



CHESTER
CATHEDRAL

Cathedral Eucharist

3rd Sunday of Easter
26th April, 2020 at 10.00am

President: Canon Jeremy Dussek
Preacher: Canon Jane Brooke

WELCOME

We welcome you to this beautiful church in the heart of the city for a celebration of the Holy Eucharist. This cathedral is the seat of the Bishop of Chester and the core of a Christian community that has worshipped here and worked together for over 1100 years. It is a place where the mission of the church is to proclaim God's love is central, and your welcome presence here for worship helps to strengthen this vital act of witness.

In this and every Eucharist we warmly invite Christians of all denominations to receive bread and wine of holy communion. Gluten-free wafers are available - please indicate to a vergier before the service if you require one or ask at the rail. Those who prefer not to receive are invited either to approach the altar at the time of communion for a personal blessing or to remain in their seats.

An induction loop system is in operation: hearing aids should be switched to the 'T' position. Please ensure that all mobile telephones and devices are silenced before the service begins. Throughout this order, indications of where the congregation should stand, sit or kneel are given for guidance only; please feel free to follow your usual practice if this is different. During the service the congregation are invited to pray the words in **Bold Type**.

Toilets, including facilities for the disabled are available off the Cloisters. The stewards will be happy to give you directions.

GIFT AID

If you are a United Kingdom taxpayer, the value of the collection today will be significantly enhanced if you put your offering into one of the Gift Aid envelopes. In doing so, for every £1 you generously give, the cathedral will receive £1.25 which goes directly back into providing our worship.

EASTER SEASON

The proclamation of Christ's triumph over death opens a season filled with joy and thanksgiving. The great fifty days of Eastertide, from Easter Day to Pentecost, form a unity: thus Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost are not a succession of seasons, but a single season encompassing the three mysteries of the resurrection, the ascension, and the coming of the Holy Spirit. This season enjoys a unique place in the liturgical calendar, focusing our attention upon the central tenets of the Christian faith, and reminding us that our Easter faith is more than simply that God raised Jesus: it is also that Jesus has been taken into glory and the Spirit has been poured out.

THE GATHERING

HYMN

- 1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
sun of righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
day-spring from on high, be near;
day-star, in my heart appear.
- 2 Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee:
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
- 3 Visit then this soul of mine;
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine;
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

RATISBON
Melody from J.G. Werner's Choralbuch (Leipzig) (1815)

GREETING

The President says

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

OPENING RESPONSES

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed Alleluia!

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

He has brought us out of darkness.

He has made us light to the world.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

My brothers and sisters, as we prepare to celebrate the presence of Christ in word and sacrament, let us call to mind and confess our sins.

Like Mary at the empty tomb, we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Like the disciples behind locked doors, we are afraid to be seen as your followers.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

May the God of love and power forgive you
and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA

**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 upon 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.

Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
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

THE NEW TESTAMENT

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

2. 14a, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, 'Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.' Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' So those who welcomed his message were baptised, and that day about three thousand persons were added to their number.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 116 1-3, 10 –end

I love the Lord,
for he has heard the voice of my supplication;
**because he inclined his ear to me
on the day I called to him.**

The snares of death encompassed me;
the pains of hell took hold of me;
by grief and sorrow was I held.

Then I called upon the name of the Lord:
‘O Lord, I beg you, deliver my soul.’

How shall I repay the Lord
for all the benefits he has given to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call upon the name of the Lord.

I will fulfil my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his faithful servants.

O Lord, I am your servant,
**your servant, the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.**

I will offer to you a sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the Lord.

I will fulfil my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people,

In the courts of the house of the Lord,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

24. 13-35

Glory to you, O Lord.

On that same day, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognising him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' Jesus asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him.

But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see Jesus.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped
and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

**We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

At the end

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples
and said 'Peace be with you'.
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

THE PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR

Risen Lord Jesus Christ, we believe you, and all we have heard is true.
When you break bread may we recognise you as the fire that burns within us,
that we may bring light to your world. **Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC 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, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son,
has conquered the powers of death and hell
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.
He has placed them once more in paradise
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,
earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation
sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

**Holy, holy, holy
Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

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

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF 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.**

AGNUS DEI

**Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world; grant us peace.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory, give you joy and peace in your faith; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.
In the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

HYMN

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**
- 2 Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**
- 3 To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changest thee.**
- 4 Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.**

Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908)

ST DENIO
Anonymous Welsh

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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