

Choral Evensong

Sunday 4th May 2025

The Third Sunday after Easter



Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong, led by The Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry. The Reverend Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship and Welcome, will be preaching. The Cathedral choir is directed by Rachel Mahon, Director of Music. The organists are David Rice and Amelia Parkin. The Responses are by John Bertalot (1931-)

Introit

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is;
Blest is the man that trusteth in him.

from Psalm 34.8
Music by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Psalm 113

1 Praise the Lord, ye servants :
O praise the Name of the Lord.
2 Blessed be the Name of the Lord :
from this time forth for evermore.
3 The Lord's Name is praised :
from the rising up of the sun unto the going down of the same.
4 The Lord is high above all heathen :
and his glory above the heavens.
5 Who is like unto the Lord our God, that hath his dwelling so high :
and yet humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven and earth?
6 He taketh up the simple out of the dust :
and lifteth the poor out of the mire;
7 That he may set him with the princes :
even with the princes of his people.
8 He maketh the barren woman to keep house :
and to be a joyful mother of children.

The First Lesson

7 I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,
because of all that the Lord has done for us,
and the great favour to the house of Israel
that he has shown them according to his mercy,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

8 For he said, 'Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely';

and he became their saviour

9 in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel

but his presence that saved them;

in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;

he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

10 But they rebelled

and grieved his holy spirit;

therefore he became their enemy;

he himself fought against them.

11 Then they remembered the days of old,

of Moses his servant.

Where is the one who brought them up out of the sea

with the shepherds of his flock?

Where is the one who put within them

his holy spirit,

12 who caused his glorious arm

to march at the right hand of Moses,

who divided the waters before them

to make for himself an everlasting name,

13 who led them through the depths?

Like a horse in the desert,

they did not stumble.

14 Like cattle that go down into the valley,

the spirit of the Lord gave them rest.

Thus you led your people,

to make for yourself a glorious name.

Isaiah 63:7-14

The Magnificat

Evening Service in E flat, No. 2 by Charles Wood (1866 – 1926)

The Second Lesson

³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴ Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.’

Luke 24:36-49

The Nunc Dimittis

Evening Service in E flat, No. 2 by Charles Wood (1866 – 1926)

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

Love bade me welcome, yet my soul drew back,
Guilty of dust and sin.
But quick-ey'd Love, observing me grow slack
From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning
If I lack'd anything.

"A guest," I answer'd, "worthy to be here";
Love said, "You shall be he."
"I, the unkind, the ungrateful? ah my dear,
I cannot look on thee."
Love took my hand and smiling did reply,
"Who made the eyes but I?"

"Truth, Lord, but I have marr'd them; let my shame
Go where it doth deserve."
"And know you not," says Love, "who bore the blame?"
"My dear, then I will serve."
"You must sit down," says Love, "and taste my meat."
So I did sit and eat.

Words by George Herbert (1593-1633)

Music by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

The Hymn

**Loving Shepherd of thy sheep,
keep thy lamb, in safety keep;
nothing can thy power withstand,
none can pluck me from thy hand.**

**Loving Saviour, thou didst give
thine own life that we might live,
and the hands outstretched to bless
bear the cruel nails' impress.**

**I would praise thee every day,
gladly all thy will obey,
like thy blessed ones above
happy in thy precious love.**

**Loving Shepherd, ever near,
teach thy lamb thy voice to hear;
suffer not my steps to stray
from the straight and narrow way.**

**Where thou leadest I would go,
walking in thy steps below,
till before my Father's throne
I shall know as I am known.**

*Words by Jane E. Leeson (1809-1881)
Tune CP 517 Buckland by L.G. Hayne (1836-1883)*

Voluntary

Please do stay for the voluntary, performed today by David Rice.

Mors et resurrectio by Jean Langlais (1907-1991).

*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*

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 Jane Williams, Cathedral Safeguarding Officer at 024 7650 2349 or via email: JaneMLWill@aol.com.

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

JOINING OUR CHOIRS

Do you know a child who loves to sing? Boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 10 are welcome to audition for the Cathedral Boys' and Girls' Choirs. They sing an average of four times per week during term time in recordings, services and concerts. Children receive a world-class music education completely free and even receive scholarship payments. Please get in touch with the Director of Music to learn more:

rachel.mahon@coventrycathedral.org.uk

COMING SOON

Summer Organ Recital Series

12th May, 12:30pm

Our 2025 summer organ recital series continues on the 12th May with a recital from Aaron Shilson.

H. Andreissen - Choral no. 3

J. Alain - Variations sur un thème de Clément Jannequin, JA 118

F. Jackson - Impromptu, op. 5

N. Cox - Creation Dance

Details of the rest of the series can be found here:

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/worship-music/the-organ/organ-recitals>

Action Rayz - Black Girl

Thursday 22nd May, 7pm - Chapter House

The first Sub-Saharan African film by an African filmmaker to receive international attention.

A Senegalese woman is eager to find a better life abroad. She takes a job as a governess for a French family, but finds her duties become those of a maid after the family moves from Dakar to the south of France.

Taste of Heaven: Intercultural Worship Festival

Saturday 24th May, 11am - 9pm

The Taste of Heaven Intercultural Worship Festival will be an exciting opportunity to celebrate the rich cultural diversity and creativity of the UK church through live performances, workshops, food and worship.

Tickets are available online:

<https://tinyurl.com/2dwneayas>

FAMILY FUN - MAY HALF TERM!

Quiet Openings - Let's Play & Chill

Tuesday 27th May

9am - 10am

This FREE 9am - 10am session is specifically for those families and children who need less bustle and noise, and the space to explore in their own unique ways. We'll have gentle games, calm crafts, and cosy spaces to unwind – perfect for families of all ages and sizes who just want to take it easy. Drop in for a little while or stay for the whole time – whatever suits your pace.

Book your FREE place on our What's On Page.

Family Yoga Drop In Sessions

Wednesday 28th May

11am, 11.40am & 12.20pm

Take a break together as a family and enjoy a calming session of yoga and mindfulness in the beautiful setting of the New Cathedral. Led by the warm and welcoming Rossana, this gentle session is designed for children of Primary school age, but feel free to bring all your family if they want to join in – with simple movements, breathing exercises, and time to relax as a family.

No experience needed – just come as you are and enjoy a peaceful moment together.

Book your FREE place on our What's On Page.

Let's Play!

Thursday 29th May

10.30am - 12noon

Let's play together this half term in the New Cathedral! We'll have lots of indoor games and crafts suitable for Families of all ages and sizes.

Come and stay for the morning, or just drop by during your half term plans!

FREE for all. If you have any questions get in contact with events@coventrycathedral.org.uk

Let's Watch & Make: Cars

Saturday 31st May

10am - 12noon

Join us for a fun-filled family morning as we celebrate the world of *Cars* with creative crafts and a cosy film screening. With themed activities this is the perfect pit stop for families of all ages.

10:00am – *Cars* Crafts

10:30am – Film Screening

Book your **FREE** place on our What's On Page.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

12-18 May

This year at the Cathedral we are marking Mental Health Awareness week with community events, liturgical moments & staff wellbeing events. We would love for you to join us as we remember we are fearfully and wonderfully made by God in our entirety, and it is important to take time to care for our whole selves.

Organ Recital

Monday 12th May, 12.30am - 1pm

Take some time out for yourself and join our free Lunchtime Organ Recital with organist, Aaron Shilson.

MIND Coffee Morning

Tuesday 13th May, 10am - 12noon

Time to enjoy a drink, enjoy a sweet treat and the company of others. Hosted by Coventry Cathedral and MIND Coventry, Warwickshire & Worcestershire

Baby Chill

Wednesday 14th May, 10.00am - 11.30am

Our usual Baby Chill Sensory space, but marking Mental Health Awareness week, with a treat for all parents/carers.

Book your free place online.

Wonder

Wednesday 14th May, 7.30pm - 9pm

Join us for our Wonder community as we explore mental health and self-care through the arts and engage in mindfulness.

COMMUNITY NEWS

‘Emmaus’: The Way of Faith

Every Tuesday, St Michael’s House at 7pm

Are you new to the Cathedral community? Do you have questions about faith, the church or what we believe? You are invited to join us for an evening of discussion and reflection with other Christians who are exploring faith. Speak to Rob Halligan or Canon Nitano for more information.

Parking on Sunday Mornings

Parking by the Chapel of Unity is reserved for those with accessibility requirements. It has become very crowded of late, and those who need the space cannot always use it. And please never park on the grass.

Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll is a register of everyone that considers a particular church their chosen place of worship. The Roll is updated every year in advance of the Annual General Meeting taking place on Sunday 8 June 2025, but every 6 years it has to be completely refreshed, and this year is the 6th year. If you consider the Cathedral to be your place of worship and you have been attending for more than 6 months then you are able to join the Electoral Roll. Please ask the stewards or churchwardens for the form and return to them upon completion.

Service of Welcome and Installation for Bishop Sophie Jelley

Saturday, 7 June 2025 at 2pm

Please join us to welcome Bishop Sophie and her family as the Tenth Bishop of Coventry by booking your seat at this historic service via the following Eventbrite link:

<https://tinyurl.com/39r2wj2u>

Alternatively, visit the Cathedral website or add your name to the sign-up list on the community table.