



**LICHFIELD**  
CATHEDRAL



# **Choral Eucharist**

**12<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – 10.30**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter  
Sunday after Ascension Day**

**President**

The Rt Revd Jan McFarlane – *Interim Dean*

**Preacher**

The Revd Canon Andrew Stead – *Canon Precentor*

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.

## **ALL ARE WELCOME ... THIS IS YOUR CATHEDRAL....**



*Welcome to this service whether you are worshipping in the Cathedral or via YouTube at home during this Easter season.*



*Welcome to your Cathedral. If you're here with small children, we're very glad to see you! It's good to have you with us and joining in the worship. If you'd like one, there are activity bags with simple activities for children and a sheet with activities that follow the readings you'll hear in the service today - please ask the stewards who welcomed you for one. If you, or your child, needs some time out, you can use St Stephen's Chapel - straight ahead and to the left of the large hanging cross, near the large font. It has green walls and two entrances. There you'll find there some stories, and simple craft activities. But please come back when you want! Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me.'*

*To our worshippers here without children: children are a sign that the Body of Christ is growing, and a reminder that God is always doing a new thing. Please greet parents, carers and children with a smile.*

### **Safety**

Please always follow any directions given in how we need to move around the Cathedral. In the unlikely event of an emergency, please remain quiet and respond calmly and promptly to the directions of the Vergers.

### **Spiritual Communion**

While some cannot, for a number of reasons, come to Church to receive their communion in person we will continue to incorporate the Spiritual Communion within our worship at the point of the distribution.

### **Receiving Communion**

People will be able to choose whether they wish or not to receive their Holy Communion in the form of wine as well as bread. If you take the chalice, please help the person giving the chalice by guiding the cup to your lips. People are also reminded that we do not allow intinction (dipping the bread into the wine) at the Cathedral. Please follow the instructions given by the Stewards who will direct you to a communion station. Gluten-free bread will be available at each station.

### **Posture**

The order of service indicates whether to sit or stand, however please feel free to adopt the posture that you feel most comfortable with.

## **Offerings**

Your gifts are vital in sustaining our mission and worship. A collection will be taken by the Stewards during the offertory hymn. Please do Gift Aid your donation if you are a UK taxpayer by completing the required details on the envelopes provided. There are electronic giving points where you can tap a debit or credit card; if you need assistance with these devices please do ask a steward or vergier.

## **Refreshments**

At the end of the service refreshments are available in the North Transept. We do hope that you will join us for a time of fellowship together.

## **Photography and Livestreaming**

Whilst we ask that members of the congregation do not take photographs or video of our worship, please note that at some of our services our Cathedral volunteer photographers will be taking photographs. We are also livestreaming to Facebook or YouTube many of our services. Whilst we do our best to not film the congregation for the livestream, please do let us know if this is a particular issue for you and we will assist by letting you know where you can sit so that you do not appear on screen.

## **Music**

Our service is sung today by the Cathedral Choir conducted by the Director of Music, Ben Lamb. The organ is played by the Assistant Director of Music, Martyn Rawles. The setting for the Eucharist is the Communion Service in E by Harold Darke (1888-1976).

## **Preparation before the Service**

The time before the service you are invited to keep as a period of quiet preparation for worship. You might find the following prayer useful:

*Risen, ascended Lord,  
as we rejoice at your triumph,  
fill your Church on earth with power and compassion,  
that all who are estranged by sin  
may find forgiveness and know your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

*Please join in whatever is printed in **bold type**.*

## THE GATHERING

*Stand*

INTROIT HYMN 170 *Jesus is Lord*



Jesus is Lord! Creation's voice proclaims it,  
for by his power each tree and flower was planned and made.  
Jesus is Lord! The universe declares it;  
sun, moon and stars in heaven cry: Jesus is Lord!  
*Jesus is Lord! Jesus is Lord!*  
*Praise him with Halleluias, for Jesus is Lord!*

Jesus is Lord! Yet from his throne eternal  
in flesh he came to die in pain on Calvary's tree.  
Jesus is Lord! From him all life proceeding,  
yet gave his life a ransom, thus setting us free:  
*Jesus is Lord! Jesus is Lord!*  
*Praise him with Halleluias, for Jesus is Lord!*

Jesus is Lord! O'er sin the mighty conqueror,  
from death he rose, and all his foes shall own his name.  
Jesus is Lord! God sent His Holy Spirit  
to show by works of power that Jesus is Lord:  
*Jesus is Lord! Jesus is Lord!*  
*Praise him with Halleluias, for Jesus is Lord!*

David Mansell (b.1936) © 1980 Authentic Publishing

## THE GREETING

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

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*Sit as the President offers further words of welcome, concluding*

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

In baptism we died with Christ, so that as Christ was raised from the dead, we might walk in newness of life. Let us receive new life in him as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

*cf Romans 6.4*

*A moment of silence is kept.*

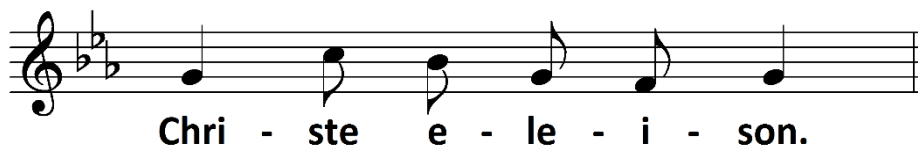
*A cantor sings each petition, then the choir sings the Kyrie/Christe which all repeat:*

Like Mary at the empty tomb,  
we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.



*(Lord, have mercy)*

Like the disciples behind locked doors,  
we are afraid to be seen as your followers.



*(Christ, have mercy)*

Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe.



*(Lord, have mercy)*

## ABSOLUTION

May the God of love and power forgive you  
and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Stand*

## **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:

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Sit*

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 1.15-17, 21-26**



A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said, ‘Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus— for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.’ So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.’ So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, ‘Lord, you know everyone’s heart.

Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*A short period of silence is kept.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Stand*

*The choir sings Alleluia which all repeat*

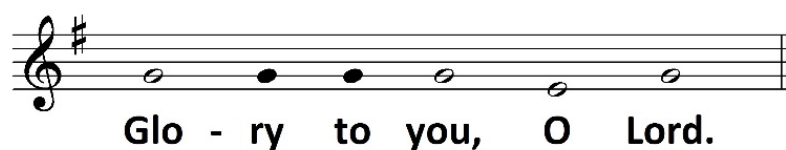
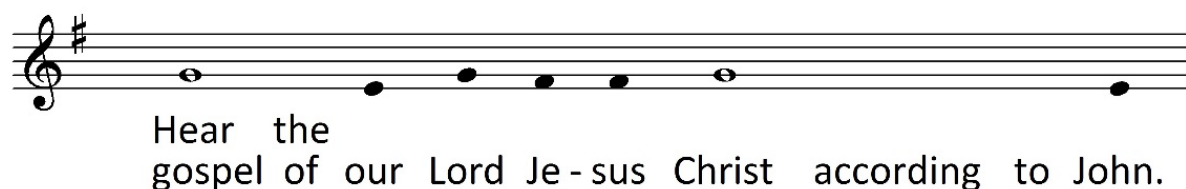
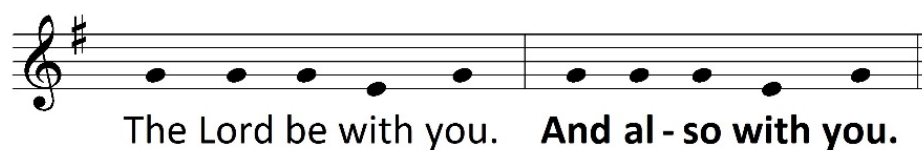


Jesus said, 'All who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.'

*John 6.40*

*Turn towards the reading of the Gospel in the middle of the Nave.*

### GOSPEL READING      John 17.6-19







**NICENE CREED** *sung in the arrangement of John Merbecke*

We believe in one God, **the Father almighty,**  
**maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible:**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,**  
**begotten of his Father before all worlds,**  
**God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,**  
**begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,**  
**by whom all things were made;**

**who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,**  
**and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,**  
**and was made man,**  
**and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried,**  
**and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,**  
**and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.**  
**And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead:**  
**whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the giver of life,**  
**who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,**  
**who with the Father and the Son**  
**together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets.**

**And we believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**  
**We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.**  
**And we look for the resurrection of the dead,**  
**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Jesus, our exalted Lord, has been given all authority. Let us seek his  
intercession that our prayers may be perfected by his prayer.

*Sit*

Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The prayers conclude*

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,**  
**our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

### THE PEACE

*Stand*

The two disciples told what had happened on the road to Emmaus, and how Jesus had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia.

*Luke 24.35*

Alleluia. The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*The Deacon of the Gospel says*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange the peace with their neighbour.*

### PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

*Bread and wine are carried through the congregation and presented at the altar, together with prayer slips that have been left at the Shrine of St Chad during the week.*

*A **collection** is taken to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. Please give as generously as you are able and, if you are a UK taxpayer, use the Gift Aid envelopes provided.*

### OFFERTORY HYMN 311 *St Helen*



**1. Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour  
First-begotten from the dead,  
thou alone, our strong defender,  
liftest up thy people's head.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
Jesu, true and living bread.**

**2. Here our humblest homage pay we,  
here in loving reverence bow;  
here for faith's discernment pray we,  
lest we fail to know thee now.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
thou art here, we ask not how.**

**3. Though the lowliest form doth veil thee  
as of old in Bethlehem,  
here as there thine angels hail thee,  
branch and flower of Jesse's stem.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
we in worship join with them.**

4. Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished  
once for all when thou wast slain,  
in its fullness undiminished  
shall for evermore remain,  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
cleansing souls from every stain.

5. Life-imparting heavenly manna,  
stricken rock with streaming side,  
heaven and earth with loud hosanna  
worship thee, the Lamb who died,  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
risen, ascended, glorified!

George Bourne (1840-1925)

*Remain standing*

#### **TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE**

Be present, be present,  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
our risen high priest;  
make yourself known in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**



#### **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 and good, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father,  
almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ the King of glory.

Born of a woman, he came to the rescue of our human race.  
Dying for us, he trampled death and conquered sin.  
By the glory of his resurrection  
he opened the way to life eternal and by his ascension,  
gave us the sure hope that where he is we may also be.  
Therefore the universe resounds with Easter joy  
and with choirs of angels we sing for ever to your praise:

## SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS (choir)

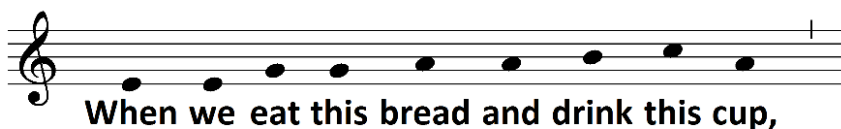
*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.



Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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**

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

#### **GIVING OF COMMUNION**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The President receives Holy Communion and then leads the Spiritual Communion for those who are prevented from receiving their communion, and worshipping with us from home. We invite those in the Cathedral to pray quietly for them as the President leads them in prayer.*

## **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION** *(for those worshipping online)*

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.

*Those of any Christian denomination who are accustomed to receiving Holy Communion in their own churches are invited to do so here. Please follow the directions given by the Stewards who will indicate which communion station you should go to. If you do not normally receive communion, please do come forward to receive a prayer of blessing. Gluten free hosts are available at each station for those who require them.*

## **AGNUS DEI** *(choir)*

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

## **MOTET** *Coelos ascendit hodie – Charlies Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)*

Coelos ascendit hodie Jesus Christus Rex Gloriam:  
Sedet ad Patris dexteram, Gubernat coelum et terram.  
Iam finem habent omnia Patris Davidis carmina.  
Iam Dominus cum Domino Sedet in Dei solio:  
In hoc triumpho maximo Benedicamus Domino.  
Laudatur Sancta Trinitas, Deo dicamus gratias, Alleluia. Amen.

*Today into the heavens has ascended Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Alleluia!  
He sits at the Father's right hand, and rules heaven and earth, Alleluia!  
Now have been fulfilled all of Father David's songs,  
Now God is with God, Alleluia! He sits upon the royal throne of God,  
in this his greatest triumph, Alleluia! Let us bless the Lord:  
Let the Holy Trinity be praised, let us give thanks to the Lord, Alleluia! Amen.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Kneel or sit*

Let us pray:

Eternal God, giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## NOTICES

*Stand*

**HYMN 612** *Fulda*



1. **We have a gospel to proclaim,  
good news for all throughout the earth;  
the gospel of a Saviour's name:  
we sing his glory, tell his worth.**
2. **Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,  
not in a royal house or hall,  
but in a stable dark and dim,  
the Word made flesh, a light for all.**
3. **Tell of his death at Calvary,  
hated by those he came to save;  
in lonely suff'ring on the cross:  
for all he loved, his life he gave.**
4. **Tell of that glorious Easter morn,  
empty the tomb, for he was free;  
he broke the power of death and hell  
that we might share his victory.**
5. **Tell of his reign at God's right hand,  
by all creation glorified.  
He sends his Spirit on his Church  
to live for him, the Lamb who died.**
6. **Now we rejoice to name him King:  
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.  
This gospel-message we proclaim:  
we sing his glory, tell his worth.**

Edward J Burns (*b.1938*) © 1968 The Lorenz Corporation

*Remain standing*

## THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,  
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life. **Amen.**

God the Son, who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen  
Lord, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy  
Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*The Deacon of the Gospel says*

We are raised to new life with Christ. Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*Remain standing as the choir and clergy depart*

### ORGAN VOLUNTARY

March on a theme of Handel  
Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

*Please do stay for refreshments, these are served in the North Transept.*



### Later today:

15:30 Choral Evensong

Responses: *Ayleward*

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis: Chichester Service – *Walton*

Anthem: Let all the world – *Vaughan Williams*

Organ Voluntary: Improvisation sur le Te Deum

- *Tournemire trans. Duruflé.*

**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, X@LichfieldCath. lichfield-cathedral.org**

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