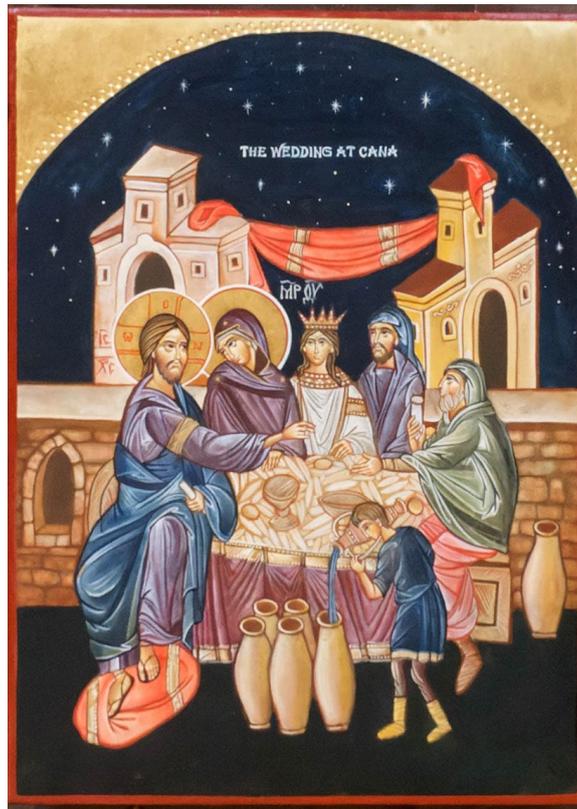




LICHFIELD
CATHEDRAL
RE•SOURCE
Recovering together

Choral Eucharist
19th March 2023 - 10:30
Fourth Sunday of Lent - Mothering Sunday



President

The Revd Canon Andrew Stead - *Canon Precentor*

Preacher

The Revd Canon 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.



WELCOME TO LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL



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

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 Holy Communion

People will though be able to choose whether they wish or not to receive their Holy Communion in the form of wine as well as bread. There is no pressure to receive, and people should do as they feel most comfortable; recognising that some may wish to not receive from the chalice. 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 hosts 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 verger. For those worshipping at home, you can text SPIRES to 70191 to give £10, or visit www.lichfield-cathedral.org/donate.

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 B Flat and F*, by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

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 love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

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

THE GATHERING

Stand

INTROIT HYMN 507 *Slane*

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy,
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Jan Struther (1901-1953)

Remain standing

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.

Please sit as 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.

A moment of silence is kept.

THE RITE OF PENITENCE

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,
though we have rebelled against him.

Let us then renounce our wilfulness and ask his mercy
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

A moment of silence is kept.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.**

**We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON *(choir)*

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

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Stand

THE COLLECT

Let us pray:

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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.**

Sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 2.1-10

A reading from the book of Exodus.

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A short period of silence is kept

Stand

GOSPEL TRACT

The choir sings the following, which the people 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 John 19.25b-27



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

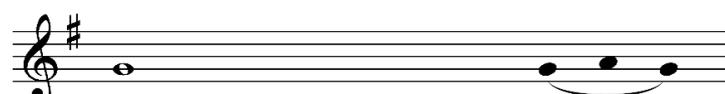


Hear the
gospel of our Lord Je - sus Christ according to John.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.



This is the Gospel of the Lord. ___



Praise to you, O Christ. _____

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

Sit

SERMON

NICENE CREED, *sung to the setting by 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

Kneel or sit

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

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 375 *Amazing Grace*

**Amazing grace (how sweet the sound)
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come:
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.**

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease:
I shall possess, within the veil,
a life of joy and peace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
the sun forbear to shine;
but God, who called me here below,
will be forever mine.

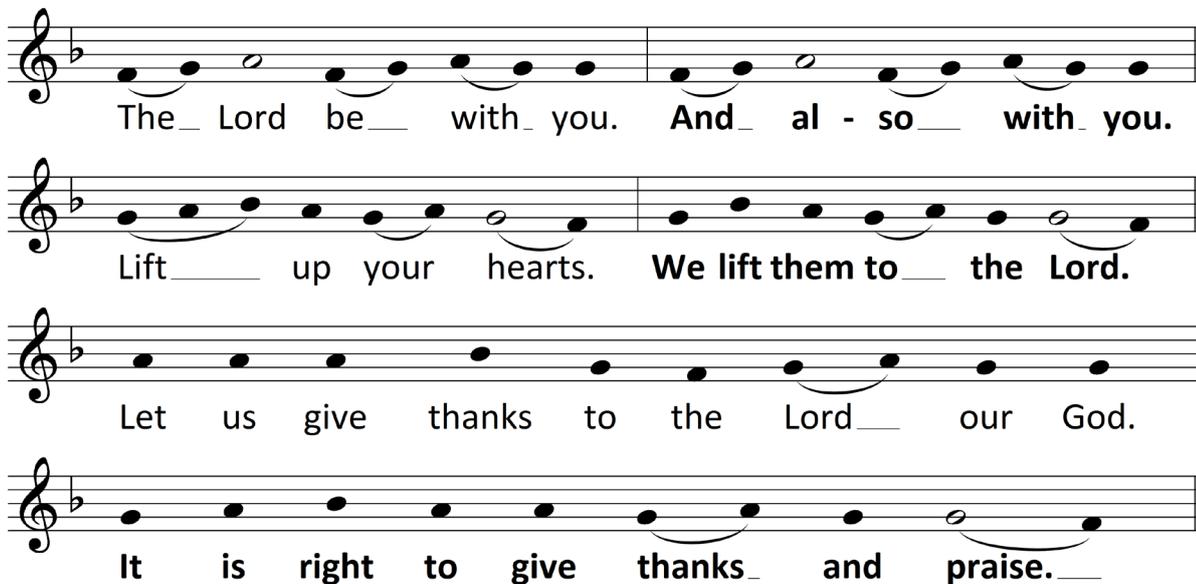
John Newton (1725-1807)

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 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.

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise.

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS (choir)

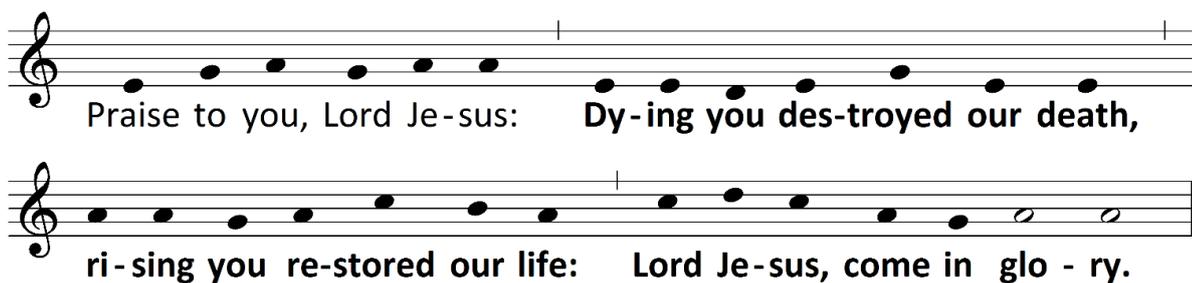
*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied.
He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
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.



Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.
Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.
Bring us at the last with Blessed Mary the Virgin,
Chad our Patron, and all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:



Sit

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour 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 For the beauty of the Earth – *John Rutter (b. 1945)*

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
*Lord of all to thee we raise;
this our joyful hymn of praise.*

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light:
Lord of all...

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above;
For all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all ...

For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine,
flow'rs of earth and buds of heaven:
Lord of all ...

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Kneel or sit

Let us pray:

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament
with the food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NOTICES

THE BLESSING & DISTRIBUTION OF FLOWERS

With many thanks to the Flower Guild for preparing the flowers and to Jane Dayus-Hinch who has donated them in loving memory of her mother, Doreen Dayus. Flowers are blessed and distributed to any who wish to make a gift of them to their mother, or in her memory, or to any who have shown them a mother's love.

Bless, O Lord Jesus, these small gifts of flowers,
that they may be channels of your love,
imparting joy to those who give and those who receive.
And we pray that all united in your love
may ever follow your example in loving words and deeds,
to your honour and glory, now and for evermore. **Amen.**

Organ music is played as the flowers are distributed.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH

On this day we also remember the Church as our mother, we pray that nourished by the Church's care, and instructed by her teaching, we may welcome many into this place, to be inheritors of that heavenly Jerusalem which is the mother to us all.

God our creator,
you call us together to share in the community of the Church,
that through our love for one another
the world may come to believe.
Grant us the wisdom to be open to others,
the sensitivity to learn from their insights
and the commitment to welcome them in
and show them kindness and care,
that through our wonderful diversity
we would glimpse something of the greatness of your truth,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN SP 42 *Love Divine (CP516 t.i)*

1. **God of Eve and God of Mary,
God of love and mother earth,
thank you for the ones who with us
shared their life and gave us birth.**

2. **As you came to earth in Jesus,
so you come to us today;
you are present in the caring
that prepares us for life's way.**

3. **Thank you, that the Church, our Mother,
gives us bread and fills our cup,
and the comfort of the Spirit
warms our hearts and lifts us up.**

4. **Thank you for belonging shelter,
bonds of friendship, ties of blood,
and for those who have no children,
yet are parents under God.**

5. **God of Eve and God of Mary,
Christ our brother, human son,
Spirit, caring like a mother,
take our love and make us one.**

Fred Kaan (1929-2009)

Remain standing

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself,
the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service,
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts;
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

Prelude and Fugue in A BWV 536
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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