

Choral Evensong

Sunday, 7th July, 2026

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity



Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong, led by The Reverend Canon Kate Massey, Acting Dean. Donald Parr, Cathedral Lay Reader, will be preaching. The Cathedral Choir is directed by Joe Watson, Acting Director of Music. The organists are Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music and Adam Heron, Organ Scholar. The responses are those by Bernard Rose (1916-1996).

*We encourage our visitors to take photographs of our beautiful cathedral, **but please no photography during the service.***

If you would like to access the loop system, please speak to one of the vergers.

Introit

God be in my head and in my understanding.
God be in mine eyes and in my looking.
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.
God be in my heart and in my thinking.
God be at mine end and at my departing.

*Words from the Sarum Primer (1558)
Music by Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941)*

Psalm 56

1. Be merciful unto me, O God, for man goeth about to devour me ♦
he is daily fighting, and troubling me.
2. Mine enemies are daily in hand to swallow me up ♦
for they be many that fight against me, O thou most Highest.
3. Nevertheless, though I am sometime afraid ♦
yet put I my trust in thee.
4. I will praise God, because of his word ♦
I have put my trust in God,
and will not fear what flesh can do unto me.
5. They daily mistake my words ♦
all that they imagine is to do me evil.
6. They hold all together, and keep themselves close ♦

and mark my steps, when they lay wait for my soul.

7. Shall they escape for their wickedness ♦

thou, O God, in thy displeasure shalt cast them down.

8. Thou tellest my flittings; put my tears into thy bottle ♦

are not these things noted in thy book?

9. Whensoever I call upon thee,

then shall mine enemies be put to flight ♦

this I know; for God is on my side.

10. In God's word I will rejoice ♦

in the Lord's word will I comfort me.

11. Yea, in God have I put my trust ♦

I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.

12. Unto thee, O God, will I pay my vows ♦

unto thee will I give thanks.

13. For thou hast delivered my soul from death,

and my feet from falling ♦

that I may walk before God in the light of the living.

The First Lesson

^{2:1} After this David inquired of the LORD, 'Shall I go up into any of the cities of Judah?' The LORD said to him, 'Go up.' David said, 'To which shall I go up?' He said, 'To Hebron.' ²So David went up there, along with his two wives, Ahinoam of Jezreel, and Abigail the widow of Nabal of Carmel. ³David brought up the men who were with him, every one with his household; and they settled in the towns of Hebron. ⁴Then the people of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah.

When they told David, 'It was the people of Jabesh-gilead who buried Saul', ⁵David sent messengers to the people of Jabesh-gilead, and said to them, 'May you be blessed by the LORD, because you showed this loyalty to Saul your lord, and buried him! ⁶Now may the LORD show steadfast love and faithfulness to you! And I too will reward you because you have done this thing. ⁷Therefore let your hands be strong, and be valiant; for Saul your lord is dead, and the house of Judah has anointed me king over them.'

⁸ But Abner son of Ner, commander of Saul's army, had taken Ishbaal* son of Saul, and brought him over to Mahanaim. ⁹He made him king over Gilead, the Ashurites, Jezreel, Ephraim, Benjamin, and over all Israel. ¹⁰Ishbaal, Saul's son, was forty years old when he began to reign over Israel, and he reigned for two years. But the house of Judah followed David. ¹¹The time that David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months.

^{3:1} There was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David; David grew stronger and stronger, while the house of Saul became weaker and weaker.

2 Samuel 2:1-11, 3:1

The Magnificat

Evening Service in G Major, Op. 81 by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

The Second Lesson

^{18:31} Then he took the twelve aside and said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. ³²For he will be handed over to the Gentiles; and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. ³³After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again." ³⁴But they understood nothing about all these things; in fact, what he said was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.

³⁵ As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. ³⁷They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." ³⁸Then he shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ³⁹Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁰Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, ⁴¹"What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me see again." ⁴²Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you." ⁴³Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

^{19:1} He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ²A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³He was

trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. ⁵When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” ⁶So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” ⁸Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” ⁹Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

Luke 18:31-19:10

The Nunc Dimittis

Evening Service in G Major, Op. 81 by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

The Collect of the Day

Grant, O Lord, we beseech thee, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by thy governance, that thy Church may joyfully serve thee in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Anthem

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by His blood,
to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.
Blessing and honour, glory and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Words Revelation 5:12-14

From Messiah by George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

The Hymn

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.

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.

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.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, (thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down),
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.

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.

Words by Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871)

Tune CP 308i Saffron Walden A.H. Brown (1830-1926)

Voluntary

Psalm Prelude Set 2, No. 3 by Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

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Thank you for your support.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Embrace the Middle East

Communities supported by **Embrace the Middle East** in Lebanon are continuing their vital work in the midst of appalling levels of bombardment and the displacement of over 1.2 million people. As crisis builds on crisis, many of their long-standing funding streams, particularly from the United States, are drying up. These trusted local partners are asking simply not to be forgotten. If you are able you are invited to give to **Embrace's Middle East Emergency Appeal, Keeping Hope Alive** helping to provide emergency medical care, food aid, trauma care and mental health support, for those, particularly the children, caught up in the war.

In moments like this, headlines can move quickly - but fear, disruption, and trauma settle deeply and last. Thank you for standing with the Middle East at a time like this. When you give, you are not watching from a distance - you are equipping trusted people on the ground to act with compassion, skill, and urgency. To give visit



<https://embraceme.org/emergency-appeal> or use the QR code here.

Thank you.

Cathedral Small Groups

The St Michael's Committee which represents the congregations of the Cathedral and takes responsibility for developing our shared life met this week. One of the things we discussed was small groups. Small groups have many different names in the Church: fellowship groups, bible study groups, cell groups life groups and (particularly in Coventry Cathedral) foyers! But the thing they have in common is that they are opportunities for members of the congregation to come together in smaller groups! Lots of people find meeting together outside of the main Sunday service is a helpful thing. But different sorts of small groups work for different people. So the St Michael's Committee would like to hear from YOU. Would you be interested in joining a small group of some sort - and what would your IDEAL small group look like?

To help us find out, why not complete this 2-minute anonymous quiz:

<https://forms.gle/piZQL2cM7hSxa3Cd6>

If you might be interested in starting a small group, please let us know!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Can you help? We are looking for people who might be able to support our dedicated team of choir chaperones. You would be responsible for the safety and pastoral care of our wonderful choristers during rehearsals and services on a rota basis. Could you offer some time in the early evenings on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays, or on a Saturday morning, or before and during our Sunday services? Are you kind and able to work well with children? Are you reliable and willing to work with our policies to keep children safe?

This is an important role and so volunteers will go through our safer recruitment process, have a DBS check and complete training as part of our firm commitment to promoting a safe environment and culture for children, young people and vulnerable adults.

For more information, please speak to Jane Williams or email the Music Department Administrator at April.Griffiths@Coventry.Anglican.org

COMMUNITY OF THE CROSS OF NAILS

CCN Young Reconcilers Gathering

4-7th August 2026

Coventry's story is as relevant today as it's ever been. This summer, we are inviting young people aged 18-25 to come and be excited by its significance in a world in conflict. Together we will reflect on how it can reach into situations large and small and learn with us some key reconciliation skills and practice, alongside different nationalities of young peacebuilders. Our Cathedral and Diocese team will lead them through a full programme of talks and workshops, all within the regular rhythm of the cathedral's prayer and worship.

Earlybird cost (non-residential*) is £120 per person, to include all meals and refreshments from the Tuesday evening until the Friday afternoon.

Those attending the full gathering until its close on Friday lunchtime will receive a Foundation Certificate in Reconciliation & Peacebuilding from Coventry Cathedral. Please consider this for yourself or share this information with young people you know. If you might be willing to sponsor a place for a young person, please speak to Kate.

COMING SOON

Exploring Mark's Gospel

The first of our Small Groups begins this July with a five-week Bible Study exploring the Gospel of Mark. The group will meet **every Wednesday in July** (starting on 1 July) at 7.00pm in St Michael's House.

Whether you are new to church, new to Christianity, curious about the Bible, or simply looking to deepen your faith, this group offers a welcoming space to read and discuss Scripture together. We will explore practical and life-giving ways of engaging with the Bible and discovering what it has to say to us today.

If you would like to join or would like to know more, please speak to Jacob Highton, co-leader of the group, or email jacobhighton@gmail.com.

South Asian Heritage Celebration

Saturday, 25 July 2026, 12pm-3pm

Join us for a joyful celebration of South Asian heritage, culture, faith, and community. The afternoon will include music, dance, poetry, prayer, a keynote address, opportunities to hear personal stories through a panel discussion, and shared food and fellowship. All are warmly invited to come and celebrate the richness and diversity of our communities together. More details to follow.

Daily Services at the Cathedral:

Regular services at the Cathedral follow this pattern. For special services and up-to-date information about one-off cancellations of the services below, please check the calendar on the Cathedral website:
<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/full-calendar>

Monday - Friday

8:30 – 9:00am: *Morning Prayer & Holy Communion*

12 – 12:10pm: *The Litany of Reconciliation*

(followed on Thursdays by BCP Holy Communion)

4 – 4:30pm: *Evening Prayer*

(or Wednesday and Thursday during school terms: Choral Evensong, 5:15 - 6pm)

Saturday

12 – 12:10pm: *The Litany of Reconciliation*

Sunday

10:30 – 11:45am: *The Cathedral Eucharist*

4 – 5pm: *Choral Evensong*