

Choral Evensong

Sunday 16th March 2025

The Second Sunday of Lent



Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong, led by The Reverend Su McClellan, Cathedral Associate Minister. John Lloyd, Cathedral Lay Reader, will be preaching. The Cathedral choir is directed by Luke Fitzgerald, Acting Director of Music. The organists are David Rice, Acting Assistant Director of Music, and Amelia Parkin, Organ Scholar. The Responses are the Ferial setting by Thomas Tallis (1505-85).

Introit

God be in my head, and in my thinking.
God be in my eyes, and in my looking.
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking.
Oh, God be in my heart, and in my understanding.

Music by H. Walford Davies (1869-1941)

Psalm 135:1-14

- 1 Alleluia. Praise the name of the Lord;
 give praise, you servants of the Lord,
- 2 You that stand in the house of the Lord,
 in the courts of the house of our God.
- 3 Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good;
 make music to his name, for it is lovely.
- 4 For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself
 and Israel for his own possession.
- 5 For I know that the Lord is great
 and that our Lord is above all gods.
- 6 The Lord does whatever he pleases in heaven and on earth,
 in the seas and in all the deeps.
- 7 He brings up the clouds from the ends of the earth;
 he makes lightning with the rain
 and brings the winds out of his treasuries.
- 8 He smote the firstborn of Egypt,
 the firstborn of man and beast.

- 9 He sent signs and wonders into your midst, O Egypt,
upon Pharaoh and all his servants.
- 10 He smote many nations
and slew mighty kings:
- 11 Sihon, king of the Amorites, and Og, the king of Bashan,
and all the kingdoms of Canaan.
- 12 He gave their land as a heritage,
a heritage for Israel his people.
- 13 Your name, O Lord, endures for ever
and shall be remembered through all generations.
- 14 For the Lord will vindicate his people
and have compassion on his servants.

The First Lesson

Thus says the Lord: Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word, ² and say: Hear the word of the Lord, O King of Judah sitting on the throne of David—you, and your servants, and your people who enter these gates. ³ Thus says the Lord: Act with justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor anyone who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the alien, the orphan, and the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place. ⁴ For if you will indeed obey this word, then through the gates of this house shall enter kings who sit on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they, and their servants, and their people. ⁵ But if you will not heed these words, I swear by myself, says the Lord, that this house shall become a desolation. ⁶ For thus says the Lord concerning the house of the king of Judah:

You are like Gilead to me,
like the summit of Lebanon;
but I swear that I will make you a desert,
an uninhabited city.

⁷ I will prepare destroyers against you,
all with their weapons;
they shall cut down your choicest cedars
and cast them into the fire.

⁸ And many nations will pass by this city, and all of them will say one to another, 'Why has the LORD dealt in this way with that great city?' ⁹ And they will answer, 'Because they abandoned the covenant of the LORD their God, and worshipped other gods and served them.'

¹³ Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness,
and his upper rooms by injustice;

who makes his neighbours work for nothing,
and does not give them their wages;

¹⁴ who says, 'I will build myself a spacious house
with large upper rooms',

and who cuts out windows for it,
panelling it with cedar,
and painting it with vermilion.

¹⁵ Are you a king
because you compete in cedar?

Did not your father eat and drink
and do justice and righteousness?
Then it was well with him.

¹⁶ He judged the cause of the poor and needy;
then it was well.

Is not this to know me?
says the LORD.

¹⁷ But your eyes and heart
are only on your dishonest gain,
for shedding innocent blood,
and for practising oppression and violence.

Jeremiah 22:1-9, 13-17

The Magnificat

*Evening Service, set to Gregorian tones with verses in faux-bourdon
by William Byrd (1540 – 1623)*

The Second Lesson

²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, “This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.” ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

Luke 14:27-33

The Nunc Dimittis

*Evening Service, set to Gregorian tones with verses in faux-bourdon
by William Byrd (1540 – 1623)*

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Anthem

This sanctuary of my soul,
Unwitting I keep white and whole,
Unlatched and lit, if Thou should'st care
To enter or to tarry there.

With parted lips and outstretched hands,
And listening ears, Thy servant stands.
Call Thou early, call Thou late,
To Thy great service dedicate.
My soul, keep white and whole.

*Words by C. H. Sorley (1895-1915)
Music by C. Wood (1866-1926)*

The Hymn

**God, that madest earth and heaven,
darkness and light;
who the day for toil hast given,
for rest the night;
may thine angel-guards defend us,
slumber sweet thy mercy send us,
holy dreams and hopes attend us,
this livelong night.**

**Guard us waking, guard us sleeping,
and, when we die,
may we in thy mighty keeping
all peaceful lie:
When the last dread call shall wake us,
do not thou our God forsake us,
but to reign in glory take us
with thee on high.**

*Words v.1. R. Heber (1783-1826)
v.2. R. Whately (1787-1863)
Tune CP 15 Ar Hyd Y Nos trad. Welsh*

Lent Meditation

Please do stay for our Lent Meditation, performed today by Luke Fitzgerald.

Pange Lingua by Nicolas de Grigny (1672 – 1703)

Pange lingua en taille à 4

Fugue à 5

Récit du Chant de l'hymne précédent

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*

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 Canon Nitano Muller, Chapter Safeguarding Lead, at Nitano.Muller@Coventry.Anglican.org or call 07365 200 359 while Jane Williams is away.

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

COMING SOON

‘And the earth shall melt away’

18th February – 17th March, Chapel of Christ the Servant

An exhibition in the time of climate change inspired by Psalm 46, by Caroline Meynell and Claire Christie Sadler.

The title of the exhibition comes from Psalm 46, and the words resonate as much today as when they were written centuries ago, bringing to mind global warming and climate change.

Caroline Meynell and Claire Christie Sadler, two Oxford-based artists, have created a series of paintings and drawings that form their individual response to environmental and spiritual themes suggested by the psalm. Their work is both challenging and contemplative, and incorporates questions of faith.

Lent Course 2025

Every Tuesday in Lent 4th March, 7pm – 8:30pm, St Michael’s House

This year’s Lent Course is titled ‘Hope in Hard Places’. As our world faces huge challenges, the course invites us to ask, "Where is God in all of this?"

Written by the team at Embrace the Middle East, it is our hope that you will find encouragement and strength in stories that span over 3000 years of history - showing us that, no matter how dark the times we live in, God remains with us.

We will begin each week at 7pm and end at 8:30pm in the lounge at St Michael’s House.

Is a lasting and just peace possible in Israel and Palestine?

Wednesday 2nd of April, 7pm

Occupation, war, extremism, terrorism and fear are all words we hear used to describe what is happening in Israel and Palestine. In such a context it’s hard to imagine a future where Israeli Jews and Palestinian Muslims and Christians may live in peace, either together or side by side.

Is that a pipe dream or is such a future still possible?

Daniel Munayer, director of Musalaha - a reconciliation ministry in Israel and Palestine - and the only Palestinian ever to have addressed the UN Security Council, will explore this question at 7 pm on Wednesday 2nd of April here in the Cathedral. His talk will be followed by a conversation with Dean John and Jamie Eyre, CEO of Embrace the Middle East. Entry is free but you will need to register using the following link. <https://embraceme.org/events/lecture-is-peace-possible-in-israel-palestine> If you need help registering or have any questions, please do speak to Revd Su McClellan.

Holy Week and Easter Services

Sunday 13th April – Sunday 20th April

Details of our Holy Week and Easter services can be found on our website:

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/easter/easter-services>

COMMUNITY NEWS

Bishop Mary's Installation at Christ Church Cathedral

This is now taking place at 6pm on Thursday 20th March.

RAF Odiham are celebrating 100 years of aviation this year

They see one of their most notable actions as being in 1962 when one of their Belvedere helicopters installed the spire atop of Coventry Cathedral. To commemorate this, they would like to come here and make a short video with someone who watched this happen back in 1962.

*The date they would like to film this is **Wednesday, 26th March.***

If you were there to see the spire being installed and want to be interviewed for this video, please let us know as soon as you can!

Email sarah.scouller@coventrycathedral.org.uk for more information

Investors in Hope is Coventry Cathedral's Regular Giving Option

Becoming an Investor connects us with the past while looking forward with hope. Helping with the ever-increasing operational costs with regular giving is essential for our mission and the very existence of our building. Please sign up through the website, Coventry Cathedral 'Investors in Hope' or email fundraising@coventrycathedral.org.uk

Ask for Mandy or Rachel at the Welcome Desk for a chat Monday-Thursday.