

The Cathedral Eucharist

Sunday 14th September, 2025

Holy Cross Day



The President today is the Reverend Su McClellan, Cathedral Associate Minister. The Deacon is the Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry, who is also preaching. Donald Parr, Cathedral Lay Reader, is sub-deacon.

The Cathedral Choir is directed by Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music. The organist is Adam Heron, Organ Scholar. The service setting is Mass in the Phrygian Mode by Charles Wood (1866 – 1926).

*We encourage our visitors to take photographs of our beautiful cathedral, **but please no photography during the service.** Thank you.*

Opening Hymn

**Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.**

**Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.**

*Words by W. Williams (1717-1791) translated by P. and W. Williams
Tune CP 455 Cwm Rhondda John Hughes (1873-1932)*

The Collect

Almighty God,
who in the passion of your blessed Son made an instrument of painful death to be for us the means of life and peace:
grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer for his sake;
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 Jeff Evans, representing the Cathedral Community.

⁶ Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death- even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:6-11

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Welcome with meekness the implanted word
that has the power to save your souls.

James 1:21

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gospel Reading

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

Glory to you O Lord.

¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

John 3:13-17

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Offertory Hymn

**All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam:**

***O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

**Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him, alleluia.**

**Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice:**

**Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Thou fire so masterful and bright,
that givest us both warmth and light:**

**Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise him, alleluia.
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
let them his glory also show:**

**All you who are of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye alleluia.
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care:**

**And thou, most kind and gentle death,
waiting to hush our latest breath,
O praise him, alleluia.
Thou leadest home the child of God,
and Christ our Lord the way hath trod:**

**Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness;
O praise him, alleluia.
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:**

Words by W.H. Draper (1855-1933)

Based on St Francis of Assisi's Canticle of the Sun

Tune CP 250 Easter Song arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Anthem

**Oculi omnium in te sperant,
Domine,
et tu das escam illorum in
tempore opportuno.
Gloria tibi Domine.**

*The eyes of all wait upon thee,
O Lord:
and thou givest them their meat in
due season.
Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

from Psalm 104

Music by Charles Wood (1866-1926)

Communion Hymn

**Be thou my guardian and my guide,
and hear me when I call;
let not my slippery footsteps slide,
and hold me lest I fall.**

**The world, the flesh, and Satan dwell
around the path I tread;
O save me from the snares of hell,
thou quickener of the dead.**

**And if I tempted am to sin,
and outward things are strong,
do thou, O Lord, keep watch within,
and save my soul from wrong.**

**Still let me ever watch and pray,
and feel that I am frail;
that if the tempter cross my way,
yet he may not prevail.**

Words by Isaac Williams (1802-1865)

Tune CP 385 Abridge Isaac Smith (1734-1805)

Post Communion

Faithful God,
whose Son bore our sins in his body on the tree and gave us this
sacrament to show forth his death until he comes:
give us grace to glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
for he is our salvation, our life and our hope,
who reigns as Lord, now and for ever.
Amen.

Closing Hymn

**All hail the power of Jesus' name!
let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem
and crown him Lord of all.**

**Crown him, ye morning stars of light,
who fixed this floating ball;
now hail the Strength of Israel's might,
and crown him Lord of all.**

**Crown him, ye martyrs of your God,
who from his altar call;
extol the Stem-of-Jesse's Rod,
and crown him Lord of all.**

**Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,
ye ransomed of the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all.**

**Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
the wormwood and the gall,
go spread your trophies at his feet,
and crown him Lord of all.**

**Let every tribe and every tongue
before him prostrate fall.
and shout in universal song
the crowned Lord of all.**

Words by E. Perronet (c.1726-1792)

Tune CP 163 Miles Lane William Shrubsole (1760-1806)

Voluntary

Please do stay for the organ voluntary, performed by Liam Condon.

Festival Voluntary by Flor Peeters (1903 – 1986)

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: *BCP Evening Prayer (Choral Evensong during term time)*

CLERGY PREACHING AWAY:

The Reverend Canon Kate Massey - Deaconess House Anniversary,
Dresden

The Reverend Canon Sacha Slavic- St. Chad's Woodend

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

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

HEAD VERGER

We are seeking to appoint an experienced individual who will enable the smooth running of the Cathedral, chiefly as a place of prayer and worship, but also as a popular tourist destination and venue for a wide variety of concerts and other events. The person will lead the verger team and form part of the middle management of the Cathedral.

This is a fulltime role and onsite accommodation is provided.

Please see the Cathedral website for more details or email Nitano.Muller@Coventry.Anglican.org if you have any questions.

Closing date for applications: Friday, 3 October.

Interviews: Thursday, 16 October.

VERGER (PART-TIME)

We are seeking to appoint a part-time verger (*15 hours per week*). The role will primarily be a *liturgical one*: assisting with the preparation and delivery of Cathedral services on weekends, but as a team player, you must be willing to be flexible in covering other shifts as is needed.

This role also involves *manual work*. The post is subject to DBS clearance and will include weekend and bank holiday working.

Please see the Cathedral website for more details or email Nitano.Muller@Coventry.Anglican.org if you have any questions.

The closing date for applications: Monday, 15th September 2025
Interviews will take place at our offices, on Monday, 22nd September 2025.

ICONS SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATOR

The Schools Team are looking for someone with strong administrative skills, experience in digital communication and a passion for reconciliation and education to join their team as an administrator. It is a part-time/term-time only role. Please submit a CV and letter of application to emma.griffiths@coventry.anglican.org or the Cathedral website for more information.

COMING SOON

Summer Organ Recital Series

Monday, 15th September, 12:30pm

Our 2025 summer organ recital series continues with a recital from Gary Sieling.

D. Buxtehude - *Praeludium in D major*

J. S. Bach - *Fantasia and Fugue in C minor BWV 537*

B. Britten - *Prelude and Fugue on a theme of Vittoria*

G. Sieling - *Toccata and Fugue in D minor on a theme of Enrico Mancini*

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

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

'Remembering the forgotten blitz' - Evening Talk

Wednesday, 17th September, 7-8.30pm

in the Chapter House

FREE - but please book online on Coventry Cathedral's Whats On Page

As part of the University of Warwick's 60th Birthday celebrations...

Dr David Lees from The University of Warwick's School of Modern Languages and Cultures, presents; 'Remembering the forgotten blitz: Bombing and reconciliation in Paris and Normandy and how Coventry showed the way.'

"Courageous Conversations" Absence/Presence

Friday, 19th September, 6pm

FREE – but please book online on Coventry Cathedral's What's On Page

Join Professor Nirmal Puwar, Canon Nitano Muller, Monika Brown and Holly Cooper as they discuss the migration of ideas, people and materials that are very much part of the building of Coventry Cathedral. Basil Spence, the architect of the cathedral, was born in India due to empire; workers from the empire, as well as refugees and displaced persons from Europe and local people contributed to the building of the Cathedral. The panel opens a contact zone for courageous conversations. Absence/Presence is an invitation to participate in the making of a living heritage with stories sitting outside the usual frames of reference.

Funded by the West Midlands Racial Justice Initiative

Celebration of Lay Ministry

Saturday, 20 September, 5pm

All are warmly invited to the Diocese of Coventry's **Celebration of Lay Ministry** – a special service giving thanks for the many ways lay people serve God's mission in church, community, and daily life. Lay-Readers will be (re)licensed and local lay leaders will be celebrated.

Patronal Festival/CCN Sunday

Sunday, 21st September 2025, 10.30am

Join us as we mark the feast of St Michael and All Angels, as well as CCN Sunday, when we give thanks for the worldwide family of the Community of the Cross of Nails. Celebrating as one community, rejoicing in our calling to be people of reconciliation, hope and renewal.

Chorister Car Wash Fundraiser

Sunday, 21st September, between the services, from 12:30 until 2pm.

Support the Choirs! The Choristers will be hosting a car wash to raise funds. Have a drink in the pop-up café while you wait for your car to be washed. This will be happening in the Upper Car Park just beside the Cathedral off Priory Row.

Bishop Sophie visit to the Cathedral

Monday, 22nd September

Bishop Sophie is coming to spend a day with the Cathedral on Monday September 22nd, to get to know us and what we do. If you would like to join the day, we would love to welcome volunteers and members of the Cathedral community to afternoon tea in the John Laing Centre at 4.30pm – 5.15pm (following Evening Prayer at 4.00). Please sign on the welcome table if you know you would like to join this event.

Coffee Morning

Wednesday, 24th September, 10am – 12noon

FREE

Come and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of the Cathedral, with FREE refreshments.

An opportunity to gather, chat with friends and friends unknown, to help us fulfil our core value of Hospitality.

Any questions, please email events@coventrycathedral.org.uk

National Police Memorial Day Service

Sunday, 28 September, 2pm

We are privileged to host this year's National Police Memorial Service, when we gather with families and representatives from across the country to honour and remember officers who have given their lives in the line of duty.

On this important occasion, ***please note there will be no Cathedral Eucharist***, but congregation members are welcome to attend the service at Holy Trinity. A limited number of spaces are available for members of the congregation to attend the NPMD service; names should be submitted to the Churchwardens by Sunday, 21st September.

Reconciliation in a Time of Conflict

Saturday, 18th October, 10am – 3.30pm

How can we talk about reconciliation in the midst of war? We know the Bible calls us to be reconcilers, but what does the Christian ministry of reconciliation look like in a time of conflict? What are the challenges faced by those in the context of war, and what might we learn about being reconcilers in a society increasingly characterised by cultural division and conflict? How can we pray, act and speak in these turbulent times? Christians in Ukraine and Israel Palestine have approached this question in different ways, which will in turn help shape our understanding and action in our own contexts.

This significant day conference is hosted by the British Trust for Tanur, which supports the work of the Tanur Ecumenical institute, on the border between Jerusalem and Bethlehem. We will be welcoming their Rector, Fr. John Paul SJ, along with guests from Ukraine, to lead us in our reflection.

This conference will run from 10.00 – 3.30pm at Coventry Cathedral, a community known for its commitment to reconciliation, and as a place to reflect and respond to these difficult questions. Tickets are now £15 (or £10 for concessions, e.g. ordinands, students). For more information and to book your place visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/wh674s7c>

ACCOMMODATION NEEDED

A young couple with an infant daughter are urgently in need of reasonably priced accommodation the city. If you are able to help, or suggest any possibilities, please speak to the Dean.