



**LICHFIELD**  
• CATHEDRAL •



# **Choral Eucharist**

## **First Sunday of**

### **Lent**

**9th March 2025 –**  
**10.30**

**President**

The Rt Revd Jan McFarlane - *Dean*

**Preacher**

The Revd Canon Dr Gregory Platten - *Canon Chancellor*

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 as we gather together to keep this holy season of Lent.*



*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 steward or verger. You can also scan this QR code or visit [www.lichfield-cathedral.org/donate](http://www.lichfield-cathedral.org/donate) to donate online.



## 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 and the organ is played by the Assistant Director of Music, Martyn Rawles. The setting for the Eucharist is the Mass for Four Voices by *William Byrd (1540 – 1623)*.

## 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:

*Heavenly Father,  
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,  
and grew closer to you in the desert:  
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer  
that we may witness to your saving love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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

## THE GATHERING

*Stand*



### INTROIT HYMN 95 *Aus Der Tiefe (Heinlein)*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Forty days and forty nights<br>thou wast fasting in the wild;<br>forty days and forty nights<br>tempted, and yet undefiled:              | 4. And if Satan, vexing sore,<br>flesh or spirit should assail,<br>thou, his vanquisher before,<br>grant we may not faint nor fail.    |
| 2. Sunbeams scorching all the day;<br>chilly dew-drops nightly shed;<br>prowling beasts about thy way;<br>stones thy pillow, earth thy bed. | 5. So shall we have peace divine;<br>holier gladness ours shall be;<br>round us too shall angels shine,<br>such as ministered to thee. |
| 3. Shall not we thy sorrows share,<br>and from earthly joys abstain,<br>fasting with unceasing prayer,<br>glad with thee to suffer pain?    | 6. Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,<br>ever constant by thy side;<br>that with thee we may appear<br>at the eternal Eastertide.          |

George Hunt Smyttan 1822-1870  
and Francis Pott 1832-1909

## THE GREETING

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

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.  
**And also with you.**

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

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord.  
It is to be made ready for those who love him  
and for those who want to love him more.

So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little,  
you who have been here often and you who have not been here long,  
you who have tried to follow and you who have failed.  
Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.  
It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

*The Iona Community, Iona Abbey Worship Book,  
Wild Goose Publications, 2001*

*A moment of silence is kept.*

## THE RITE OF PENITENCE

*We rejoice in God's generous invitation and call to mind the times when we have failed to accept it.*

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.  
Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,  
and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

Most merciful God, **Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,**  
**we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.**  
**We have not loved you with our whole heart.**  
**We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.**  
**In your mercy forgive what we have been,**  
**help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be;**  
**that we may do justly, love mercy,**  
**and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

## KYRIE ELEISON *(choir)*

*Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.*

## ABSOLUTION

May almighty God, who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,  
bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Stand*

## THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,  
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:  
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;  
and, as you know our weakness,  
so may we know your power to save;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
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 Deuteronomy 26.1-11



A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses said to all Israel: When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.' When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*A short period of silence is kept.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Stand as the choir sings the following which all repeat*



**Praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, King of end - less glo - ry.**

The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice.  
Harden not your hearts.

*cf Psalm 95.3,8*

*All sing the response again*

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

## GOSPEL READING Luke 4.1-13



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



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



**Glo - ry to you, O Lord.**

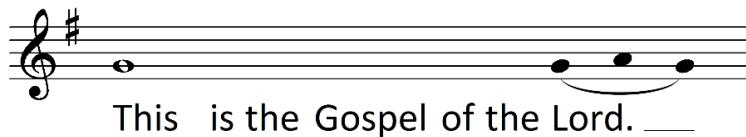
Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.' Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone." '

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, 'To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.'

Jesus answered him, 'It is written,  
"Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him." '



Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,  
 “He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you”, and  
 “On their hands they will bear you up,  
 so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.” ’  
 Jesus answered him, ‘It is said, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.” ’ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.



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

#### SERMON

*Stand*

**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**

*Sit*

Lord of compassion, **in your mercy 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*

Since we are justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has given us access to his grace.

*Romans 5.1,2*

The peace of the Lord 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**

*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 538 *Wolvercote*



1. O Jesus, I have promised  
to serve thee to the end;  
be thou for ever near me,  
my Master and my Friend:  
I shall not fear the battle  
if thou art by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway  
if thou wilt be my guide.

2. O let me hear thee speaking  
in accents clear and still  
above the storms of passion,  
the murmurs of self-will;  
O speak to reassure me,  
to hasten or control;  
O speak, and make me listen,  
thou guardian of my soul.

3. O Jesus, thou hast promised  
to all who follow thee,  
that where thou art in glory  
there shall thy servant be;  
and, Jesus, I have promised  
to serve thee to the end:  
O give me grace to follow,  
my Master and my Friend.

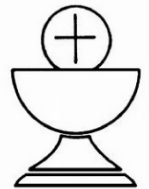
4. O let me see thy foot-marks,  
and in them plant mine own;  
My hope to follow duly  
is in thy strength alone:  
O guide me, call me, draw me,  
uphold me to the end;  
and then in heaven receive me,  
my Saviour and my Friend.

J E Bode 1816-1874

*Remain standing*

**TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE**

God of wisdom, may the light of your eternal Word,  
our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,  
lead us in holiness and guide us to glory;  
we ask this in his name. **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 to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son.  
For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance  
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline  
we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again.  
Through fasting, prayer and acts of service  
you bring us back to your generous heart.  
Through study of your holy word  
you open our eyes to your presence in the world  
and free our hands to welcome others  
into the radiant splendour of your love.  
As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast  
with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy  
and join with saints and angels for ever praising you and *singing*:

**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.*

Lord God, you are the most holy one, enthroned in splendour and light,  
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ  
you reveal the power of your love made perfect in our human weakness.

Embracing our humanity, Jesus showed us the way of salvation;  
loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us;  
dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin,  
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all  
he 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.



Je-sus Christ is Lord:



Lord, by your cross and re-sur-rec-tion you have set us free.



You are the Sa-voir of the world.

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross,  
we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb,  
we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high  
and we long for his coming in glory.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption,  
Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation  
be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
form us into the likeness of Christ  
and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Look with favour on your people  
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.  
Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free  
and fill your Church with power from on high.  
Gather your people from the ends of the earth  
to feast with Blessed Mary the Virgin,  
Chad our Patron and all your saints  
at the table in your kingdom,  
where the new creation is brought to perfection  
in Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and 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.**

*Sit*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven,  
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

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

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.  
**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*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** *Sitivit anima mea — Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594)*

Sitivit anima mea ad Deum fortem vivum:  
quando veniam et apparebo ante faciem Dei?

*My soul is athirst for God, even for the living God;  
when shall I come before the presence of God? Psalm 42.2*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Sit*

Let us pray:

Lord God,  
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;  
by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope,  
and strengthen our love:  
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread,  
and enable us to live by every word  
that proceeds from out of your mouth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**NOTICES**

*Stand*

HYMN NEH 418 *Knecht*



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. O happy band of pilgrims,<br>If onward ye will tread<br>With Jesus as your fellow<br>To Jesus as your Head!                    | 4. What are they but forerunners<br>To lead you to his sight?<br>What are they save the effluence<br>Of uncreated light?  |
| 2. The cross that Jesus carried<br>He carried as your due;<br>The crown that Jesus weareth,<br>He weareth it for you.             | 5. The trials that beset you,<br>The sorrows ye endure,<br>The manifold temptations<br>That death alone can cure,         |
| 3. The faith by which ye see him,<br>The hope in which ye yearn,<br>The love that through all troubles<br>To him alone will turn, | 6. O happy band of pilgrims,<br>Look upward to the skies,<br>Where such a light affliction<br>Shall win you such a prize! |

*Trans. J. M. Neale 1818-66*

*Remain standing*

**THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL**

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

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;  
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*

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

*Remain standing as the choir and clergy depart*

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

Toccata

*Mélanie Bonis (1858 – 1937)*



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



**Later today:**  
15:30 Choral Evensong  
Sung by the Cathedral Choir  
with participants in 'Come and Sing'

**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**

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[www.lichfield-cathedral.org](http://www.lichfield-cathedral.org)**

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