



LICHFIELD
CATHEDRAL



Choral Eucharist
17th March 2024 – 10.30

Fifth Sunday of Lent – Passion Sunday

President

The Revd Canon Andrew Stead – *Canon Precentor*

Preacher

The Rt Revd Jan McFarlane – *Interim Dean*

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.



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 Missa Brevis by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594).

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:

*Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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

THE GATHERING

Stand

INTROIT HYMN 127 *Rockingham*



When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the cross of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown!

His dying crimson, like a robe,
spreads o'er his body on the tree:
then am I dead to all the globe,
and all the globe is dead to me.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Galatians 6.14
Isaac Watts 1674-1748

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.**

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.

Christ himself carried up our sins in his body to the tree,
so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness;
by his wounds we have been healed.

1 Peter 2.24

Let us confess our sins.

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

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given you
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth,
strengthen you to do God's will and give you the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Stand

THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
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 Jeremiah 31.31-34



A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the Lord', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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.

Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death,
even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him
and given him the name that is above every name.

Philippians 2.8, 9

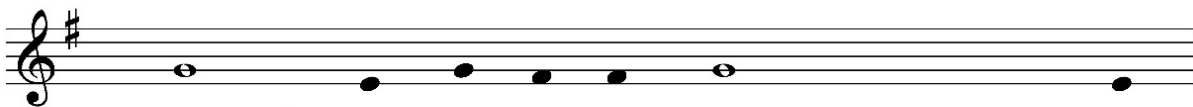
All sing the response again

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

GOSPEL READING John 12.20-33



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



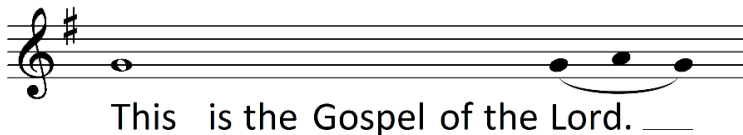
**Hear the
gospel of our Lord Je - sus Christ according to John.**



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.'

‘Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—“Father, save me from this hour”? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.’ Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, ‘An angel has spoken to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.’ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.



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

By the Saviour's cross and passion,
Lord, save us and help us.

The prayers conclude

**Holy God, holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PEACE

Stand

Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been
brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace.

Ephesians 2.13, 14

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.*



1. O sacred head, sore wounded,
defiled and put to scorn;
O kingly head, surrounded
with mocking crown of thorn:
what sorrow mars thy grandeur?
Can death thy bloom deflower?
O countenance whose splendour
the hosts of heaven adore.

2. Thy beauty, long-desired,
hath vanished from our sight;
thy power is all expired,
and quenched the Light of light.
Ah me! for whom thou diest,
hide not so far thy grace:
show me, O Love most highest,
the brightness of thy face.

4. In thy most bitter passion
my heart to share doth cry,
with thee for my salvation
upon the cross to die.
Ah, keep my heart thus moved
to stand thy cross beneath,
to mourn thee, well-belovèd,
yet thank thee for thy death.

3. I pray thee, Jesus, own me,
me, Shepherd good, for thine;
who to thy fold hast won me,
and fed with truth divine.
Me guilty, me refuse not,
incline thy face to me,
this comfort that I lose not,
on earth to comfort thee.

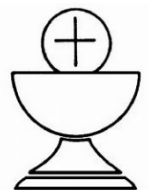
5. My days are few, O fail not,
with thine immortal power,
to hold me that I quail not
in death's most fearful hour:
that I may fight befriended,
and see in my last strife
to me thine arms extended
upon the cross of life.

Paul Gerhardt 1607-1676
from a 14th century Latin hymn
tr. Robert Bridges 1844-1930

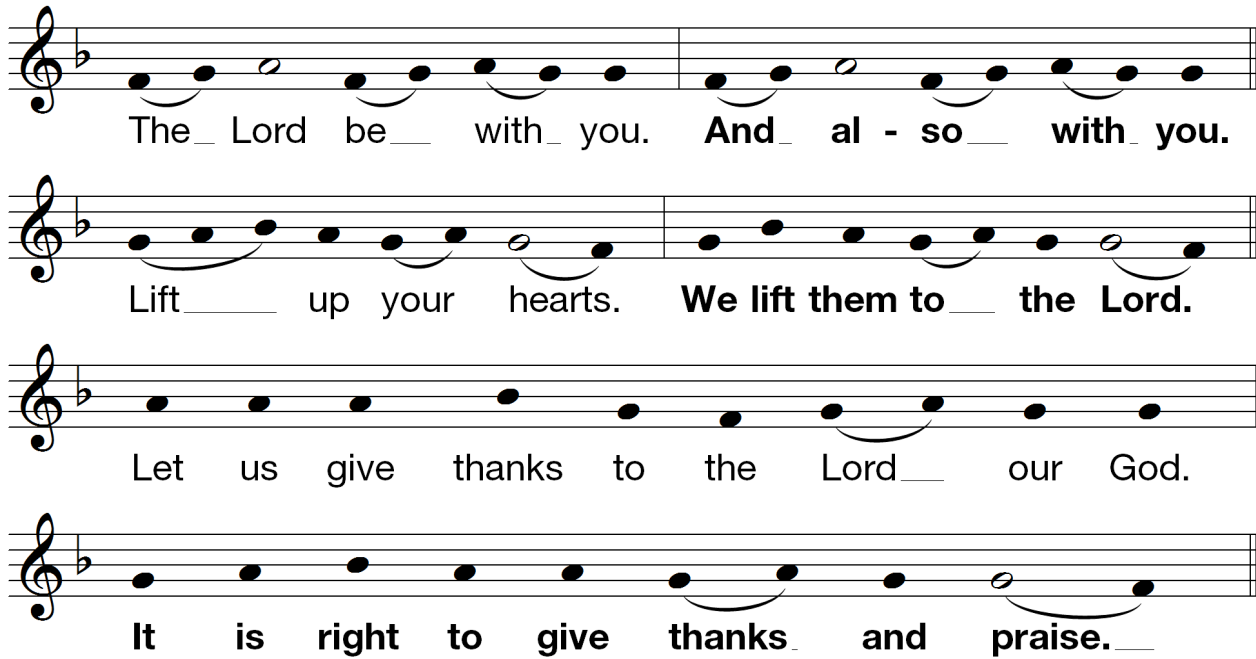
Remain standing

TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Jesus, true vine and bread of life,
ever giving yourself that the world might live,
let us share your death and passion:
make us perfect in your love. **Amen.**



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER



It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
For he is your living Word; through him you have created all things from
the beginning, and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross; you raised
him from the dead and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit,
and made us a people for your own possession.
Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and
glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS (*choir*)

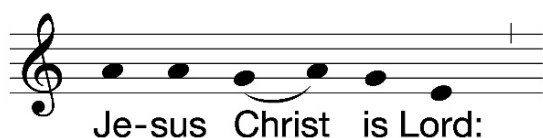
*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

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.

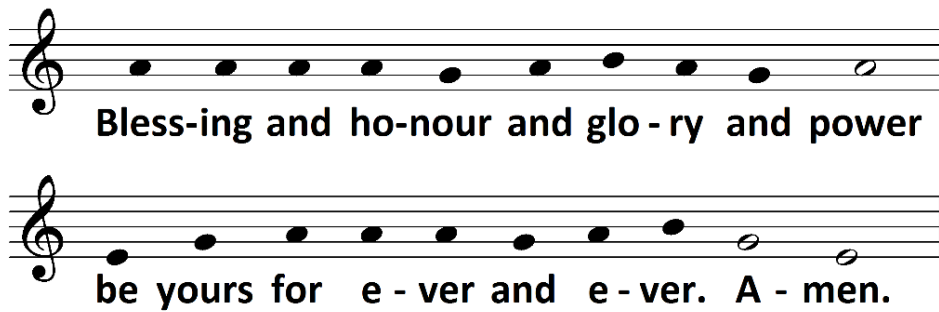
In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for
many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

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:



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

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

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 Adoramus te, Christe – *Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)*

Adoramus te, Christe, et benedicimus tibi.
Quia per sanguinem tuum pretiosum redemisti mundum.
Miserere nobis.

*We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee,
because by thy precious blood thou hast redeemed the world.
O Lord, who suffered for us, have mercy on us.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sit

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

NOTICES

Stand

HYMN 125 *Bow Brickhill*

**1. We sing the praise of him who died,
of him who died upon the cross;
the sinner's hope let men deride,
for this we count the world but loss.**

**2. Inscribed upon the cross we see
in shining letters, 'God is Love';
he bears our sins upon the tree;
he brings us mercy from above.**

**4. It makes the coward spirit brave,
and nerves the feeble arm for fight;
it takes its terror from the grave,
and gilds the bed of death with light:**

**3. The cross! It takes our guilt away:
it holds the fainting spirit up;
it cheers with hope the gloomy day,
and sweetens every bitter cup.**

**5. The balm of life, the cure of woe,
the measure and the pledge of love,
the sinner's refuge here below,
the angels' theme in heaven above.**

Thomas Kelly 1769-1855

Remain standing

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

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

Christ crucified draw you to himself,
to find in him a sure ground for faith,
a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven;
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 the light and peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

Remain standing as the choir and clergy depart

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prelude and Fugue in C minor BMV 546
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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



Later today:

15:30 Choral Evensong

Responses: *Tomkins*

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis: Collegium Regale – *Howells*

Anthem: Christus factus est – *Bruckner*

Organ Voluntary: Sonata No.5 – *Mendelssohn*

**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

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