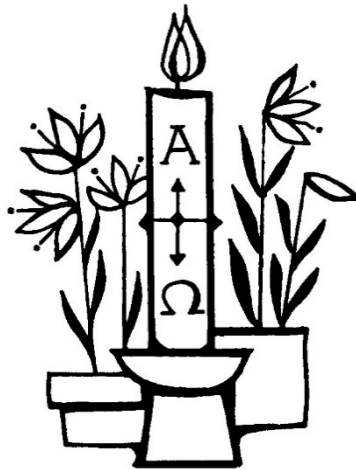




LICHFIELD
• CATHEDRAL •



Choral Eucharist for Easter Day

5th April 2026 - 10:30

President

The Rt Revd Jan McFarlane – The Dean

Preacher

The Rt Revd Dr Michael Ipgrave OBE - Bishop of Lichfield



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



Welcome to this service whether you are worshipping in the Cathedral or via YouTube at home as we celebrate together the resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. Alleluia, He is risen!

*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. **Parents and carers are asked to accompany children at all times.** There you'll find 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 may choose if 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.

IT COSTS £5000 EACH DAY TO KEEP THE DOORS OF THE CATHEDRAL OPEN

We receive no funding from the State for our day to day operation and rely entirely on donations. **Please give as generously as you can** to help us to continue to serve the people of Lichfield, Staffordshire, Shropshire, the Black Country and beyond. UK taxpayers can make their gift go further by using Gift Aid—just fill in the envelope provided.

Prefer to give electronically? Tap your card at a giving point, ask a steward for help, or scan the QR code here. You can also donate online at www.lichfield-cathedral.org/donate. Thank you so much for supporting the life and ministry of your Cathedral.



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 many of our services via Facebook or YouTube. 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 *Kronungsmesse* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 – 1791).

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:

*God of glory,
by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen*

Please join in whatever is printed in bold type.

THE GATHERING

Before the service the Civic Procession is greeted by the Dean and escorted by Stewards to seats in the Nave. Please stand as the civic procession moves to their places and then be seated.

Please then stand, if you are able, as the Cathedral Choir sings

THE INTROIT

Antiphon for Easter — *Richard Lloyd (b.1933)*

This is the day which the Lord hath made:
we will rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia.
Why seek ye the living among the dead?
He is not here but is risen,
for God hath highly exalted him. Alleluia.

Please remain standing to sing

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 160 *Maccabaeus*



**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.**

***Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.***

**Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:**

***Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.***

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife,
make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:**

Thine be the glory ...

French, 19th century

Edmond Budry 1854-1932 tr. Richard Hoyle 1875-1939

Remain standing

THE GREETING

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

We meet in the name of Jesus Christ,
who died and was raised
to the glory of God the Father.
Grace and mercy be with you.
And also with you.

Alleluia Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed, Alleluia.

The President offers words of welcome and then all say

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God,
**to whom all hearts be 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.**

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.*

Remain standing

THE COLLECT

Let us pray:

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity. **Amen.**

Sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD



NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 10.34-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

EASTER ANTHEMS (*choir*)

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us: therefore let us keep the feast; not with the old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness: but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more: death hath no more dominion over him.
For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin: but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Christ is risen from the dead: and become the first fruits of them that slept.
For since by man came death: by man came also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die even so in Christ shall all be made alive.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The choir sings Alleluia which all repeat



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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*

All sing Alleluia again

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

GOSPEL READING John 20.1-18



The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**



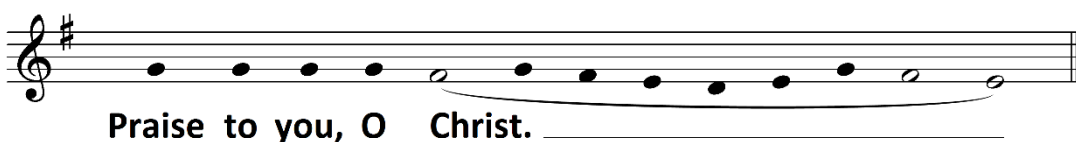
Hear the gospel of our Lord Je - sus Christ according to John.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." 'Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.



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

SERMON

Sit

A moment of silence is kept

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

All stand as water that was blessed at the Easter Vigil yesterday evening is brought from the font to the President, who invites the people to renew their Baptismal Vows.

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the Paschal Mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins
that separate us from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.

Those who are baptised are called to worship and serve God.
Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil,
and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
With the help of God, I will.

Will you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God in Christ?
With the help of God, I will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people,
loving your neighbour as yourself?
With the help of God, I will.

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society,
by prayer for the world and its leaders,
by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?
With the help of God, I will.

Almighty God,
we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith
with all who have been baptised in your name.
Keep us faithful to our baptism,
and so make us ready for that day
when the whole creation shall be made perfect
in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

During the following hymn verse the President and other priests sprinkle the water of the baptismal font over the people.

**See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord the giver,
never fails from age to age.**



John Newton 1725-1807

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Kneel or 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 risen Christ came and stood among his disciples
and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

John 20.19, 20

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

And also with you. Alleluia.

The Deacon of the Gospel says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace with their neighbour

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

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

*As the Altar table is prepared 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 GiftAid envelopes provided.*

HYMN 149 *Lasst Uns Erfreuen (Easter Song)*



Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky;
heaven thunders forth its victor cry: *Alleluia*.
The glad earth shouts her triumph high,
and groaning hell makes wild reply: *Alleluia*.

While he, the King, the mighty King,
despoiling death of all its sting, *Alleluia*,
and trampling down the powers of night,
brings forth his ransomed saints to light: *Alleluia*.

His tomb of late the threefold guard
of watch and stone and seal had barred; *Alleluia*
but now, in pomp and triumph high,
he comes from death to victory: *Alleluia*.

The pains of hell are loosed at last,
the days of mourning now are past; *Alleluia*
an angel robed in light hath said,
"The Lord is risen from the dead": *Alleluia*.

O Lord of all, with us abide
in this our joyful Eastertide; *Alleluia*,
from every weapon death can wield
thine own redeemed forever shield: *Alleluia*.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,
from death to endless life restored; *Alleluia*.
all praise to God the Father be
and Holy Ghost eternally: *Alleluia*.

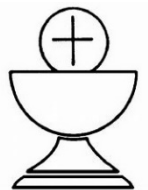
Latin, 4th century, *tr.* John Mason Neale 1818-1866

TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Creator of all, you wash away our sins,
you give us new birth by the Spirit,
and redeem us in the blood of Christ.

As we celebrate the resurrection,
renew your gift of life within us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**



Remain standing

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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, almighty and eternal Father,
and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son,
has conquered the powers of death and hell
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.
He has placed them once more in paradise
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation
sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS *(choir)*

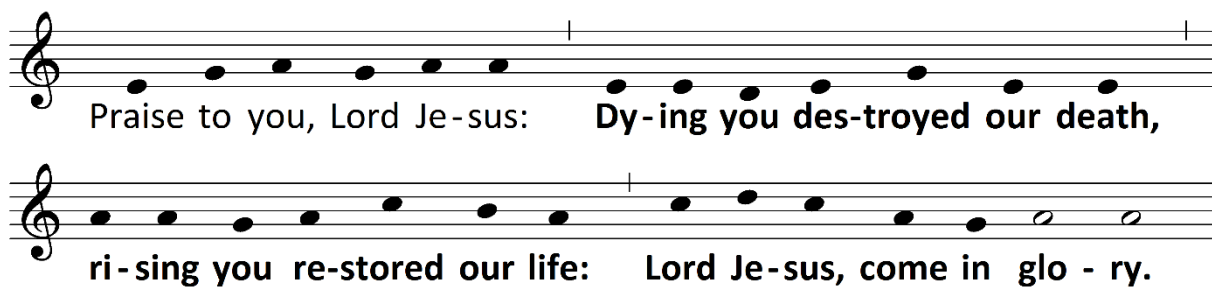
*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

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

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
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

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats this bread will live forever.

**Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

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 *Haec dies — William Byrd (1543-1623)*

*Haec dies quam fecit Dominus
Exultemus et laetemur in ea.
Alleluia.*

This is the day which the Lord hath made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
alleluia



COMMUNION HYMN 150 *Savannah*

**1. Love's redeeming work is done;
fought the fight, the battle won:
lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er,
lo, he sets in blood no more.**

**2. Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ has burst the gates of hell;
death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened paradise.**

**3. Lives again our glorious King;
where, O death, is now thy sting?
dying once, he all doth save;
where thy victory, O grave?**

**4. Soar we now where Christ has led,
following our exalted Head;
made like him, like him we rise;
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.**

**5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!
Praise to thee by both be given:
thee we greet triumphant now;
hail, the Resurrection Thou!**

Charles Wesley 1707-1788
Reproduced by permission of CCL 155215

Organ music may be played until the ministers have returned to their places after cleansing the altar vessels.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Remain seated

Let us pray:

God of Life, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NOTICES

Stand

HYMN 157 *Ellacombe*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad;
the Passover of gladness,
the Passover of God;
from death to life eternal,
from earth unto the sky,
our God hath brought us over
with hymns of victory.</p> | <p>2. Our hearts be pure from evil,
that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection-light;
and, listening to his accents,
may hear so calm and plain
his own 'All hail' and, hearing,
may raise the victor strain.</p> |
| <p>3. Now let the heavens be joyful,
and earth her song begin,
the round world keep high triumph,
and all that is therein;
let all things seen and unseen
their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord hath risen,
our joy that hath no end.</p> | |

St John of Damascus *d. c.754; tr. J M Neale 1818-1866*

Remain standing

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The President says

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

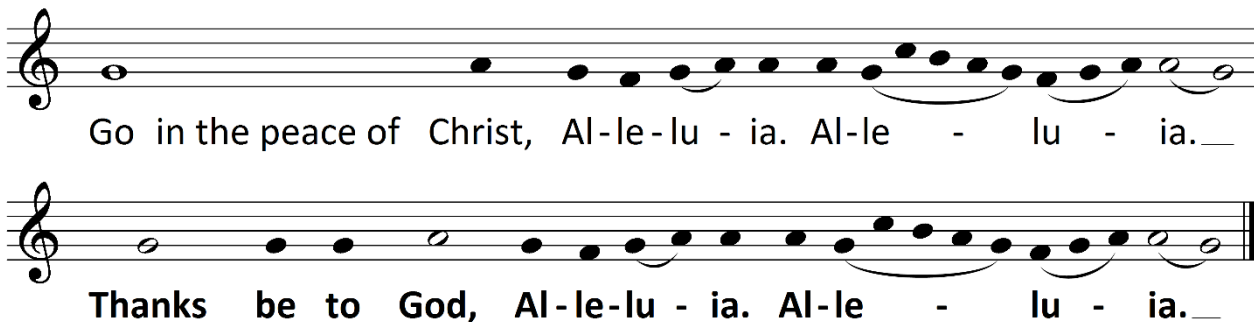
God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gate of everlasting life. **Amen.**

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 dismisses the people, singing



Go in the peace of Christ, Al-le-lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.____

Thanks be to God, Al-le-lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.____

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G-clef. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of a series of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F#3, E3, D3, C3, B2, A2, G2. The second staff has the same notation but ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables across notes.

Remain standing as the choir and clergy depart

ORGAN VOLUNTARY
Finale (Symphonie No. 6)
Charles-Marie Widor (1844 – 1937)

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

Happy Easter!

LATER TODAY

15:30 SOLEMN CHORAL EVENSONG AND PROCESSION

Evening Service in A - Stanford

Worthy is the Lamb - Handel

Grand Choeur in D – Guilmant

TOMORROW, EASTER MONDAY, 6TH APRIL 2026

09:00 MORNING PRAYER

12:30 HOLY EUCHARIST

17:30 CHORAL EVENSONG

Sung by former choristers

and friends of Lichfield Cathedral School

Evening Service in D – Brewer

This Joyful Eastertide – arr. Wood

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at Lichfield Cathedral please do get in touch with us.
Our general 'phone number is 01543 306100**

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Instagram @LichfieldCathedral

www.lichfield-cathedral.org

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