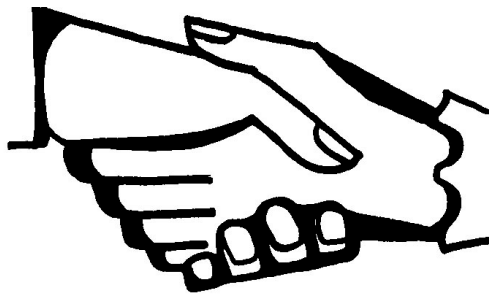




**LICHFIELD**  
CATHEDRAL



**Choral Eucharist**  
**17<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – 10.30**  
**Fifteenth Sunday After Trinity**

**President**

The Rt Revd Jan McFarlane  
*Interim Dean*

**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.

## **ALL ARE WELCOME ... THIS IS YOUR CATHEDRAL....**

*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.*



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



### **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 verger. For those worshipping at home, you can text SPIRES to 70191 to give £10, or visit [www.lichfield-cathedral.org/donate](http://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 *Missa Sancti Joannis De Deo*, by Joseph Haydn (1732-1809).

## **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:

*Lord God,  
defend your Church from all false teaching  
and give to your people knowledge of your truth,  
that we may enjoy eternal life  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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

## THE GATHERING

*Stand*

INTROIT HYMN 442 t. 301 *Blaenwern*



God is Love: let heaven adore him;  
God is Love: let earth rejoice;  
let creation sing before him,  
and exalt him with one voice.  
He who laid the earth's foundation,  
he who spread the heav'ns above,  
he who breathes through all creation,  
he is Love, eternal Love.

God is Love: and he enfoldeth  
all the world in one embrace;  
with unfailing grasp he holdeth  
every child of every race.  
And when human hearts are breaking  
under sorrow's iron rod,  
then we find that selfsame aching  
deep within the heart of God.

God is Love: and though with blindness  
sin afflicts the souls of all,  
God's eternal loving-kindness  
Holds and guides us when we fall.  
Sin and death and hell shall never  
O'er us final triumph gain;  
God is Love, so Love forever  
O'er the universe must reign.

Timothy Rees (1874-1939)

*Remain standing*

### THE GREETING

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

The grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ 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.

## THE RITE OF PENITENCE

Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden,  
and I will give you rest.

God shows his love for us

in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Let us then show our love for him

by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*A cantor sings each petition, then the choir sings the Kyrie/Christe which all repeat:*

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love, for they are everlasting.



*(Lord, have mercy)*

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions.



*(Christ, have mercy)*

Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

O keep my soul and deliver me; let me not be put to shame.



*(Lord, have mercy)*

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

## ABSOLUTION

May almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you your sins,  
and bring you to everlasting life. **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:

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit  
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:  
grant that your people may be fervent  
in the fellowship of the gospel  
that, always abiding in you,  
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;  
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** Genesis 50.15-21

A reading from the book of Genesis.



Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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 Alleluia which all repeat*

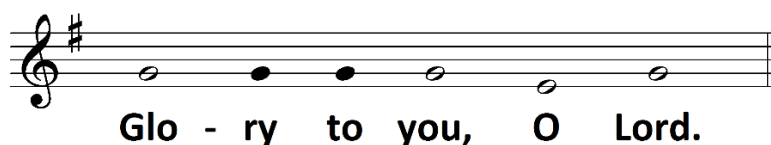
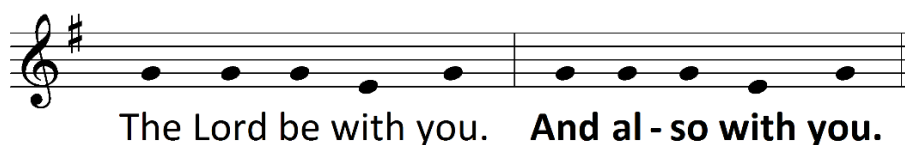


Your words gladden the heart, O Lord;  
they give light to the eyes.

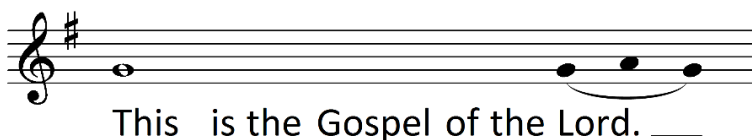
*All sing **Alleluia** again*

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

### **GOSPEL READING**      Matthew 18.21-35



Then Peter came and said to him, ‘Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?’ Jesus said to him, ‘Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ‘For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.” And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, “Pay what you owe.” Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you.” But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, “You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?” And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.’



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

*Sit*

**SERMON**



*Stand*



**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**

*Sit*

Hear us.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**



*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.

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 308 *Saffron Walden*

1. **Just as I am, without one plea  
but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bidst me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come.**
2. **Just as I am, though tossed about  
with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come.**
3. **Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
yea, all I need in thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come.**
4. **Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:  
because thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come.**
5. **Just as I am, thy love unknown  
hath broken every barrier down;  
now, to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come.**
6. **Just as I am, of that free love  
the breadth, length, depth, and height  
to prove, here for a season, then above,  
O Lamb of God, I come.**



Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871)

*Remain standing*

## TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Almighty Father, pour upon the poverty of our love,  
and the weakness of our praise,  
the transforming fire of your presence.  
Grant this in the name of Jesus the Lord. **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.**

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 power of heaven  
we may find a voice to sing your praise.

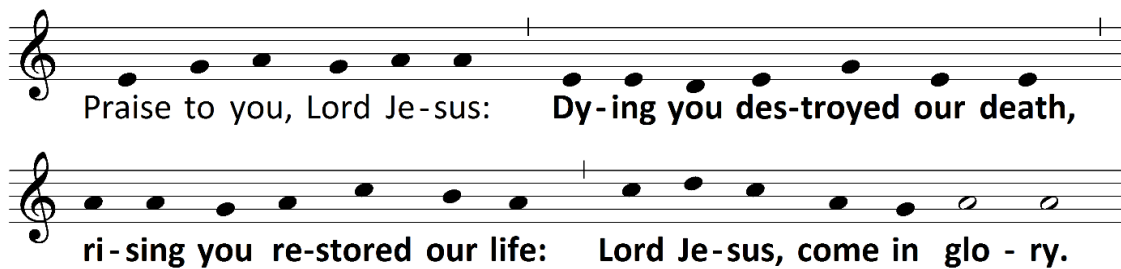
## SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS (*choir*)

*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, 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:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours 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

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*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** Turn thy face from my sins – *Thomas Attwood (1765-1838)*

Turn thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds.

Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

*Psalm 51.9-11*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Kneel or sit*

Let us pray:

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;  
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,  
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,  
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**NOTICES**

*Stand*

**HYMN 519** *Channel of Peace*

**Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love;  
where there is injury, your pardon, Lord;  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.**

***O Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood, as to understand,  
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.***



**Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;  
where there is darkness, only light,  
and where there's sadness, ever joy.**

*O Master, grant that I may never seek ...*

**Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving to all that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.**

Sebastian Temple 1928-1997

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*Remain standing*

### **THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL**

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

The Lord bless you and watch over you,  
the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you,  
the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace;  
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 peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Remain standing as the choir and clergy depart*

### **ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

Praeludium in E minor – *Nicolaus Bruhns (1665-1697)*

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



**Later today:**  
15:30 Choral Evensong

**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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