



LICHFIELD
CATHEDRAL

Choral Eucharist

The Feast of Christ the King

22 November 2020

10:30

President

The Revd Canon Andrew Stead
Canon Precentor

Gospel

The Rt Revd Jan McFarlane
Canon Custos

Preacher

The Revd Canon Gregory Platten
Canon Chancellor

Intercessions

The Very Revd Adrian Dorber
Dean

Lichfield Cathedral is called to live and proclaim the transforming love of God. Through the fullness of its life in the Spirit, it seeks to be a sign of the friendship and freedom that God in Jesus Christ has given the whole world to enjoy.

WELCOME TO LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL



Welcome to this service as we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King. Whilst it is very sad and difficult that we cannot gather together as a community in the Cathedral, it is good that we can still come together via YouTube to offer our praise and thanksgiving to almighty God and to share in this Eucharist.

Spiritual Communion

Whilst services are being live-streamed and people cannot come to Church to receive their communion in person we continue to incorporate the Spiritual Communion within our worship at the point of the distribution of the Holy Communion.

The reasoning behind this is found in the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. The Book of Common Prayer instructs us that if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith, giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly 'eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ', although we cannot receive the sacrament physically in ourselves. It is a way of taking our communion when, as at this time, we are prevented from doing so in person.

Music

The organ will be played by our Organ Scholar, Liam Condon and the Cathedral Choir will sing, conducted by the Assistant Director of Music, Martyn Rawles

Offerings

We have been immensely grateful to members of our worshipping community for their continued generosity throughout the pandemic. Your gifts are vital in sustaining our mission and worship. For those worshipping at home, you can text SPIRES to 70191 to give £10, or visit www.lichfield-cathedral.org/donate

We do hope that you can feel as totally included
in this service as is possible during these difficult and challenging times.

*Please do join in with the words in **bold** type and especially with the hymn.*

MUSIC

Missa Aeterna Christi Munera
Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c.1525-1594)

PREPARATION BEFORE THE SERVICE

In the time leading up to the start of the service you are invited to keep this as a period of quiet reflection and preparation for worship. You might find the following prayer useful.

*Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

THE GATHERING

The Bishop of Lichfield and the Dean and Residentiary Canons assemble in the Crossing

THE GREETING

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

In the name of Jesus
who was born to be our Saviour, Christ the Lord,
we welcome you.

Grace and mercy be with you.
And also with you.

The president offers further words of welcome and then says

God calls, his call is to each one of us,
it is personal and universal,
an invitation to all humanity to meet him here.
God calls us to meet him here in the feast prepared by his Son.
God calls, his call is to each one of us.
His call is both personal and universal.

THE RITE OF PENITENCE

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith. *cf Matthew 3.2*

The kingdom is yours,
but we turn away from your just rule:
Lord have mercy: **Lord have mercy**

The power is yours,
but we trust in our own power and strength:
Christ have mercy: **Christ have mercy**

The glory is yours,
but we fall short of the glory of God:
Lord have mercy: **Lord have mercy**

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given you
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth,
strengthen you to do God's will
and give you the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO (CHOIR)

*Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

THE COLLECT

Let us pray:

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ
ascended to the throne of heaven
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*CHOIR*)

Alleluia. Alleluia.

You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

Alleluia

GOSPEL READING Matthew 25.31-46

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."

Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

A fanfare is sounded to honour the reading of the Gospel.

SERMON

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, **the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

May your reign come:
Lord, hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude

Loving God, you have taught us that the power of the heart
is greater than the power of wealth and might.
Hear us as we pray for the fulfilment of your reign.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our King;
to him be glory and power for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PEACE

To crown all things there must be love,
to bind all together and complete the whole.
Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

cf Colossians 3.14, 15

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

HYMN 398 *Giving Power*

Stand

**Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:
*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name!***

Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:
*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name!*

Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!
death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:
Yours the glory ...

Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:
Yours the glory ...

So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:
*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name!*

Michael Saward b1932
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TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation. **Blessed be God for ever.**

After the washing of the president's hands

Blessed be God, who enthrones us with Christ in the heavenly realms.
May we feed upon the bread of God and drink the royal wine of heaven.
Blessed be God for ever

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For with the oil of gladness

you have anointed Christ the Lord, your only Son,
to be our great high priest and king of all creation.

As priest, he offered himself once for all upon the altar of the cross
and redeemed the human race by this perfect sacrifice of peace.

As king he claims dominion over all your creatures,
that he may bring before your infinite majesty

a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace,
a kingdom of justice, love and peace.

And so with angels and archangels and all the heavenly host,
we proclaim your glory and join in their unending hymn of praise:

SANCTUS (*CHOIR*)

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.*

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father,
who, in your tender mercy,
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction
for the sins of the whole world;
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, according to
your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death,
and through faith in his blood,
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins
and all other benefits of his passion.

Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins,
to offer you any sacrifice,
yet we pray that you will accept this
the duty and service that we owe.

Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,
and fill us all who share in this holy communion
with your grace and heavenly blessing;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,

by whom, with whom and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The President receives Holy Communion and then leads the Spiritual Communion for those who are prevented from receiving physically their communion.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

I invite you to open your hands as a sign of your openness
to receiving God's grace as we pray together:

**Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.**

AGNUS DEI (CHOIR)

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us; grant us peace.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray:

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,
may by you be plenteously rewarded,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NOTICES

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Christ our exalted King pour upon you his abundant gifts
and bring you to reign with him in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Imperial March Op.32
Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

LATER TODAY...

17:30 - Choral Evensong including Homily
And the Prayers for the Nation
Evening Service in Bb (Stanford)
Erhaben O Herr uber alles Lob (Mendelssohn)
Fanfare - William Mathias

Daily Routine

Our worship continues during this coming week with our regular services:

Daily

0800	Morning Prayer	Facebook
1230	The Holy Eucharist	Facebook
1730	Evening Prayer/Evensong*	Facebook
1800	Prayers for the Nation*	Facebook

Next Sunday

0800	The Holy Eucharist (Trad. Language)	YouTube
1030	Choral Eucharist	YouTube
1730	Choral Evensong inc. Prayers for Nation	YouTube

**When the service is Choral Evensong the Prayers for the Nation will be part of the Intercessions and not a separate service.*

If you would like to be kept informed of services and events at Lichfield Cathedral please do get in touch with us.

Our general 'phone number is 01543 306100

You'll find us on Facebook

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www.lichfield-cathedral.org

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