

# The Cathedral Eucharist Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2026 The Fifth Sunday of Easter



*The President today is the Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry. The Deacon is the Reverend Su McClellan, Cathedral Associate Minister. The sub-deacon is the Reverend Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship and Welcome. The Reverend Kate Massey, Canon for Arts and Reconciliation, is preaching. The Chamber Choir with Lüdenscheider Vokalensemble are directed by Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music. The organist is Adam Heron, Organ Scholar. The service setting is Little Organ Mass by Joseph Haydn (1732-1809). We encourage our visitors to take photographs of our beautiful cathedral, **but please no photography during the service.** If you would like to access the loop system, please speak to one of the vergers.*

## Opening Hymn

**Blessèd city, heavenly Salem,  
vision dear of peace and love,  
who of living stones art builded  
in the height of heaven above,  
and with angel hosts encircled  
as a bride dost earthward move!**

**Christ is made the sure foundation,  
Christ the Head and corner-stone,  
chosen of the Lord, and precious,  
binding all the church in one,  
Holy Sion's help for ever,  
and her confidence alone.**

**To this temple, where we call thee,  
come, O Lord of Hosts, today;  
with thy wonted loving-kindness  
hear thy servants as they pray,  
and thy fullest benediction  
shed within its walls away.**

**Here vouchsafe to all thy servants  
what they ask of thee to gain,  
what they gain from thee for ever  
with the blessed to retain,  
and hereafter in thy glory  
evermore with thee to reign.**

*Words from 7th-8th century Latin translated by J.M. Neale (1818-1866)  
Tune CP 207 Westminster Abbey adapted from an anthem by Henry  
Purcell (1659-1695)*

## **The Collect**

Almighty God,  
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome  
death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by  
your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires,  
so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through  
Jesus Christ our risen 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 Richard Parker, representing the Cathedral Chamber Choir and the  
Reconciliation Team.*

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>55</sup>But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory  
of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>‘Look,’ he said, ‘I  
see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand  
of God!’ <sup>57</sup>But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed  
together against him. <sup>58</sup>Then they dragged him out of the city and  
began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a  
young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed,  
‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’ <sup>60</sup>Then he knelt down and cried out in a  
loud voice, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ When he had said  
this, he died.

*Acts 7:55-End*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Gospel Acclamation**

I am the way, and the truth, and the life, says the Lord.  
No one comes to the Father except through me.

*John 14:6*

## **The Gospel Reading**

<sup>1</sup> 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going.' <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' <sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"?' <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup>Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

*John 14:1-14*

## Offertory Hymn

Lord, you give the great commission:  
“Heal the sick and preach the word.”  
Lest the church neglect its mission,  
and the gospel go unheard,  
help us witness to your purpose  
with renewed integrity:  
With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us  
for the work of ministry.

Lord, you call us to your service:  
“In my name, baptize and teach.”  
That the world may trust your promise,  
life abundant meant for each,  
give us all new fervor, draw us  
closer in community:  
With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us  
for the work of ministry.

Lord, you make the common holy:  
“This my body, this my blood.”  
Let us all, for earth’s true glory,  
daily lift life heavenward,  
asking that the world around us  
share your children’s liberty:  
With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us  
for the work of ministry.

Lord, you show us love’s true measure:  
“Father, what they do, forgive.”  
Yet we hoard as private treasure  
all that you so freely give.  
May your care and mercy lead us  
to a just society:  
With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us  
for the work of ministry.

**Lord, you bless with words assuring:  
“I am with you to the end.”  
Faith and hope and love restoring,  
may we serve as you intend  
and, amid the cares that claim us,  
hold in mind eternity:  
With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us  
for the work of ministry.**

*Words by Jeffery William Rowthorn (1934-2025)  
Tune CP 435i Abbot’s Leigh Cyril Taylor (1907-1991)*

## **Anthem**

Jauchzet dem Herrn alle Welt,  
dienet dem Herrn mit Freuden,  
kommt vor sein Angesicht mit  
Frohlocken. Erkennt, daß der Herr  
Gott ist, er hat uns gemacht und  
nicht wir selbst zu seinem Volk und  
zu Schafen seiner Weide. Gehet zu  
seinen Toren ein mit Danken, zu  
seinen Vorhöfen mit Loben, danket  
ihm, lobet seinen Namen. Denn der  
Herr ist freundlich und seine Gnade  
währet ewig, und seine Wahrheit  
für und für. Ehre sei dem Vater und  
dem Sohn und auch dem heiligen  
Geiste, wie es war im Anfang, jetzt  
und immerdar und von Ewigkeit.  
Amen.

*Sing and be joyful unto God, serve  
him with gladness; come ye before  
his face with rejoicing.  
Acknowledge that the Lord he is  
God, he created us and not we  
ourselves: we are his people and  
the sheep of his pasture. Enter  
into Jehovah’s gates with  
thanksgiving, and into his courts  
with praises, thank the Lord,  
praise his Name for ever. For the  
Lord is gracious and everlasting is  
his mercy: his truth shall stand for  
evermore. Glory to the Father,  
and to the Son, and to the Holy  
Spirit, as in the beginning, now  
and evermore. Amen.*

*Words from Psalm 100  
Music by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)*

## Communion Hymn

**Bread of heaven, on thee we feed,  
for thy flesh is meat indeed;  
ever may our souls be fed  
with this true and living bread;  
day by day with strength supplied  
through the life of him who died.**

**Vine of heaven, thy blood supplies  
this blest cup of sacrifice;  
Lord, thy wounds our healing give,  
to thy Cross we look and live:  
Jesus, may we ever be  
grafted, rooted, built in thee.**

*Words by J. Conder (1789-1855)*

*Tune CP 284i Bread of Heaven W.D. Maclagan (1826-1910)*

## Post Communion

Eternal God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to  
walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

**Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,  
and publish abroad his wonderful name;  
the name all-victorious of Jesus extol:  
his kingdom is glorious, and rules over all.**

**God ruleth on high, almighty to save;  
and still he is nigh, his presence we have;  
the great congregation his triumph shall sing,  
ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.**

**Salvation to God who sits on the throne!  
Let all cry aloud, and honour the Son.  
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,  
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.**

**Then let us adore, and give him his right:  
all glory and power, all wisdom and might,  
and honour and blessing, with angels above,  
and thanks never-ceasing, and infinite love.**

*Words by Charles Wesley (1707-1788)  
Tune CP 227 Paderborn German folk melody included in  
Paderborn Gesangbuch (1765), arr. Sidney Nicholson (1875-1947)*

## **Voluntary**

*Praeludium in C Major BuxWV 137 by Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)*

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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 below. 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.*

## **Safeguarding at Coventry Cathedral**

We are committed to the safeguarding of all people. For details, please visit

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/safeguarding>

Our Safeguarding Team are:



**Canon Kate**  
Chapter  
Safeguarding  
Lead



**Jane Williams**  
Cathedral  
Community  
Safeguarding  
Officer



**Jo Brake**  
Safeguarding  
Lead for Policy  
and Process

You can report a concern to our Safeguarding Team by emailing

[cathedral.safeguarding@coventrycathedral.org.uk](mailto:cathedral.safeguarding@coventrycathedral.org.uk)

or phoning 02476 52 1360

Alternatively, you can contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team led by Sarah

Price by phoning 024 7652 1345 or emailing

[safeguarding@coventry.anglican.org](mailto:safeguarding@coventry.anglican.org)

## COMMUNITY NEWS



### **INEQE Survey & Audit**

The Cathedral welcomes the INEQE Audit as an opportunity to learn. We want to understand how we can continue to improve our safeguarding culture and practice and keep everyone safe. You can help with this learning by completing an INEQE survey. We want to hear from as many voices as possible. The surveys are completed online. You can use the QR Code or go to: <https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/coventry/> You are welcome to complete more than one survey e.g. if you are a congregation member AND a victim or survivor, you are welcome to complete both surveys. If you would like to feedback to INEQE, but cannot complete the survey, there is more information about how to do that at the bottom of the webpage. If you would like to complete a survey, but don't have a computer or smartphone, ask us and we can help.

### **Canon Heather Wallace**

There will be a Celebration of Heather's life at Evensong **TODAY** at 4pm, and we hope that many will choose to gather on that occasion.

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

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 at 7pm. This will be a joyful moment to gather, share stories, and offer our appreciation for his leadership and friendship.



Dean John's final Eucharist service will be on Sunday, 17 May at 10.30am and his final Choral Evensong at 4pm, where he will preach and preside. If you wish to attend either or both of these, please scan this QR code to register your attendance.

There are lists at the back of the nave, should you prefer to register that way. We hope many of you will join us for this special occasion.



### **Farewell Gift**

There will be opportunities for members of the Cathedral Community to contribute to a farewell gift to John and Ricarda as a thank you for their service amongst us for the past 13 years. A box for contributions and a card to sign will be at the back of the cathedral until their final Sunday with us on May 17<sup>th</sup>. The Cathedral Churchwardens

### **Embrace the Middle East**

Communities supported by **Embrace the Middle East** in Lebanon are continuing their vital work in the midst of appalling levels of bombardment and the displacement of over 1.2 million people. As crisis builds on crisis, many of their long-standing funding streams, particularly from the United States, are drying up. These trusted local partners are asking simply not to be forgotten. If you are able you are invited to give to **Embrace's Middle East Emergency Appeal, Keeping Hope Alive** helping to provide emergency medical care, food aid, trauma care and mental health support, for those, particularly the children, caught up in the war. In moments like this, headlines can move quickly - but fear, disruption, and trauma settle deeply and last. Thank you for standing with the Middle East at a time like this. When you give, you are not watching from a distance - you are equipping trusted people on the ground to act with compassion, skill, and urgency. To give visit <https://embraceme.org/emergency-appeal> or use the QR code here. Thank you.



## **COMING SOON**

### **Ascension Day Update**

*Thursday, 14 May, Holy Trinity Church, 7.30pm*

Please note a **change of venue and time** for our Ascension Day service. This year, we will join our friends at Holy Trinity Church at 7.30pm as we gather to worship together as the Hill Top community, a special occasion that takes place only twice a year. We hope many from our congregation will be able to join us.

### **Play the Organ Day**

*Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> May*

As part of our launch of our Coventry Cathedral Monday Lunchtime recital series, we will be running a 'Play the Organ' opportunity for young organists where they can come and play our magnificent Cathedral Organ. The morning session will be for those who have already started learning the organ, whereas the afternoon session is open to anyone who would like to have the opportunity. **All are welcome to attend the 12:30pm recital** as our Assistant Director of Music, Liam Condon, will present a programme of 'Organ Favourites'!

### **Digital Drop In**

*Tuesday 19th May, 10am - 12noon*

**Come along to our drop-in sessions taking place in The New Cathedral where you can access informal 1:1 support with skills such as:**

- Online shopping
- Setting up an email address
  - Using the NHS app
- Practice using a mouse and keyboard
  - Using a search engine effectively
- Getting to grips with a smartphone

**& much more!**

Supported by CovConnects & Coventry City Council

If you have any questions, please email  
[events@coventrycathedral.org.uk](mailto:events@coventrycathedral.org.uk)



# Chorister Open Evening

19th May 2026



**Venue:** Coventry Cathedral

**Who can attend?** Open to Boys & Girls in current school Years 2-6

**Date:** Tuesday 19th May, 16:30-18:30

- Open to all children considering auditioning for the cathedral choir
- Meet and sing with the cathedral choristers in a cathedral liturgy
- Have a tour of the cathedral, and experience the cathedral organ close up
- Parents will hear their children singing in the Cathedral choir, meet with other parents & meet the Director of Music



## Sign Up!



Scan the QR code to sign up for this event or  
click the link: [tinyurl.com/choristeropenevening](https://tinyurl.com/choristeropenevening)

SCAN ME

