



**LICHFIELD**  
CATHEDRAL



# **Choral Eucharist**

**1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 – 10.30**

## **Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity Creation Sunday**

### **President**

The Revd Canon Dr Gregory Platten – *Canon Chancellor*

### **Preacher**

The Revd Canon Andrew Stead – *Canon Precentor*

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 during this Trinity season.*



*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 a visiting choir: the Blythburgh Singers. The setting for the Eucharist is the Mass in G by Francis Jackson (1917-2022).

## **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:

*Merciful God,  
your Son came to save us  
and bore our sins on the cross:  
may we trust in your mercy  
and know your love,  
rejoicing in the righteousness  
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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

## THE GATHERING

*Stand*

INTROIT HYMN SP174 *t. CP494 Gwalchmai*



1. **Bring to God your new, best songs,  
all creation;  
raise a hymn of gratitude  
for salvation;  
far and wide, throughout the world,  
sound his glory;  
he has done amazing things –  
tell the story.**
2. **Earth and heavens, revere the Lord,  
your Creator;  
why exalt some other God?  
He is greater!  
His are strength and majesty  
never ending;  
ours, the privilege of praise,  
voices blending.**
3. **With the finest you possess  
bow before him;  
from the fullness of your heart,  
come, adore him.  
See, his beauty floods the earth –  
holy splendour!  
Yield to him in holy fear –  
glad surrender!**
4. **All that lurks in human hearts  
he discloses;  
all that fails the test of truth  
he opposes.  
Let the earth rejoice in hope  
of his kingdom;  
skies and oceans, trees and fields,  
join the anthem!**

Martin Leckebusch (b.1962) based on Psalm 96

## 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*

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.

## THE RITE OF PENITENCE

Let us confess our greed  
and repent of the ways in which we have damaged  
God's good creation:

*A moment for silence for reflection follows.*

We confess our sin, and the sins of our society,  
in the misuse of God's creation.

God our Father, we are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts  
carelessly, and acted ungratefully.

Father, in your mercy: **forgive us and help us.**

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest,  
but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.

Father, in your mercy: **forgive us and help us.**

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied,  
but ignore the cry of the hungry.

Father, in your mercy: **forgive us and help us.**

We are thoughtless, and do not care enough for the environment and  
the world you have made.

Father, in your mercy: **forgive us and help us.**

*The president declares God's forgiveness.*

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins,  
and restore you in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Stand*

### **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.*

## **THE COLLECT**

Let us pray that our worship will bring us closer to the one who has created all things.

Glorious God,  
the whole creation proclaims your marvellous work:  
increase in us a capacity to wonder and delight in it,  
that heaven's praise may echo in our hearts  
and our lives be spent as good stewards of the earth,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Sit*

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Deuteronomy 4.1-2, 6-9



A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you. You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!' For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

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

*A short period of silence is kept*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Stand*

*The choir sings Alleluia which all repeat*

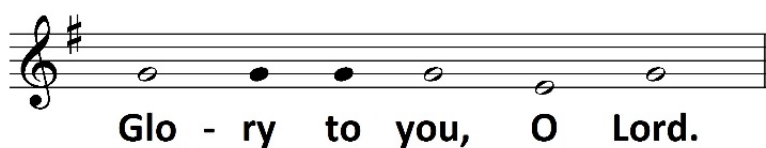
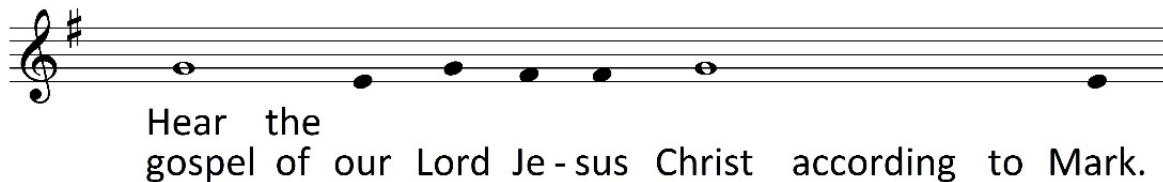
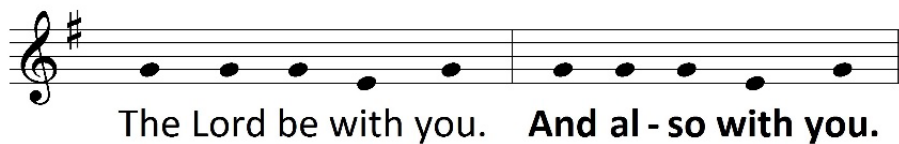


God has spoken to us through his Son,  
through whom he created all things.

*All sing **Alleluia** again*

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

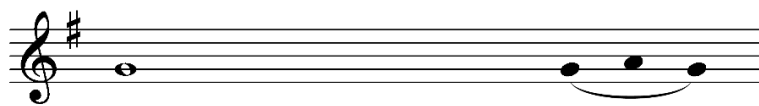
## **GOSPEL READING**      Mark 7.1-8, 14, 15, 21-23



Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?' He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

“This people honours me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.”

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.’  
Then he called the crowd again and said to them, ‘Listen to me, all of you,  
and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can  
defile, but the things that come out are what defile.’ For it is from within,  
from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft,  
murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy,  
slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile  
a person.’



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**

*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*

God of Life:  
**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*

You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

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

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

*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 453 *Great is thy faithfulness*



**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;  
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be:**

***Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand has provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.***

**Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love:**

***Great is thy faithfulness! ...***

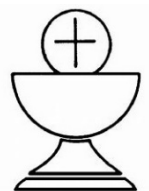
**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

***Great is thy faithfulness! ...***

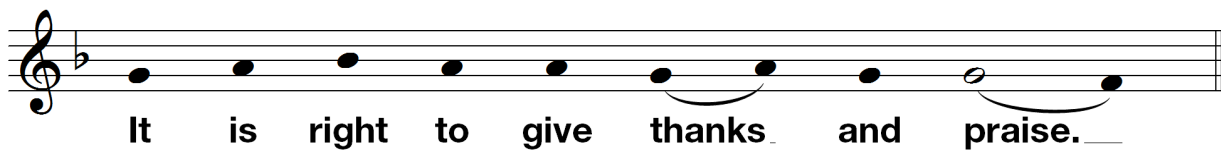
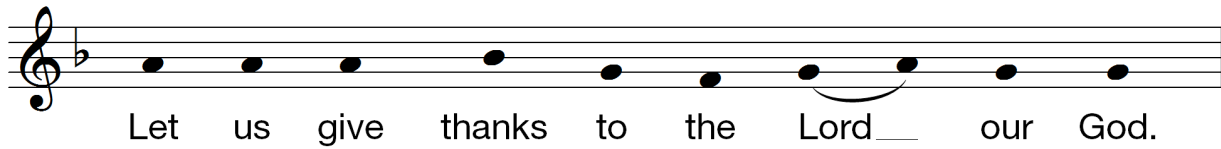
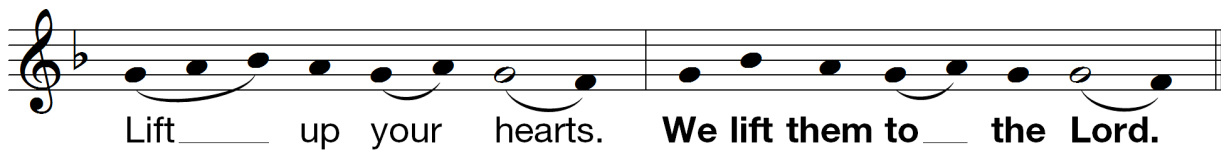
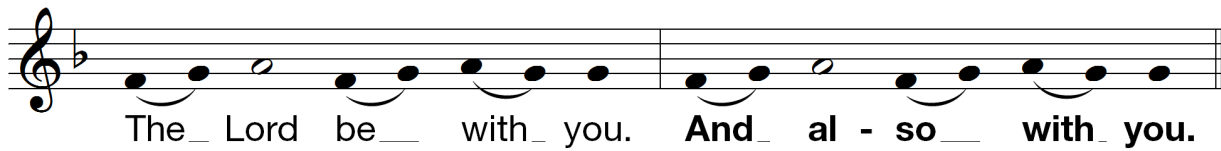
Thomas Chisholm (1866-1960)

## TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

As the grain once scattered in the fields  
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,  
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together  
from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.  
Grant this for your name's sake. **Amen.**



## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER



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*)

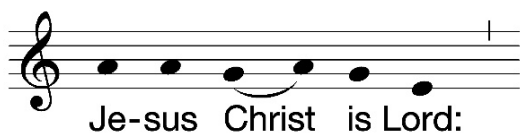
*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

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 of Lichfield and all the saints  
to the vision of that eternal splendour  
for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
by whom, 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

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,  
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

Christ is the true bread  
which has come down from heaven.  
**Lord, give us this bread always.**

*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** *Beati quorum via – Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)*

Beati quorum via integra est,  
qui ambulant in lege Domini.

*Blessed are the undefiled in the way,  
who walk in the law of the Lord.*

*Psalm 119:1*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Remain seated*

Creator God, send your Holy Spirit to renew this living world,  
that the whole creation, in its groaning and striving,  
may know your loving purpose and come to reflect your glory;  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## NOTICES

*Stand*

**HYMN SP 248** *Tune: CP 81 Lord of the years*



**Lord of all worlds, we worship and adore you,  
creation sings a galaxy of praise:  
the planets fly, the stars cry out in wonder,  
new life appears, evolving in its ways.**

**You forged the sun, the molten light of morning;  
you scattered stars, flung jewels of the night;  
you are the day which penetrates our darkness:  
fill us with hope that we might share your light.**

**You summoned land from dark and heaving oceans,  
you moulded hills and carved the mountains high,  
you are the artist who is still creating:  
make us your partners lest the earth should die.**

**The glittering shoals flash through the rippling water,  
the gliding cull ascends the stream of air:  
now leaping thought and consecrated action  
become our way of living and of prayer.**

**You are the wind that rushes through the heavens,  
the breath that gently feeds us from our birth:  
we rest in your, our source and goal of living,  
we strive for you as stewards of your earth.**

Christopher J. Ellis (b.1949)

*Remain standing*

## COMMITMENT, BLESSING & DISMISSAL

‘While all creatures stand in expectation,  
what will be the result of our liberty?’

*(Thomas Traherne)*

As the whole of creation looks with eager longing for the redemption of humankind, let us pledge ourselves anew to serve our Creator God, the Father who is the maker of all things, the Son through whom all things are made, and the Holy Spirit, the giver of life, who renews the face of the earth.

Let us stand to affirm our commitment to care actively for God’s creation.

**Lord of life and giver of hope,  
we pledge ourselves to care for creation,  
to reduce our waste, to live sustainably,  
and to value the rich diversity of life.  
May your wisdom guide us,  
that life in all its forms may flourish,  
and may be faithful in voicing creation’s praise.**

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the source of all goodness, pour his blessing upon all things created,  
and upon us his children, that we may use his gifts to his glory  
and the welfare of all peoples; 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, and may the commitment we have made this day  
be matched by our faithful living.

Go in the peace of Christ: **Thanks be to God.**

*Remain standing as the choir and clergy depart.*

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



**Later today:**

15:30 Choral Evensong

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