

Choral Evensong

Sunday 14th April

The Third Sunday of Easter



Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong, led by the Reverend Su McClellan, Cathedral Curate. John Lloyd, Reader for Coventry Cathedral, will be preaching. Today, we are delighted to be joined by The Choir of St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford, directed by Ian Runnells. The organist is Robert Stokely. The Responses are by William Smith (1603-1645). The full text of the service is found in the purple booklets.

Psalm 142

1. I cried unto the Lord with my voice : yea, even unto the Lord did I make my supplication.
2. I poured out my complaints before him : and shewed him of my trouble.
3. When my spirit was in heaviness thou knewest my path : in the way wherein I walked have they privily laid a snare for me.
4. I looked also upon my right hand : and saw there was no man that would know me.
5. I had no place to flee unto : and no man cared for my soul.
6. I cried unto thee, O Lord, and said : Thou art my hope, and my portion in the land of the living.
7. Consider my complaint : for I am brought very low.
8. O deliver me from my persecutors : for they are too strong for me.
9. Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks unto thy Name : which thing if thou wilt grant me, then shall the righteous resort unto my company.

The First Lesson

⁷ It was not because you were more numerous than any other people that the LORD set his heart on you and chose you—for you were the fewest of all peoples. ⁸ It was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath that he swore to your ancestors, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

⁹ Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who maintains covenant loyalty with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, ¹⁰ and who repays in their own person those who reject him. He does not delay but repays in their own person those who reject him. ¹¹ Therefore, observe diligently the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that I am commanding you today.

¹² If you heed these ordinances, by diligently observing them, the LORD your God will maintain with you the covenant loyalty that he swore to your ancestors; ¹³ he will love you, bless you, and multiply you; he will bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine and your oil, the increase of your cattle and the issue of your flock, in the land that he swore to your ancestors to give you.

Deuteronomy 7:7 – 13

The Magnificat

Evening Service in C by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

The Second Lesson

¹ 'To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands:

² 'I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance. I know that you cannot tolerate evildoers; you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them to be false. ³ I also know that you are enduring patiently and bearing up for the sake of my name, and that you have not grown weary. ⁴ But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵ Remember then from what you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. ⁶ Yet this is to your credit: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷ Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To everyone who conquers, I will give permission to eat from the tree of life that is in the paradise of God.

⁸ ‘And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words of the first and the last, who was dead and came to life:

⁹ ‘I know your affliction and your poverty, even though you are rich. I know the slander on the part of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. ¹⁰ Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Beware, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison so that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have affliction. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

¹¹ Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. Whoever conquers will not be harmed by the second death.

Revelation 2:1 – 11

The Nunc Dimittis

Evening Service in C by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, who shewest to them that be in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness: Grant unto all them that are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may eschew those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Anthem

O for a closer walk with God,
a calm and heavenly frame;
a light to shine upon the road
that leads me to the Lamb!

Return, O holy dove, return,
sweet messenger of rest:
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
and drove thee from my breast.

So shall my walk be close with God,
calm and serene my frame;
so purer light shall mark the road
that leads me to the Lamb.

Words by William Cowper (1731-1800)

Music by C.V. Stanford (1852-1924)

The Hymn

**O strength and stay upholding all creation,
who ever dost thyself unmoved abide,
yet day by day the light in due gradation
from hour to hour through all its changes guide;**

**Grant to life's day a calm unclouded ending,
an eve untouched by shadows of decay,
the brightness of a holy death-bed blending
with dawning glories of the eternal day.**

**Hear us, O Father, gracious and forgiving,
through Jesus Christ thy co-eternal Word,
who with the Holy Ghost by all things living
now and to endless ages art adored.**

Words by St Ambrose (c.340-397)

translated by John Ellerton (1826-1893)

Tune CP 18 Strength and Stay J. B. Dykes (1823-1876)

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.



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 Director of Music to arrange a meeting.
rachel.mahon@coventrycathedral.org.uk

COMMUNITY NEWS

Road Closure for the Coventry Half Marathon

Sunday 28th April

Please note that your journey to the Cathedral and ability to park nearby may be affected by the Coventry Half Marathon. Road closures around the start on Gosford Street will be implemented from 4am to 11am whilst the closures around the finish on Priory Street will be implemented from 4am to 3pm. Road closures around the route will be implemented from 8am on the morning of the event with the final road closure re-opened for 1pm. All closures will be re-opened on a rolling basis. For more information on the road closures and re-opening times as well as diversion routes to plan ahead please see our interactive road closure map here:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1MjQmzVAcTHWe33ERDmGNgaA5cTjt_uTM&usp=sharing

Mary Wickens' Funeral

Mary Wickens' funeral will take place in the Cathedral on Monday 29th April at 12:30pm, followed by a committal at the crematorium. Please pray for Mary's sister, Vicki, and for all those who love Mary and miss her.

Cathedral Annual General Meeting **Please note new date******

Sunday 5th May, 12:00 – 1:30pm

Our Annual General Meeting will now be held on Sunday 5th May in the John Laing Centre. That Sunday, refreshments will be served in the John Laing Centre to enable us to have a prompt midday start. The agenda and Annual Report will be available soon to read in advance. Please do prioritise this meeting if you can. The meeting will be preceded by coffee and a simple sandwich lunch, served in the John Laing Centre.

Election of Cathedral Wardens

Each year at the Annual General Meeting we can elect up to five Cathedral wardens including at least one Warden for St Clare's. Please think about who you would like to nominate for this role or, indeed, consider standing yourself. Please email Canon Mary with the name of the person nominated, their proposer and seconder at Mary.Gregory@coventrycathedral.org.uk

St. Michael's Committee - AGM Elections

This is a sub-committee of Chapter which discusses matters concerning the congregation's role in the life of the cathedral.

*If you are interested in joining this committee, please email graham.warren@btinternet.com giving your name and those of a proposer and seconder. **Please note:** Nominee, proposer and seconder must all be members of the Electoral Roll.*

Sponsoring Reverend Su in the Milton Keynes Half Marathon

Our very own Reverend Su McClellan is running in the Milton Keynes half marathon on Monday 6th May to raise funds for our choir. Our choirs not only play an essential role in our worshipping life, but they also offer a first-class musical education for children and young people. Keeping this open and accessible is in the DNA of our community, which is why Su is running on Bank Holiday Monday. If you would like to sponsor Su, you can fill in a sponsor form with your pledge by talking to Su or Graham Warren after the service.



Introducing our new Canon for Worship and Welcome

We are absolutely delighted to be able to announce that the Revd Nitano Muller has been appointed as our new Canon for Worship and Welcome. We look forward to Nitano's arrival in June when he will be installed to take up his new role.

As we wait to welcome him, you will enjoy this biography as a way of beginning to get to know him and of anticipating all that he will bring to our life together:

Nitano hails from the small fishing-community of Ocean View, located at the southern-most tip of the Cape Peninsula in South Africa. He completed a degree in Education and worked as a language and history teacher.

While working as a teacher, Nitano was discerned for ordination to the priesthood in the Diocese of False Bay within the Anglican Church of Southern Africa and entered residential theological training at the College of the Transfiguration, Makhanda (formerly Grahamstown).

He served his curacies in two vastly different contexts in Mitchells Plain on the Cape Flats and Hermanus along the south-eastern coastline of False Bay (where he ministered to the Late Archbishop Desmond Tutu as a parishioner). He currently serves as Rector of St. Peter's Church, Kleinvelei, False Bay Diocese.

Nitano is one of the youngest serving Rectors in his Diocese. His passions include liturgy, youth development and the work of justice and reconciliation. These are evident in some of the portfolios he holds which include Diocesan Chaplain for Young People, a consultant for the Provincial Liturgical Committee, and a representative of his diocese on the South African Council of Churches (Western Cape).

In 2022, Nitano was selected as a Trinity Leadership Fellow, a program run by Trinity Wall Street, New York, for emerging faith leaders from across the world who seek to enhance their skills in order to contribute to meaningful change and transformation in their respective fields and contexts.

Nitano is a self-proclaimed ambivert, who equally enjoys working with people, travelling and exploration as well as quiet time reading, writing reflections or listening to good music.

Nitano's first encounter with Coventry Cathedral was its welcome sign posted at the west-screen entrance, which he says made him feel at home because he identified with many of the traits described on it and is excited to form part of the cathedral team that extends the radical welcome and all embracing-love of God to all who enter the Cathedral's doors.

Welcoming Nitano: making a house a home

Nitano won't arrive from South Africa with any furniture or household goods (bedding, crockery, etc). It would be wonderful if we could begin making his house a home by offering items of furniture, or other goods, which he could use. If you have anything you could offer, please could you email Canon Mary – Mary.Gregory@coventry.anglican.org Mary will then collate all the offers and then get back to you – either thanking you for your offer and accepting it, or thanking you but explaining that we have had four other offers of chaise longues (for example!) and so won't need to accept yours. Thank you so much in advance for your generosity!

Coffee Rota

We would be glad for a few more volunteers to help with serving coffee to the congregation after the Sunday morning service.

If you would like to get involved with this important community activity, please either e-mail graham.warren@btinternet.com or speak to Graham at the "contactless offertory" table at the back of the nave chairs.

COMING SOON

Spring Festival

Saturday 20th April, 12 – 5pm in the Cathedral Ruins

Food Union are back at Coventry Cathedral for another all-day, family-friendly festival celebrating Coventry's local growers and producers.

Join us in the Cathedral Ruins for a full day of food & live music, children's entertainment, interactive nature-based workshops, seed saving lessons, a city-wide crop swap, basket weaving, stalls selling local produce & wares, plus tons more and it's all free to attend!

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/events/spring-festival-2>

**A Service to Celebrate the 30th Anniversary
of the Ordination of Women as Priests**

Sunday 21st April at 4pm

Join us as we gather as a Diocese for this service of Holy Communion, where we will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the ordination of women as priests. All are warmly invited to this service and to the refreshments which follow.

Psalm

Wednesday 24th April, 7:30 – 9pm

Join singer-songwriter Rob Halligan every fourth Wednesday of the month for 'Psalm': a place to explore worship through music, quiet, spoken word and song, using the honesty of the Psalms.

Lunchtime Organ Recitals

12:30 – 1pm every Monday from 6th May – 30th September 2024

Our free lunchtime organ recitals are back! Come along and listen to beautiful organ pieces, performed by a variety of musicians. For the full programme, please visit: <https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/worship-music/the-organ/organ-recitals>