted figure
I see death drawing on.
O agony and dying!
O love to sinners free!
Jesu, all grace supplying,
turn thou thy face on me.**

**In this thy bitter passion,
good Shepherd, think of me
with thy most sweet compassion,
unworthy though I be:
beneath thy cross abiding
for ever would I rest,
in thy dear love confiding,
and with thy presence blest.**

*Words by Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676) tr. H.W. Baker (1821-1877)
Tune CP 120 Passion Chorale harmonised by J.S. Bach (1685-1750)*

Closing Hymn

***Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.***

**Come, let us follow where our Captain trod,
Our King victorious, Christ the Son of God:**

**O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As thou hast promised, draw us unto thee:**

**Let every race and every language tell
Of him who saves our souls from death and hell:**

**From farthest regions let them homage bring
And on his cross adore their Saviour King:**

**Set up thy throne, that earth's despair may cease
Beneath the shadow of its healing peace:**

**For thy blest cross which doth for all atone
Creation's praises rise before thy throne:**

***Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.***

Words by G.W. Kitchin (1827-1912) and M.R. Newbolt (1874-1956)

Tune CP 499 Crucifer by S.H. Nicholson (1875-1947)

Voluntary

Please do stay for the organ voluntary, performed today by David Rice.

Prelude in B minor BWV 544 by J. S. Bach (1685 – 1750)

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*

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

Holy Week and Easter Services

Sunday 13th April – Sunday 20th April

Details of our Holy Week and Easter services can be found on the community table at the back of the Cathedral and on our website:

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

‘Emmaus’: The Way of Faith

Tuesday 29th April, 7pm

Are you new to the Cathedral community? Do you have questions about faith, the church or what we believe? You are invited to a post-Easter course for those new or interested in exploring the Christian faith which will begin on Tuesday, 29 April at 7pm, St Michael's House with a bring-and-share meal. Emmaus is a 15 week course that explores topics such as believing in God, the role of prayer and the bible, and the life and ministry of Jesus and other exciting topics. For further information speak to Rob Halligan or Canon Nitano.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll is a register of everyone that considers a particular church their chosen place of worship. The Roll is updated every year in advance of the Annual General Meeting, but every 6 years it has to be completely refreshed, and this year is the 6th year. If you consider the Cathedral to be your place of worship and you have been attending for more than 6 months then you are able to join the Electoral Roll. Please ask the stewards for the form and return to them upon completion.