

# Choral Evensong

## Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### The Fourth Sunday in Lent



*Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong, led by The Reverend Su McClellan, Cathedral Associate Minister. The Reverend Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship and Welcome, 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 – 1585).*

## Introit

Never weather beaten saile more willing bent to shore,  
never tyred Pilgrim's limbs affected slumber more,  
than my wearied spright now longs  
to flye out of my troubled brest:  
O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soule to rest.

Ever blooming are the joys of heavens high Paradise,  
cold age defes not there our eares, nor vapour dims our eyes;  
Glory there the sun outshines,  
whose beames the blessed only see;  
O come quickly, Glorious Lord, and raise my spright to thee.

*Words and music by Thomas Campion (1567 – 1620)*

## Psalm 30

1 I will magnify thee, O Lord, for thou hast set me up: and not made my foes  
to triumph over me.  
2 O Lord my God, I cried unto thee: and thou hast healed me.  
3 Thou, Lord, hast brought my soul out of hell: thou hast kept my life from  
them that go down to the pit.  
4 Sing praises unto the Lord, O ye saints of his: and give thanks unto him for  
a remembrance of his holiness.  
5 For his wrath endureth but the twinkling of an eye, and in his pleasure is  
life: heaviness may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.  
6 And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be removed: thou, Lord, of thy  
goodness hast made my hill so strong.  
7 Thou didst turn thy face from me: and I was troubled.

8 Then cried I unto thee, O Lord: and gat me to my Lord right humbly.  
9 What profit is there in my blood: when I go down to the pit?  
10 Shall the dust give thanks unto thee: or shall it declare thy truth?  
11 Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me: Lord, be thou my helper.  
12 Thou hast turned my heaviness into joy: thou hast put off my sackcloth,  
and girded me with gladness.  
13 Therefore shall every good man sing of thy praise without ceasing: O my  
God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.

## The First Lesson

27 Why do you say, O Jacob,  
and speak, O Israel,  
'My way is hidden from the Lord,  
and my right is disregarded by my God?'  
28 Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
The Lord is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.  
29 He gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.  
30 Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;  
31 but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.  
1 Listen to me in silence, O coastlands;  
let the peoples renew their strength;  
let them approach, then let them speak;  
let us together draw near for judgement.  
2 Who has roused a victor from the east,  
summoned him to his service?  
He delivers up nations to him,  
and tramples kings under foot;  
he makes them like dust with his sword,  
like driven stubble with his bow.  
3 He pursues them and passes on safely,  
scarcely touching the path with his feet.  
4 Who has performed and done this,  
calling the generations from the beginning?

I, the Lord, am first,  
and will be with the last.  
<sup>5</sup> The coastlands have seen and are afraid,  
the ends of the earth tremble;  
they have drawn near and come.  
<sup>6</sup> Each one helps the other,  
saying to one another, 'Take courage!'  
<sup>7</sup> The artisan encourages the goldsmith,  
and the one who smooths with the hammer encourages the one who  
strikes the anvil,  
saying of the soldering, 'It is good';  
and they fasten it with nails so that it cannot be moved.  
<sup>8</sup> But you, Israel, my servant,  
Jacob, whom I have chosen,  
the offspring of Abraham, my friend;  
<sup>9</sup> you whom I took from the ends of the earth,  
and called from its farthest corners,  
saying to you, 'You are my servant,  
I have chosen you and not cast you off';  
<sup>10</sup> do not fear, for I am with you,  
do not be afraid, for I am your God;  
I will strengthen you, I will help you,  
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.  
<sup>11</sup> Yes, all who are incensed against you  
shall be ashamed and disgraced;  
those who strive against you  
shall be as nothing and shall perish.  
<sup>12</sup> You shall seek those who contend with you,  
but you shall not find them;  
those who war against you  
shall be as nothing at all.  
<sup>13</sup> For I, the Lord your God,  
hold your right hand;  
it is I who say to you, 'Do not fear,  
I will help you.'

*Isaiah 40.27 – 41.13*

## **The Magnificat**

*Evening Service, set to Gregorian tones with verses in faux-bourdon  
by Thomas Tomkins (1572 – 1656)*

## **The Second Lesson**

<sup>1</sup> 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: <sup>2</sup> proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. <sup>3</sup> For 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, <sup>4</sup> and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. <sup>5</sup> As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. <sup>6</sup> As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup> From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. <sup>9</sup> Do your best to come to me soon, <sup>10</sup> for Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. <sup>11</sup> Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful in my ministry. <sup>12</sup> I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus. <sup>13</sup> When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. <sup>14</sup> Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will pay him back for his deeds. <sup>15</sup> You also must beware of him, for he strongly opposed our message. <sup>16</sup> At my first defence no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! <sup>17</sup> But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup> The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

*2 Timothy 4.1–18*

## **The Nunc Dimittis**

*Evening Service, set to Gregorian tones with verses in faux-bourdon  
by Thomas Tomkins (1572 – 1656)*

## **The Collect of the Day**

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **The Anthem**

Like as the hart desireth the water-brooks, so longeth my soul after thee, O God. My soul is athirst for God, yea, even for the living God: when shall I come to appear before the presence of God? My tears have been my meat day and night, while they daily say unto me, where is now thy God? Like as the hart desireth the water-brooks, so longeth my soul after thee, O God. My soul is athirst for God, yea, even for the living God: when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

*Words from Psalm 43*

*Music by Herbert Howells (1892-1983)*

## **The Hymn**

**The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine for ever.**

**Where streams of living water flow  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow  
with food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home rejoicing brought me.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.**

**Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and O what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!**

**And so through all the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never:  
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house for ever.**

*Words by H.W. Baker (1821-1877)*

*Tune CP 589 Dominus Regit Me J.B. Dykes (1823-1876)*

## **Lent Meditation**

*Please do stay for our Lent Meditation, performed today by David Rice.*

*Choral no. 2 in B minor by César Franck (1822 – 1890)*

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*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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:safeguarding@coventry.anglican.org)

## **COMING SOON**

### **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 7pm 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>*

## **J. S. Bach's St Matthew Passion**

Friday 4th April 6.30pm

*J. S. Bach's St Matthew Passion is a masterful musical setting of the narrative of Christ's capture, trial and death. Beyond that, though, it is an exploration, through some of the most extraordinary music ever written, of themes that remain relevant to us all: injustice, persecution, suffering, redemption, hope, and – ultimately – love.*

*This upcoming performance, blending the voices of 100 young choristers, from Trinity Boys Choir and Kieler Knabenchor, aged 10 to 18, offers a rare opportunity to experience the work as Bach originally intended, written as it was for the young voices of Bach's own choir in Leipzig.*

## **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>

## **'Emmaus': The Way of Faith**

Tuesday 29th April, 7pm

*Are you new to the Cathedral community? Do you have questions about faith, the church or what we believe? You are invited to a post-Easter course for those new or interested in exploring the Christian faith which will begin on Tuesday, 29 April at 7pm, St Michael's House with a bring-and-share meal. Emmaus is a 15 week course that explores topics such as believing in God, the role of prayer and the bible, and the life and ministry of Jesus and other exciting topics. For further information speak to Rob Halligan or Canon Nitano.*

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **The Funeral of Mary Viner**

*Mary Viner died at the George Eliot Hospital, Nuneaton, on 13 February 2025. Mary was house-bound, but remained fully committed to the Cathedral, which she regarded as her spiritual home. Her coffin will be received into the Cathedral on Friday 4th April at 4.00 pm. Her funeral service will take place on **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 12.00 noon**, followed by refreshments and a private committal at Hammerwich Crematorium. All members of the Cathedral community are invited to the funeral or reception of the coffin.*