

The Cathedral Eucharist

Sunday 13th July, 2025



The Fourth Sunday after Trinity

The President today is the Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry. The Deacon is Margaret East, Cathedral Reader, and the Reverend Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship and Welcome, is the sub-deacon and the preacher. The Cathedral Choir is directed by Rachel Mahon, Director of Music. The organists are Luke Fitzgerald, David Rice, and Amelia Parkin. Before the service, Amelia will play 'Prelude on an Old Folk Tune' by Amy Beach (1867-1944).

Today is also the last Sunday of the year for our choir, and we say goodbye to several choristers who are graduating the choir, as well as to Luke Fitzgerald as Assistant Director of Music, David Rice as Acting Assistant Director of Music and Amelia Parkin as Organ Scholar. We will also be awarding full membership of the choir to some of our younger choristers.

This morning, the Choir offers its first singing of Messe Solennelle by Jean Langlais (1907-1991) in loving memory of Evelyn Warwick. Through her generous legacy, we were able to acquire this music.

Opening Hymn

**For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.**

**Lead us, Father, into freedom,
from despair your world release;
that redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.**

**All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.**

**You, creator-God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.**

Words by Fred Kaan (1920-2009)

CP 427 Allelulia dulce Carmen from Essay on the Church Plain Chant (1782)

The Collect

O God, the protector of all who trust in you,
Without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy:
Increase and multiply upon us your mercy;
that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things
temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal;
grant this, heavenly Father,
for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The First Reading

Read by Libby Blunt, representing the Cathedral Choir.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, ² To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father. ³ In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus

Christ, ⁴ for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵ because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶ that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. ⁷ This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, ⁸ and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit. ⁹ For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1:1-14

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

cf Matthew 4.4

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you O Lord.

³⁸ Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Luke 10:38-End

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Offertory Hymn

**Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
re-clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence praise.**

**In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee.**

**O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!**

**Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.**

**Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still small voice of calm.**

Words by John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892)

*Tune CP 411 Repton arranged from the oratorio Judith by C.H.H. Parry
(1848-1918)*

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 Dulcis, O pie,
O 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 men,
whose side, pierced,
flowed with true blood;
for us our food, now
and in the testing time of death.
O tender, O loving,
O Jesus Son of Mary;
Have mercy on me. Amen.*

Words attributed to Pope Innocent VI (1282-1362)

Music by William Byrd (1543-1623)

Communion Hymn

**And now, O Father, mindful of the love
that bought us, once for all, on Calvary's Tree,
and having with us him that pleads above,
we here present, we here spread forth to thee
that only offering perfect in thine eyes,
the one, true, pure, immortal sacrifice.**

**Look, Father, look on his anointed face,
and only look on us as found in him;
look not on our misusings of thy grace,
our prayer so languid, and our faith so dim:
for lo, between our sins and their reward
we set the Passion of thy Son our Lord.**

**And so we come: O draw us to thy feet,
most patient Saviour, who canst love us still;
and by this food, so awful and so sweet,
deliver us from every touch of ill:
in thine own service make us glad and free,
and grant us never more to part with thee.**

Words by William Bright (1824-1901)

Tune CP 279 Song I Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

Post Communion

Eternal God,
comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken,
you have fed us at the table of life and hope:
teach us the ways of gentleness and peace,
that all the world may acknowledge the kingdom of your Son Jesus
Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

**Thy hand, O God, has guided
thy flock, from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written,
full clear, on every page;
thy people owned thy goodness,
and we their deeds record;
and both of this bear witness:
one Church, one faith, one Lord.**

**Thy heralds brought glad tidings
to greatest, as to least;
they bade all rise, and hasten
to share the great King's feast;
and this was all their teaching,
in every deed and word,
to all alike proclaiming
one Church, one faith, one Lord.**

**Through many a day of darkness,
through many a scene of strife,
the faithful few fought bravely,
to guard the nation's life.
Their Gospel of redemption,
sin pardoned, life restored,
was all in this enfolded:
one Church, one faith, one Lord.**

**Thy mercy will not fail us,
nor leave thy work undone;
with thy right hand to help us,
the victory shall be won;
by mortals and by angels,
thy name shall be adored,
and this shall be their anthem:
one Church, one faith, one Lord.**

*Words by E.H. Plumptre (1821-1891)
Tune CP 606 Thornbury Basil Harwood (1859-1949)*

Voluntary

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

Tu es Petra by Henri Mulet (1878-1967)

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*

New Assistant Director of Music



We are delighted to announce the appointment of Liam Coundon as the new Assistant Director of Music. Liam returns to the Cathedral having served as Assistant Organist at St Alphege's, Solihull, and as Visiting Organ Teacher at Warwick School.

Rachel Mahon, Director of Music said: *"I'm delighted that Liam will be joining us as Assistant Director of Music! He comes with a rich experience of liturgical music and teaching that will be of huge benefit to our music department. We look forward having him as a member of the team from September."*

Canon Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship & Welcome, warmly welcomed the appointment: *"Liam brings with him a wealth of experience in church music and a deep commitment to nurturing young musicians, qualities that will greatly enrich our worship and musical life. We very much look forward to working with him and to all that he will contribute to our liturgical life here at Coventry."*

Reflecting on his new role, Liam said: *"I am delighted to be returning to the Coventry Cathedral music department in this exciting role. The Cathedral is an inspiring building and an iconic venue for its incredible history, and to play music here is a real privilege. The Harrison and Harrison organ at Coventry is a thrilling instrument to play and it will be a delight to work with the choristers and clerks of the Cathedral Choir again. I look forward to having a significant contribution to the music in this wonderful place, and to be a part of the wider Cathedral community again."*

We look forward to welcoming Liam back and to all that he will bring to the life and ministry of the Cathedral.

JOINING OUR CHOIRS

Do you know a child who loves to sing? Boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 10 are welcome to audition for the Cathedral Boys' and Girls' Choirs. They sing an average of four times per week during term time in recordings, services and concerts. Children receive a world-class music education completely free and even receive scholarship payments. Please get in touch with the Director of Music to learn more:
rachel.mahon@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 Jane Williams, Cathedral Safeguarding Officer, calling 024 7650 2349 or by emailing janeMLWill@aol.com
Alternatively, you can contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team led by Sarah Price: 024 7652 1345 or safeguarding@coventry.anglican.org

COMING SOON

Summer Organ Recital Series

Monday 14th July, 12:30pm

Our 2025 summer organ recital series continues with a recital from Emmanuel Duperrey.

P. Glass Opening (from Glassworks)

H. A. Stamm Gaelic Fantasy

G. Morandi Offertoire en fa mineur

E. Duperrey Caelistis

N. Hakim Final (Hommage Igor Stravinsky)

Details of the rest of the series can be found here:

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/worship-music/the-organ/organ-recitals>

Cathedral Charity Day & Abseil Challenge

Saturday, 19th July, Cathedral Ruins

Join us in the Cathedral Ruins for a day of family fun, stalls, and community spirit as we raise funds for local charities. Don't miss the highlight of the day – watch Dean John, Canon Nitano, and others take on the thrilling Abseil Challenge to support the Cathedral!

Choral Evensong with the Symbel Choir

Saturday, 19th July at 4pm

Join us as this wonderful London-based choir for recent graduates lead our sung worship this weekend.

Cathedral's Summer Holiday Program

Theme: "All our Feelings"

Bring your little ones to the Cathedral over the summer to explore all we have to offer through games, crafts and fun activities for the family.

Let's Play! Happy and Sad

31st July, 10.30am-12pm

FREE Games, Crafts and Activities

Let's Play! Brave and Afraid

7th August, 10.30am-3pm

Teddy Zipline (£2 A GO, Spectators FREE)

Bring your own Picnic!

Let's Watch and Make!

14th August, 10.30am-12.30pm

"Inside Out" (Please book online)

Let's Play! Excited and Calm

21st August, 10.30am-12pm

FREE yoga & Zumba (Please book online)

Let's Play! Together and Alone

28th August, 10.30am-12pm

FREE Games, Crafts and Activities