

# The Cathedral Eucharist

## Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2026

### The Sunday Next Before Lent



*President today is the Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry. The Deacon is the Reverend Kate Massey, Canon for Arts and Reconciliation. The sub-deacon is the Reverend Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship and Welcome. The service today has a special focus on students and **student ministry** and we welcome our preacher, The Reverend Dr. Naomi Nixon, CEO of the Student Christian Movement and Cathedral Associate Minister.*

*The Chamber Choir is directed by Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music. The organist is Adam Heron, Organ Scholar.*

*The service setting is Communion Service in C major by John Ireland (1879-1962).*

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

## Opening Hymn

**The God of Abraham praise,  
who reigns enthroned above,  
Ancient of everlasting days,  
and God of love:  
Jehovah, great I AM,  
by earth and heaven confest;  
we bow and bless the sacred name  
for ever blest.**

**The God of Abraham praise,  
at whose supreme command  
from earth we rise, and seek the joys  
at his right hand:  
we all on earth forsake  
its wisdom, fame, and power;  
and him our only portion make,  
our shield and tower.**

**The God who reigns on high  
and great archangels sing,  
and 'Holy, Holy, Holy,' cry,  
'almighty King,  
who was, and is the same,  
and evermore shall be.  
Jehovah, Father, great I AM,  
we worship thee.'**

**Before the Saviour's face  
the ransomed nations bow,  
o'erwhelmed at his almighty grace  
for ever new;  
he shows his prints of love  
they kindle to a flame,  
and sound through all the worlds above  
the slaughtered Lamb.**

**The whole triumphant host  
give thanks to God on high;  
'hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,'  
they ever cry:  
hail, Abram's God, and mine,  
(I join the heavenly lays)  
all might and majesty are thine,  
and endless praise.**

*Words by Thomas Olivers (1725-1799) cf. the Hebrew Yigdal  
Tune CP 586 Leoni Hebrew melody noted by Thomas Olivers (1725-1799)*

## **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 in his likeness, from glory to glory;  
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 Sammi Charles, a representative of The Coventry-Warwickshire Student Christian Movement.*

A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

<sup>12</sup> The Lord said to Moses, 'Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.' <sup>13</sup> So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> To the elders he had said, 'Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.' <sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup> Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. <sup>18</sup> Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

*Exodus 24:12-18*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.

*Cf Matthew 11:25*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## The Gospel Reading

<sup>1</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>3</sup>Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup>And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. <sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

*Matthew 17:1-9*

## 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 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**

**Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here.  
Come, bow before him now,  
with reverence and fear.  
In him no sin is found,  
we stand on holy ground.  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here.**

**Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around;  
he burns with holy fire,  
with splendour he is crowned.  
How awesome is the sight,  
our radiant King of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around.**

**Be still, for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place,  
he comes to cleanse and heal,  
to minister his grace.  
No work too hard for him,  
in faith receive from him;  
be still, for the power of the  
is moving in this place.**

*Words by David Evans (b. 1957)*

*Tune CP 383 Be Still by David Evans (b. 1957)*

## **Post Communion**

Holy God,  
We see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are  
partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the  
world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **Closing Hymn**

**Glorious things of thee are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God;  
he whose word cannot be broken  
formed thee for his own abode.  
On the Rock of ages founded,  
what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.**

**See, the streams of living waters,  
springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters,  
and all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint while such a river  
ever flows their thirst to assuage:  
grace which, like the Lord the giver,  
never fails from age to age?**

**Saviour, if of Zion's city  
I through grace a member am,  
let the world deride or pity,  
I will glory in thy name.  
Fading is the worldlings' pleasure,  
all their boasted pomp and show;  
solid joys and lasting treasure  
none but Zion's children know.**

*Words by John Newton (1725-1807)  
Tune CP 435i Abbot's Leigh Cyril Taylor (1907-1991)*

## **Voluntary**

*Prelude and Fugue in C major BWV 545 by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*

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We invite those joining us for worship to contribute to the costs of mission at the Cathedral. Please use the cash or contactless donation points, or the QR code here. This will take you to the Cathedral's page for the Parish giving Scheme which will enable you to make a one off donation, or set up a regular gift should you wish. Thank you so much for your support and generosity.



*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, please do join us and if you are visiting, please introduce yourself to one of the ministers.*

### **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. Do you know a child who loves to sing? 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. If you or someone you know might be interested in joining the choir, please be in touch with the Acting Director of Music to arrange a meeting. Email:

[Music.Administrator@CoventryCathedral.org.uk](mailto:Music.Administrator@CoventryCathedral.org.uk)

#### ***Our Cathedral Chamber Choir***

Our Cathedral Chamber Choir sing voluntarily at various services throughout the year and are currently open for auditions on all voice parts. Rehearsals usually take place on occasional Thursday evenings in the lead up to a service. If you would be interested in joining our Chamber Choir, please get in touch with Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music, for an audition.

Email: [Liam.Condon@coventry.anglican.org](mailto:Liam.Condon@coventry.anglican.org)



## **Safeguarding at Coventry Cathedral**

We are committed to the safeguarding of all people. For details, please visit [www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/about-us/safeguarding](http://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](mailto:JaneMLWill@aol.com)

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

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **Dean John's Farewell Celebration**

*Saturday, 9 May*

As we prepare to give thanks for Dean John's ministry among us, all members of the congregation are warmly invited to his Farewell Do on Saturday, 9 May. This will be a joyful moment to gather, share stories, and offer our appreciation for his leadership and friendship.

Please register your attendance by scanning the QR code below, or by emailing your name(s) to the Dean's Executive Assistant, at [Meshail.Daud@Coventry.Anglican.org](mailto:Meshail.Daud@Coventry.Anglican.org)

We hope many of you will join us for this special occasion.



## **COMING SOON**

### **Lenten Course: Testament**

This Lent, join us for a thought-provoking course built around *Testament*, the contemporary Christian series that brings the opening chapters of the

Book of Acts vividly to life. Together we will explore the first ten chapters of Acts and reflect on what the birth of the Church might mean for faith and discipleship today.

***The course will meet every Tuesday evening in Lent at 7pm in St Michael's House, beginning on Shrove Tuesday, 17 February.***

To sign up, or for further details, please speak to Rob or Canon Nitano.

### **Coffee Morning**

*Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February, 10-11.30am*

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

Any questions, please email [events@coventrycathedral.org.uk](mailto:events@coventrycathedral.org.uk)

### **Ash Wednesday Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes**

*Wednesday, 18 February at 12noon*

Join us for the Midday Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes, as we begin the season of Lent together in prayer and reflection.

The service will be presided over by Bishop Sophie Jelley, who will also be our preacher. All are welcome to come and receive the sign of ashes and the promise of grace, as we step into this penitential season.

### **Let's Play: Quiet Hour**

*Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> February, 9am-10am*

This FREE session is specifically for those families and children who need less bustle and noise, and the space to explore in their own unique ways

Book your FREE places online

### **Let's Play: Games & Crafts**

*Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> February, 10:30am - 12 noon*

Let's play together this Half Term Holiday in the Cathedral! Make the most out of Half Term and enjoy some games and crafts at Coventry Cathedral. FREE and suitable for families of all shapes and sizes.

## **Let's Watch and Make: Alice in Wonderland (1951)**

*Saturday, 21st February, 10am - 12 noon*

Come and join us this half term for crafts and a classic kids film!  
We will gather in St Michael's Gallery to do some crafts and then move to our Chapterhouse Cinema to watch Alice in Wonderland (the 1951 version)

(Book your FREE places online)

Any questions, please email [events@coventrycathedral.org.uk](mailto:events@coventrycathedral.org.uk)

## **Ukrainian Vigil**

*Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> February, 6.30pm*

Join us for a vigil in solidarity with our Ukrainian community, marking the 4th anniversary of the war in Ukraine. Together we will pray, reflect, and stand in hope, remembering those affected and affirming our commitment to peace and support.



 **Music at Lent**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March: Organ Meditation - Liam Condon**

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March: Organ Meditation - Adam Heron**  
(After Evensong)

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March: Lenten excerpts of Messiah**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March: Pergolesi Stabat Mater**

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March: Lamentations of Jeremiah - Tallis**

(All start at 4pm, and will be preceded by a short service of Evening Prayer)

**Coventry Cathedral, Priory St, Coventry CV1 5AB**