

The Cathedral Eucharist

Sunday 19th October, 2025

18th Sunday after Trinity



The President today is the Reverend Su McClellan, Cathedral Associate Minister. The Deacon is Mr. Donald Parr, Cathedral Lay Reader. The Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry, is sub-deacon. The Reverend Father John Paul, S.J., joining us from the Tantur Ecumenical Institute, Jerusalem, is preaching.

The Cathedral Choir is directed by Rachel Mahon, Director of Music. The organists are Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music, and Adam Heron, Organ Scholar. The service setting is Coventry Missa festiva by Flor Peeters (1903-1986).

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

Opening Hymn

**O praise ye the Lord! praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.**

**O praise ye the Lord! praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord, all ye of new birth;
praise him who hath brought you his grace from above,
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.**

**O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,
and, sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.**

**O praise ye the Lord! thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured all ages along;
for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!**

*Words by H.W. Baker (1821-1877)
Tune CP 543 Laudate Dominum C.H.H. Parry (1848-1918)*

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
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 Luke Busbridge, representing the Choral Lay Clerks.

A reading from the Paul's Second Letter to Timothy.

¹⁴As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

2 Timothy 3.14 – 4.5

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our mind,
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.

cf Ephesians 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gospel Reading

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

Glory to you O Lord.

¹Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' ⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" ⁶And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Luke 18:1-8

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Offertory Hymn

**O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!**

**Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.**

**He speaks; and, listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.**

**Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
your loosened tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Saviour come;
and leap, ye lame, for joy!**

**My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim
and spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of thy name.**

Words by Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Tune CP 424 Richmond melody by Thomas Haweis (1734-1820)

Anthem

O sacrum convivium in quo Christus sumitur, recolitur memoria
passionis eius, mens impletur gratia, et futurae gloriae nobis pignus datur.
Alleluia.

*How holy this feast in which Christ is our food; his passion is recalled; grace
fills our hearts; and we receive a pledge of the glory to come. Alleluia.*

Music by Vytautas Miskinis (b. 1954)

Communion Hymn

**Blessèd assurance, Jesus is mine:
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God;
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood:**

***This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long.***

**Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love:**

**Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Saviour am happy and blest —
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love:**

Words by Fanny Crosby (1820-1915)

Tune CP 390 Blessed Assurance by Phoebe Palmer Knapp (1839-1908)

Post Communion

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast:
for here we receive you,
here the memory of your passion is renewed,
here our minds are filled with grace,
and here a pledge of future glory is given,
when we shall feast at that table where you reign
with all your saints for ever.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

**To God be the glory, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in:**

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the people rejoice!

***O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son;
and give him the glory! Great things he has done!***

**O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God!
The vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives.**

**Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see:**

Words by Fanny Crosby (1820-1915)

Tune CP 609 To God be the Glory W.H. Doane (1832-1916)

Blessing of a Cross of Nails

A Cross of Nails is given to new partners of the Community of the Cross of Nails as a symbol of their sharing together with us in the ministry of reconciliation. Today we will be blessing Crosses of Nails before they are presented to our new partners.

The Dean says,

Bless the Evangelisch-lutherische St. Paulsgemeinde, Frankfurt, Alte Nikolaikirche, Frankfurt, The Evangelical Church in Stutensee and Weingarten and Martinskirche, Kassel, who, inspired by the Cross of Nails, bear witness to the grace and truth of your crucified and risen Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**In the name of God,
who has created all people for friendship with himself;
In the name of Jesus Christ,
who commanded us to love our enemies;
In the name of our Lord the Spirit,
who rescues and restores us in peace;
We bless these Crosses of Nails, to be presented to Evangelisch-lutherische St. Paulsgemeinde, Frankfurt, Alte Nikolaikirche, Frankfurt, The Evangelical Church in Stutensee and Weingarten and Martinskirche, Kassel,
as a symbol of our partnership in the work of reconciliation;
For the Glory of God and the coming of His kingdom of justice and peace;
Amen.**

Voluntary

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

Alla Marcia by John Ireland (1879-1962)

*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)*

COMMUNITY NEWS:

Clergy Preaching Away Today:

The Reverend Canon Nitano Muller- *St. Chad's, Wood End*

The Reverend Gillian Roberts – *St. Clare's at the Cathedral*

RIP Former Dean John Irvine

Our former Dean, John Irvine, died on Saturday 11th October. The funeral will take place at Bishop Hannington Memorial Church in Hove on Monday, 10 November at 2 pm (time tbc). Our prayers are with Andy and all the family.

RIP Pauline Lawrence

Funeral: Monday, 27 October 2025 at 11.15am, followed by a Private Cremation.

Congregation Contact Forms

Canon Kate would like to check that the contact information that we hold for congregation members is up to date and to seek your permission to contact you in various ways. This is to comply with our GDPR policy. If you choose to allow it (and there is no obligation), you can allow the Cathedral to send you the weekly notices and any other community news by email. If you choose, you can be added to a directory given to our clergy and readers to aid them in their ministry. Consent Forms are available at the back of the Cathedral. Please place completed forms in the marked envelope in the box which is addressed to Canon Kate.

Dean John's Retirement Announcement

After many years of faithful and dedicated ministry, Dean John Witcombe has announced his retirement in May 2026. We are deeply grateful for his leadership and ministry among us, and we look forward to marking this significant moment together.

Please make a note of these two important dates:

- **Saturday, 9 May 2026 – Farewell Celebration**
- **Sunday, 17 May 2026 – Dean John's Farewell Service**

A full statement about the retirement can be found on the Cathedral website: www.coventrycathedral.org.uk

A Season of Reconciliation

Sunday, 2 November to Sunday, 23 November

Theme: “Remembering well to move forward together”

Here at Coventry Cathedral, the month of November is a season of reconciliation; an opportunity to focus on the heart of our calling here at the Cathedral. At each Sunday Eucharist in November we will explore what it means to remember well in a sermon series delivered by local and guest preachers.

Date:	Preacher:	Theme:
Sunday, 2 November <i>(All Saints’ Day)</i>	The Revd Su McClellan	<i>“Remembering the saints to be inspired in our peace-making”</i>
Sunday, 9 November <i>(Remembrance Day)</i>	The Revd Canon Kate Massey	<i>“Remembering the war to seek peace with justice”</i>
Sunday, 16 November	The Very Reverend Jay Ruka, Dean of Taranaki	<i>“Remembering well: Exploring colonial legacy and Māori heritage in the hope of reconciliation”</i>
Sunday, 24 November <i>(Feast of Christ the King)</i>	The Revd Canon Nitano Muller	<i>“Remember well the reign of Christ: a kingdom of peace”</i>

COMING SOON

Choir Talent Show

TODAY, Sunday, 19th October, following the service.

Join us for a joyful afternoon as our Cathedral Choristers share their gifts beyond the usual repertoire in order to raise money for their choir activities! The show will happen straight after the morning service and comes with a light lunch. It'll be a wonderful occasion of music, laughter, and surprises. Please come along and show your support for our choristers – your presence will mean a great deal to them. Tickets are £10 and may be purchased with cash or card on the day.

Dreams of Peace and Freedom

TODAY, Sunday, 19 October, 5.30pm- Free

This year is the 75th anniversary of the creation of the European Convention for Human Rights. What should be a year of celebration is a year of uncertainty as the rights this document enshrines are increasingly contested. Against this backdrop, Coventry Cathedral is hosting “Dreams of Peace and Freedom” by professional theatre company, English cabaret. This piece - through archive footage, original songs and narrative drawn from personal papers - tells the story of how the ECHR developed in the aftermath of the Nuremburg Trials. We would love it if you would consider attending this performance and sharing this information with others you know who might be interested.

Our Cathedral Evensong that evening (from 4-5pm) will also centre on this theme, and so you may wish to attend Evensong, enjoy some light refreshments after the service and then enjoy the performance. Or you are most welcome simply to arrive for 5.30pm. (If you might be willing to help SERVE these refreshments, do please speak to Kate!)

To find out more information and book your free place at the performance:

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/events/dreams-of-peace-freedom-celebrating-the-protections-of-echr75>

Basic Skills in Reconciliation

Monday, 20th October, 7-9pm

Our Reconciliation Learning Lead, Emma Griffiths, is leading an evening of training in basic reconciliation skills on at St Nicolas Church, Vicarage Street, Nuneaton, CV11 4AZ. Places cost £5. To attend, please book a place through the Coventry Diocese Equip hub.

BIRD - Part of the Action Rayz Film Series

Thursday, 23rd October

7pm - Pay as you feel on the Chapter House door

Bailey lives with her brother Hunter and her father Bug, who raises them alone in a squat in northern Kent. Bug doesn't have much time to devote to them. Bailey looks for attention and adventure elsewhere.

Rating: 15

24 Hours of Prayer for Peace

Saturday, 1st November

We are launching our Coventry Cathedral Reconciliation Season with 24 hours of prayer for peace from 9.30am on Saturday 1st November all the way through to 9.30am on Sunday 2nd November. There will be different acts of prayer and worship throughout the 24 hours, as well as some prayer stations and other prayer resources.

We would love members of the cathedral community to volunteer to lead either create or offer a prayer resources, to help steward overnight and most of all, to commit to praying for part of the 24 hours (either in the building or at home). If you are able to help with this, please contact Kate (Kate.massey@coventry.anglican.org)

Requiem Mass – Fauré's Requiem

Sunday, 2 November, 4pm

Join us for a solemn and beautiful celebration of a Requiem Mass featuring Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem*, performed under the direction of Rachel Mahon, with Liam Condon and Adam Heron at the organ.

During the service, we will include the traditional reading of the names of those who have died.

If you would like a loved one's name to be read aloud, please hand it to one of the Churchwardens before the service.

All are warmly welcome as we remember the faithful departed and commend them to God's eternal care.

City Praise and Prayer at Coventry Cathedral

Sunday, 9 November, 6.30pm

Christians from across Coventry are invited to gather at the Cathedral for an evening of “City Praise and Prayer” - a time of charismatic worship, powerful prayer ministry, and unity in Christ.

Join with followers of Jesus from every tradition as we lift our voices in praise and pray together for our city, the church, and the world.

This event is free to attend - so come in your numbers and be part of what God is doing in Coventry!

Gracious Dialogue

4th, 11th, 18th, 25th November 7.30 pm in St Michael's House

New for reconciliation season. Gracious Dialogue: A guide to listening and speaking well about Israel and Palestine

Join us for a four week small group course to help us navigate the choppy waters of differing interpretations of scripture and history. Each week we will look at two interpretations of a passage from Paul's Letter to the Romans and snapshots from the recent history of Israel and Palestine.

The course aims to equip us to deepen our understanding and to see through an other's eyes.

To register your interest or for further information talk to or email Revd Su. Email: su.mcclellan@coventry.anglican.org