

LICHFIELD
• CATHEDRAL •



**Solemn Evensong
and
Procession for Easter Day**

Sunday 5th April 2026 - 15:30



Welcome to Lichfield Cathedral.

You are very welcome indeed on this great feast day of the Church when we with great joy celebrate the resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead.

PLEASE KEEP SILENCE before the Service begins so that the prayers of others around you are not disturbed.

LAVATORIES can be found in the **Old Stables**. Please ask a steward or verger for directions.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND LIVESTREAMING, whilst we ask that members of the congregation do not take photographs or video of our worship, please however note that at some of our services our Cathedral volunteer photographers might 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.

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.



MUSIC. Our service is sung today by the Cathedral Choir conducted by the Director of Music, Ben Lamb and the organ is played by the Assistant Director of Music, Martyn Rawles.

*Please join in with whatever is printed in **bold type**. Large-print versions of this booklet are available: please ask a steward. The order of service indicates which is the appropriate posture (standing or sitting) but please feel free to stand or sit as you are able. If you do not wish to join in with the procession please remain in your seat as the procession, having moved around the Cathedral via the Shrine of St Chad, will return to the Nave for the final blessing.*

Order of Service

Stand as the Choir and Clergy enter

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.

WELCOME

The Rt Revd Jan McFarlane, Dean of Lichfield, offers words of welcome and introduces the worship.

OPENING RESPONSES are then sung to a setting by *Bernard Rose (1916-1996)*

Cantor O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Cantor O God, make speed to save us.

Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Choir 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.

Cantor Praise ye the Lord.

Choir The Lord's name be praised.

Sit for the **PSALMODY**

PSALM 66.1-11

1. O be joyful in God all ye lands:
sing praises unto the honour of his Name make his praise to be glorious.
2. Say unto God O how wonderful art thou in thy works:
through the greatness of thy power
shall thine enemies be found liars unto thee.
3. For all the world shall worship thee: sing of thee and praise thy Name.
4. O come hither and behold the works of God:
how wonderful he is in his doing toward the children of men.
5. He turned the sea into dry land:
so that they went through the water on foot;
there did we rejoice thereof.
6. He ruleth with his power for ever; his eyes behold the people:
and such as will not believe shall not be able to exalt themselves.
7. O praise our God ye people:
and make the voice of his praise to be heard;
8. Who holdeth our soul in life: and suffereth not our feet to slip.
9. For thou O God hast proved us:
thou also hast tried us like as silver is tried.
10. Thou broughtest us into the snare: and laidest trouble upon our loins.
11. Thou sufferedst men to ride over our heads:
we went through fire and water
and thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.

Stand at the end of the psalm for the GLORIA:

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.

Sit

FIRST LESSON

Song of Solomon 3.2-5, 8.6-7

Stand to sing the OFFICE HYMN

162 St Fulbert

1. **Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,
your sweetest notes employ,
the Paschal victory to hymn**

in strains of holy joy.

3. **From hell's devouring jaws the prey
alone our Leader bore;
his ransomed hosts pursue their way
where he hath gone before.**

5. **While joyful thus his praise we sing,
his mercy we implore,
into his palace bright to bring
and keep us evermore.**

2. **How Judah's Lion burst his chains,
and crushed the serpent's head;
and brought with him, from
death's domains,
the long-imprisoned dead.**

4. **Triumphant in his glory now
his sceptre ruleth all,
earth, heaven, and hell before him bow,
and at his footstool fall.**

6. **All glory to the Father be,
all glory to the Son,
all glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
while endless ages run.
Alleluia! Amen.**

St Fulbert of Chartres *d.* 1028
tr. Robert Campbell 1814-1868
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Remain standing

THE MAGNIFICAT (*The Song of Mary*)

sung to a setting in A by Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852- 1924)

My soul doth magnify the Lord
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my saviour.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm:
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things
and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Luke 1:46-55

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.

Sit

SECOND LESSON
Revelation 1.12-18

Stand for the NUNC DIMITTIS (The Song of Simeon)

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel .

Luke 2:29-32

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.

Remain standing

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried: he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholick Church;
the Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of sins;
the Resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Remain standing

Cantor The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Cantor Let us pray.

Sit

Choir Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Choir Our Father...

Cantor O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Cantor O Lord, save the King.

Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Cantor Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.

Cantor O Lord, save thy people.

Choir And bless thine inheritance.

Cantor Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Cantor O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

COLLECT FOR EASTER DAY

Almighty God,
who through thine only-begotten Son
Jesus Christ hast overcome death,
and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life:
We humbly beseech thee,
that as by thy special grace preventing us
thou dost put into our minds good desires,
so by thy continual help we may bring the same to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost,
ever one God, world without end. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

O God, from whom all holy desires,
all good counsels, and all just works do proceed;
Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give;
that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments,
and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies,
may pass our time in rest and quietness;
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord;
and by thy great mercy
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night;
for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sit

THE ANTHEM

Worthy is the Lamb

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Stand to say THE LITANY OF THE RESURRECTION

On this day that the Lord has made,
let us pray for the people he has redeemed.

That we may live as those who believe in the triumph of the cross:

Glorious God, hear our prayer.

That all people may receive the good news of his victory:

Glorious God, hear our prayer.

That those born to new life in the waters of baptism
may know the power of his resurrection:

Glorious God, hear our prayer.

That those who suffer pain and anguish
may find healing and peace in the wounds of Christ:

Glorious God, hear our prayer.

That in the undying love of Christ
we may be united with all who have died in the faith of Christ:
Glorious God, hear our prayer.

Let us commend the world,
in which Christ rose from the dead,
to the mercy and protection of God, as we say together.

The grace **of our Lord Jesus Christ,**
and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,
be with us all evermore. Amen.

Remain standing to sing a **HYMN** during which a **COLLECTION** is taken to
support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral.

Please give as generously as you are able.

147 *Easter Hymn*

1. Jesus Christ is risen to-day, Alleluia, our triumphant holy day, Alleluia, who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia, suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia. **2. Hymns of praise then let us sing Alleluia, unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia, who endured the cross & grave, Alleluia, sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia.**

3. But the pains which he endured Alleluia, our salvation hath procured; Alleluia, now above the sky he's King, Alleluia, where the angels ever sing, Alleluia.

Lyra Davidica 1708 and others
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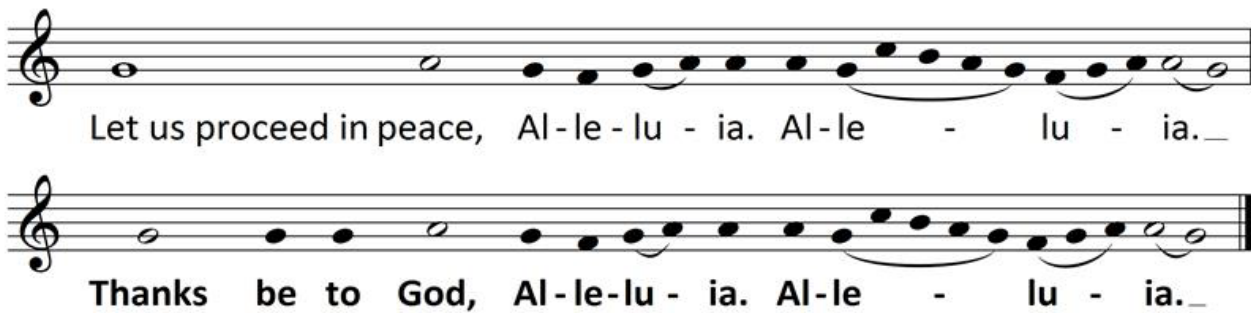
Remain standing

THE PROCESSION

Immediately following the Offertory Hymn a response is sung and the procession around the church will proceed in the following order:

*Thurifer
Processional Cross and Acolytes
The Choir
The Director of Music
The Clergy
The Cathedral Banner
The Congregation*

The Response (Sung)



Let us proceed in peace, Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le - lu - ia._
Thanks be to God, Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le - lu - ia._

Processional Hymn - Hail Thee, Festival Day



CHORUS
1. Hail thee, Fest-i-val day, blest day that art hal-lowed for - ev - er;
Day where-in Christ a - rose, break-ing the king-dom of death.

2. Lo, the fair beau - ty of earth, from the
 4. He who was nailed to the Cross is _____
 6. Rise now, O Lord, from the grave and cast
 8. Je - sus, thou Health of the world, en -
 10. E - qual art thou, co - e - ter - nal, in

death of the win - ter a - ri - sing, ev - 'ry good
 God and the Ru - ler of all things; all things cre -
 off the shroud that en - wrapp'd thee; thou art suf -
 light - en our minds, O Re - deem - er, Son of the
 fel - low - ship One with the Fa - ther, And with the

gift of the year now with its Ma - ster re - turns.
 -a - ted on earth wor - ship the Ma - ker of all.
 -fi - cient for us; no - thing with - out thee e - xists.
 Fa - ther su - preme, on - ly - be - got - ten God.
 Spi - rit of truth, God ev - er - more to be blest!

3. Dai - ly the love - li - ness grows, a - dorn'd with the
 5. Ill it be - seem - eth that thou, by whose hand all _____
 7. God of all pi - ty and pow'r, let thy word be as -
 9. So shalt thou bear in thine arms an im - ma - cu - late

glo - ry of blos - som; Green is the wood - land with
 things are en - com - pass'd, cap - tive and bound shouldst re -
 -sur'd to the doubt - ing; light on the third day re -
 peo - ple to hea - ven, bear - ing them pure un - to

leaves, bright are the mea - dows with flow'rs.
 -main, deep in the gloom of the rock. _____
 -turns: rise, Son of God, from the tomb!
 God, pledge of thy vic - to - ry here. _____

Remain standing

THE BLESSING

The Lord be with you.
And with thy Spirit.

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.

The choir sings the final Amen.

Remain standing as the Choir and Clergy depart.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Grand Choeur in D

Félix-Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

Surrexit Alleluia!

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