



# WELCOME

We welcome to Chester Cathedral! 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.

## Seating and Safety

Please respect the spaces of others and if you'd avoid being too close to others, then take a RED RESERVED sign and place this on the seat next to you.

The wearing of Masks is still encouraged to uphold everyone's safety. Please wear a mask when singing the hymns.

## Order of Service

We're a paperless Cathedral and are working environmentally to avoid wasting paper. The service can be downloaded to your device at <https://chestercathedral.com/services-and-sermons/>

Alternatively, a summary of the service with the Hymns, readings and responses are available on the screens

# WELCOME

## Children

If you have children with you they will be welcome to take part in Sunday groups or Creche: please ask for directions.

## Receiving Communion

We warmly invite Christians of all denominations to come and receive bread at the distribution of Holy Communion. Gluten-free wafers are available - please indicate to the priest if you require one. Those who prefer not to receive are invited either to come forward for a blessing or to remain in their seats.

## Giving in thanks

Due to Covid restrictions, there is no collection taken; donations can be left in the giving box at the back, via the Donation Contactless Machines or on line [www.justgiving.com/campaign/ChesterCathedral](http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/ChesterCathedral)

## Join us for Coffee after the service

In the Refectory Cafe, which is just off the Cloisters.

# THE GATHERING

## 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, unhasting,  
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.

# THE GATHERING

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

*John Roberts 'Caniadau y Cyssegre' (1839)*

# THE GATHERING

## Greeting

*The President says*

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

## Introduction

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us  
that to enter the kingdom of heaven  
we must be born again  
of water and the Spirit,  
and has given us baptism  
as the sign and seal of this new birth.  
Here we are washed  
by the Holy Spirit and made clean.  
Here we are clothed with Christ,  
dying to sin that we may live his risen life.  
As children of God, we have a new dignity  
and God calls us to fullness of life.

# THE GATHERING

## Prayers of Penitence

God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ  
to save us from our sins,  
to be our advocate in heaven,  
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins  
in penitence and faith,  
firmly resolved to keep God's  
commandments  
and to live in love and peace with all.

*After a short silence, the Deacon says*

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness  
and cleanse me from my sin.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Cast me not away from your presence  
and take not your holy spirit from me.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

# THE GATHERING

## Absolution

*The President says*

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ  
has given us 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.**

# THE GATHERING

## Gloria

*The choir sings*

Glory be to God on high,  
and in earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee, we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King,

God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son,

Jesu Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God,

Son of the Father,

that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the  
world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest

at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;

thou only art the Lord;

thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the  
Father. Amen.

# THE GATHERING

## Collect

*The President says*

Let us pray.

O Lord, we beseech you  
mercifully to hear the prayers  
of your people who call upon you;  
and grant that they may  
both perceive and know  
what things they ought to do,  
and also may have grace and power  
faithfully to fulfil them;  
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

## New Testament

A reading from the letter of James. 3.13-4.3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it;

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful  
the Lord God made them all.*

- 1 Each little flower that opens,  
each little bird that sings,  
he made their glowing colours,  
he made their tiny wings:
- 2 The purple headed mountain,  
the river running by,  
the sunset and the morning  
that brightens up the sky:
- 3 He gave us eyes to see them,  
and lips that we might tell  
how great is God almighty,  
who has made all things well:

*Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-95) ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL  
William Henry Monk (1823-89)*

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The word of the Lord endures for ever.  
The word of the Lord is the good news  
announced to you.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## Holy Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Mark. 9. 30-37

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, 'The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?' But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

# THE LITURGY OF INITIATION

## Presentation of the Candidate

*The Congregation remain seated as the family comes forward*

*The President says*

Faith is the gift of God to his people.  
In baptism the Lord is adding to our  
number those whom he is calling.  
People of God, will you welcome Herbie  
and uphold him in his new life in Christ?

*All say*

**With the help of God, we will.**

Parents and godparents, the Church  
receives Herbie with joy.  
Today we are trusting God  
for his growth in faith.  
Will you pray for him, draw him by your  
example into the community of faith  
and walk with him in the way of Christ?

*Parents and Godparents say*

With the help of God, we will.

# THE LITURGY OF INITIATION

In baptism,  
Herbie begins his journey in faith.  
You speak for him today.  
Will you care for him, and help him  
to take his place within Christ's Church?

*Parents and Godparents say*

With the help of God, we will.

## **Decision and Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the paschal mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

# THE LITURGY OF INITIATION

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion  
against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit  
and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us  
from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way,  
the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.

# THE LITURGY OF INITIATION

## The Anointing

Christ claims you for his own.

Receive the sign of the cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of  
Christ crucified.

**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ  
against sin,  
the world and the devil, and remain  
faithful to Christ  
to the end of your life.**

# THE LITURGY OF INITIATION

## Prayer over the water

*The President says*

We thank you, almighty God,  
for the gift of water  
to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.

Over water the Holy Spirit  
moved in the beginning of creation.

Through water  
you led the children of Israel  
from slavery in Egypt  
to freedom in the Promised Land.

In water your Son Jesus  
received the baptism of John  
and was anointed by the Holy Spirit  
as the Messiah, the Christ,  
to lead us from the death of sin  
to newness of life.

We thank you, Father,  
for the water of baptism.

In it we are buried with Christ in his death.  
By it we share in his resurrection.

Through it  
we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son,  
we baptise into his fellowship those who  
come to him in faith.

# THE LITURGY OF INITIATION

Now sanctify this water that,  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
Herbie may be cleansed from sin  
and born again.

Renewed in your image,  
may he walk by the light of faith  
and continue for ever  
in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be all honour and glory, now and for ever.  
Amen.

*All stand*

# THE LITURGY OF INITIATION

## Profession of Faith

Let us all affirm our common faith  
in Jesus Christ:

Do you believe and trust in God  
the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God  
the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God,  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

# THE LITURGY OF INITIATION

## The Baptism

Herbie, I baptise you,  
in the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

May almighty God deliver you  
from the powers of darkness  
and lead you in the light  
and obedience of Christ. **Amen.**

May God who has received you by baptism  
into his Church,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace,  
that within the company  
of Christ's pilgrim people  
you may daily be renewed  
by his anointing Spirit,  
and come to the inheritance of the saints  
in glory. **Amen.**

# THE LITURGY OF INITIATION

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for our fellowship  
in the household of faith  
with all who have been baptised  
in your name.  
Keep us faithful to our baptism,  
and so make us ready for that day  
when the whole creation shall be  
made perfect in your Son,  
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*The congregation sits*

# THE LITURGY OF INITIATION

## Commission

We have brought Herbie to baptism knowing that Jesus died and rose again for him and trusting in the promise that God hears and answers prayer. We have prayed that in Jesus Christ he will know the forgiveness of their sins and the new life of the Spirit.

As part of the Church of Christ, we all have a duty to support Herbie by prayer, example and teaching. As his parents and godparents, you have the prime responsibility for guiding him; this is a demanding task for which you will need the help and grace of God. Therefore let us now pray for grace in the way of faith.

We thank you that you have claimed for yourself Herbie who has been washed in the waters of rebirth. Uphold him in this new life, that he may ever remain steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and rooted in your love.

Father of life,  
**make known your glory.**

# THE LITURGY OF INITIATION

Faithful and loving God, bless those who care for Herbie and grant him your gifts of love, wisdom and faith. Pour upon him your healing and reconciling love, and protect their home from all evil. Fill him with the light of your presence and establish him in the joy of your kingdom. Father of life,  
**make known your glory.**

Pour your blessing on all your people. May our hearts ever praise you, and find their perfect rest in you. Grant us the freedom of your service and peace in doing your will. Father of life,  
**make known your glory.**

# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

## Peace

*The President says*

We are the Body of Christ.

**By one Spirit,  
we are baptised into one body.**

Keep the unity of the Spirit  
in the bond of peace.

**We are bound by the love of Christ.**

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

## Preparation of the Altar

Wise and gracious God,  
you spread a table before us;  
nourish your people with the word of life  
and the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

## 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.**

And now we give you thanks  
because by water and the Holy Spirit  
you have made us a holy people  
in Jesus Christ our Lord;  
you raise us to new life in him  
and renew in us the image of your glory.

And so we gladly thank you,  
with saints and angels praising you,  
and singing:

*The choir sings*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most High.  
Blessed is he that cometh  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

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.

# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

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.

*The Deacon says*

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

*The President continues*

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 all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

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 the presence of God here  
among 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.**

# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

## Breaking of the Bread

*The President says*

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 LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

## **Agnus Dei**

*The choir sings*

O Lamb of God,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
grant us thy peace.

## **Communion Motet**

Love bade me welcome

*Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)*

# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

## Post Communion Prayer

*The President says*

Let us pray.

Almighty God,  
you have taught us through your Son  
that love is the fulfilling of the law:  
grant that we may love you  
with our whole heart  
and our neighbours as ourselves;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

# THE DISMISSAL

## Blessing

The God of all grace,  
who called you to his eternal glory  
in Christ Jesus,  
establish, strengthen and settle you  
in the faith.

and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## Giving of the Candle

*The Deacon says*

God has delivered us  
from the dominion of darkness  
and has given us a place  
with the saints in light.

Herbie,  
you have received the light of Christ;  
walk in his light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world  
to the glory of God the Father.**

Filled with the Spirit's power,  
go in the light and peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

# THE DISMISSAL

- 1 Ye servants of the Lord,  
each in his office wait,  
observant of his heavenly word,  
and watchful at his gate.
- 2 Let all your lamps be bright,  
and trim the golden flame;  
gird up your loins, as in his sight,  
for awful is his name.
- 3 Watch: 'tis your Lord's command;  
and while we speak he's near;  
mark the first signal of his hand,  
and ready all appear.
- 4 O happy servant he,  
in such a posture found!  
He shall his Lord with rapture see,  
and be with honour crowned.
- 5 Christ shall the banquet spread  
with his own royal hand,  
and raise that favoured servant's head  
amid the angelic band.

*Philip Doddridge (1702-51)*

NARENZA  
*William Henry Havergal (1793-1870)*

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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