



# 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: 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)

# THE GATHERING

## Hymn

1 Rejoice, the Lord is King,  
your Lord and King adore;  
mortals, give thanks and sing,  
and triumph evermore:

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;  
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.*

2 Jesus the Saviour, reigns,  
the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains,  
he took his seat above:

3 His kingdom cannot fail;  
he rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus given:

4 He sits at God's right hand  
till all his foes submit,  
and bow to his command,  
and fall beneath his feet:

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

GOPSAL  
George Fredrick Handel (1685-1759)

# 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.**

## Opening responses

Lift up your heads, O gates; be lifted up,  
you everlasting doors;

**and the King of glory shall come in.**

Who is the King of glory?

**The Lord of hosts,  
he is the King of glory.**

Jesus Christ shall reign for ever;

**He is the King of glory!**

# THE GATHERING

## 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.

*Remain standing*

# THE GATHERING

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, rex coelestis, Deus pater omnipotens, Domine fili unigenite Jesu Christe. Domine Deus, agnus Dei, filius patris. Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram patris, miserere nobis. Quoniam tu solus sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe. Cum sancto spiritu, in Gloria Dei patris. Amen.

*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 GATHERING

## Collect

*The President says*

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ  
ascended to the throne of heaven  
that he might rule over all things  
as Lord and King:  
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order  
to worship at his feet;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*All sit*

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## Old Testament

A reading from the book of Daniel. 7. 9-10,  
13-14

As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousand served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgement, and the books were opened. As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All stand*

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

- 1 King of Glory, King of Peace,  
I will love thee;  
And that love may never cease  
I will move thee.  
Thou hast granted my request,  
Thou hast heard me;  
Thou didst note my working breast,  
Thou hast spared me.
- 2 Wherefore with my utmost art  
I will sing thee,  
and the cream of all my heart  
I will bring thee.  
Though my sins against me cried,  
Thou didst clear me;  
and alone, when they replied,  
Thou didst hear me.
- 3 Seven whole days, not one in seven,  
I will praise thee;  
in my heart, though not in heaven,  
I can raise thee.  
Small it is, in this poor sort  
to enrol thee:  
E'en eternity's too short  
to extol thee.

*George Herbert (1593-1633)*

GWALCHMAI  
*Joseph Jones (1827-70)*

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## Gospel Acclamation

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

You are the King of glory:  
the eternal Son of the Father.

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

## Holy Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John. 18. 33-37

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Pilate asked Jesus, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*All sit*

## **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 Lily  
and uphold her in her new life in Christ?

*All say*

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

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

*Parents and Godparents say*

With the help of God, we will.

# THE LITURGY OF INITIATION

In baptism,  
Lily begins her journey in faith.  
You speak for her today.  
Will you care for her, and help her  
to take her 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,  
Lily may be cleansed from sin  
and born again.

Renewed in your image,  
may she 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.

# 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

Lily, 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 LITURGY OF INITIATION

## Commission

We have brought Lily to baptism knowing that Jesus died and rose again for her and trusting in the promise that God hears and answers prayer. We have prayed that in Jesus Christ she 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 Lily by prayer, example and teaching. As her parents and godparents, you have the prime responsibility for guiding her; 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 Lily who has been washed in the waters of rebirth. Uphold her in this new life, that she 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 Lily and grant her your gifts of love, wisdom and faith. Pour upon her your healing and reconciling love, and protect their home from all evil. Fill her with the light of your presence and establish her 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.**

*All stand*

# 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

Blessed be God, who enthrones us with  
Christ in the heavenly realms.

May we feed upon the bread of God  
and drink the royal wine 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 LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

*The choir sings*

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.  
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.  
Osanna in excelsis.  
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.  
Osanna in excelsis.

*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.*

*The President continues*

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.

# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

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.

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 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.**

*All sit*

## Lord's Prayer

Uniting our prayers  
with the whole company of heaven,  
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.****

# 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*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona nobis pacem.

*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.*

## Communion Motet

Above all praise

*Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47)*

# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

## Post Communion Prayer

*The President says*

Let us pray.

Stir up, O Lord,  
the wills of your faithful people;  
that they, plenteously bringing forth  
the fruit of good works,  
may by you be plenteously rewarded;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All stand*

# THE DISMISSAL

## Blessing

Christ our King  
make you faithful and strong to do his will,  
that you may reign with him in glory.  
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.

Lily,  
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 Christ, come in glory,  
with your reign of peace;  
let all pain be ended,  
all injustice cease.  
Come in clouds of heaven,  
as the prophet saw,  
and, in truth abounding,  
let the world adore!

*Christ, come in glory,  
with your reign of peace;  
let all pain be ended,  
all injustice cease.*

2 O perfect witness,  
first-born from the dead,  
purify creation  
by the blood you shed.  
Alpha and Omega,  
all our lives embrace,  
in the truth and justice  
of your reign of grace.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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