

Choral Evensong

Sunday, 30th August, 2026

The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity



*Welcome to this service of Choral Evensong,
led by The Reverend Gillian Roberts.*

Our preacher this evening is Rob Halligan.

*The Priory Singers are directed by Liam Condon, Cathedral Assistant Director
of Music. Our organist is Adam Heron, Organ Scholar.*

The responses are those by Humphrey Clucas (1941-).

*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

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake lay not our sins to our charge; but
forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives; to decline
from sin, and incline to virtue; that we may walk with a perfect heart
before thee now and evermore. Amen.

Words by Henry Bull

Music by Richard Farrant (1530-1580)

Psalm 105:1-15

1. O give thanks unto the Lord, and call upon his Name ♦
tell the people what things he hath done.
2. O let your songs be of him, and praise him ♦
and let your talking be of all his wondrous works.
3. Rejoice in his holy Name ♦
let the heart of them rejoice that seek the Lord.
4. Seek the Lord and his strength ♦
seek his face evermore.
5. Remember the marvellous works that he hath done ♦
his wonders, and the judgements of his mouth.
6. O ye seed of Abraham his servant ♦
ye children of Jacob his chosen.

7. He is the Lord our God ♦ his judgements are in all the world.
8. He hath been alway mindful of his covenant and promise ♦ that he made to a thousand generations;
9. Even the covenant that he made with Abraham ♦ and the oath that he swore unto Isaac;
10. And appointed the same unto Jacob for a law ♦ and to Israel for an everlasting testament;
11. Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan ♦ the lot of your inheritance;
12. When there were yet but a few of them ♦ and they strangers in the land;
13. What time as they went from one nation to another ♦ from one kingdom to another people;
14. He suffered no man to do them wrong ♦ but reproved even kings for their sakes;
15. Touch not mine Anointed ♦ and do my prophets no harm.

The First Lesson

^{6:24} Some time later King Ben-hadad of Aram mustered his entire army; he marched against Samaria and laid siege to it. ²⁵ As the siege continued, famine in Samaria became so great that a donkey's head was sold for eighty shekels of silver, and one-fourth of a kab of dove's dung for five shekels of silver.

^{7:3} Now there were four leprous men outside the city gate, who said to one another, 'Why should we sit here until we die? ⁴ If we say, "Let us enter the city", the famine is in the city, and we shall die there; but if we sit here, we shall also die. Therefore, let us desert to the Aramean camp; if they spare our lives, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die.' ⁵ So they arose at twilight to go to the Aramean camp; but when they came to the edge of the Aramean camp, there was no one there at all. ⁶ For the Lord had caused the Aramean army to hear the sound of chariots and of horses, the sound of a great army, so that they said to one another, 'The king of Israel has hired the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Egypt to fight against us.'

⁷So they fled away in the twilight and abandoned their tents, their horses, and their donkeys, leaving the camp just as it was, and fled for their lives. ⁸When these leprous men had come to the edge of the camp, they went into a tent, ate and drank, carried off silver, gold, and clothing, and went and hid them. Then they came back, entered another tent, carried off things from it, and went and hid them.

⁹Then they said to one another, 'What we are doing is wrong. This is a day of good news; if we are silent and wait until the morning light, we will be found guilty; therefore let us go and tell the king's household.' ¹⁰So they came and called to the gatekeepers of the city, and told them, 'We went to the Aramean camp, but there was no one to be seen or heard there, nothing but the horses tied, the donkeys tied, and the tents as they were.' ¹¹Then the gatekeepers called out and proclaimed it to the king's household. ¹²The king got up in the night, and said to his servants, 'I will tell you what the Arameans have prepared against us. They know that we are starving; so they have left the camp to hide themselves in the open country, thinking, "When they come out of the city, we shall take them alive and get into the city." ' ¹³One of his servants said, 'Let some men take five of the remaining horses, since those left here will suffer the fate of the whole multitude of Israel that have perished already; let us send and find out.' ¹⁴So they took two mounted men, and the king sent them after the Aramean army, saying, 'Go and find out.' ¹⁵So they went after them as far as the Jordan; the whole way was littered with garments and equipment that the Arameans had thrown away in their haste. So the messengers returned, and told the king.

¹⁶Then the people went out, and plundered the camp of the Arameans. So a measure of choice meal was sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, according to the word of the LORD. ¹⁷Now the king had appointed the captain on whose hand he leaned to have charge of the gate; the people trampled him to death in the gate, just as the man of God had said when the king came down to him. ¹⁸For when the man of God had said to the king, 'Two measures of barley shall be sold for a shekel, and a measure of choice meal for a shekel, about this time tomorrow in the gate of Samaria', ¹⁹the captain had answered the man of God, 'Even if the LORD were to make windows in the sky, could such a thing happen?'

And he had answered, ‘You shall see it with your own eyes, but you shall not eat from it.’ ²⁰It did indeed happen to him; the people trampled him to death in the gate.

2 Kings 6:24-25, 7:3-End

The Magnificat

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D by Charles Wood (1866–1926)

The Second Lesson

¹After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. ²There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, ³and, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together—by trade they were tentmakers. ⁴Every sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks. ⁵When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with proclaiming the word, testifying to the Jews that the Messiah was Jesus. ⁶When they opposed and reviled him, in protest he shook the dust from his clothes and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.”

⁷Then he left the synagogue and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God; his house was next door to the synagogue. ⁸Crispus, the official of the synagogue, became a believer in the Lord, together with all his household; and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul became believers and were baptized. ⁹One night the Lord said to Paul in a vision, “Do not be afraid, but speak and do not be silent; ¹⁰for I am with you, and no one will lay a hand on you to harm you, for there are many in this city who are my people.” ¹¹He stayed there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

¹²But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews made a united attack on Paul and brought him before the tribunal. ¹³They said, “This man is persuading people to worship God in ways that are contrary to the law.”

¹⁴Just as Paul was about to speak, Gallio said to the Jews, “If it were a matter of crime or serious villainy, I would be justified in accepting the complaint of you Jews; ¹⁵but since it is a matter of questions about words and names and your own law, see to it yourselves; I do not wish to be a judge of these matters.” ¹⁶And he dismissed them from the tribunal.

Acts 18:1-16

The Nunc Dimittis

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D by Charles Wood (1866–1926)

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and merciful God, of whose only gift it cometh that thy faithful people do unto thee true and laudable service: Grant, we beseech thee, that we may so faithfully serve thee in this life, that we fail not finally to attain thy heavenly promises; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anthem

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying, behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

from Revelation 21

Music by E.L. Bainton (1889-1956)

The Hymn

**The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
the darkness falls at thy behest;
to thee our morning hymns ascended,
thy praise shall sanctify our rest.**

**We thank thee that thy Church unsleeping,
while earth rolls onward into light,
through all the world her watch is keeping,
and rests not now by day or night.**

**As o'er each continent and island
the dawn leads on another day,
the voice of prayer is never silent,
nor dies the strain of praise away.**

**The sun that bids us rest is waking
your children 'neath the western sky,
and hour by hour fresh lips are making
thy wondrous doings heard on high.**

**So be it, Lord; thy throne shall never,
like earth's proud empires, pass away;
thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,
till all thy creatures own thy sway.**

Words by John Ellerton (1826-1893)

Tune CP 22 St Clement C.C. Scholefield (1839-1904)

The Organ Voluntary

Allabreve in D Major BWV 589 by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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Thank you for your support.



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Alternatively, you can contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team led by Sarah Price by phoning 024 7652 1345 or emailing safeguarding@coventry.anglican.org

JOINING OUR CHOIRS

Boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 11 are welcome to audition for our Cathedral Choir. Do you know a child who loves to sing?

There are many benefits to joining the choir – new friends, a free, world-class music education, choir pay, singing services and at special events in amazing places, choir tours, broadcasts, recordings and social events too. If you or someone you know might be interested in joining the choir, please be in touch with the Acting Director of Music to arrange a meeting. Email:

Music.Administrator@CoventryCathedral.org.uk

Our Cathedral Chamber Choir

Our Cathedral Chamber Choir sing voluntarily at various services throughout the year and are currently open for auditions on all voice parts. Rehearsals usually take place on occasional Thursday evenings in the lead up to a service. If you would be interested in joining our Chamber Choir, please get in touch with Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music, for an audition.

Email: Liam.Condon@coventry.anglican.org

Coventry Cathedral Chorus

The Chorus is one of the Midlands' leading amateur choirs, bringing together around 60 singers to perform a wide range of choral music in and beyond Coventry. Founded shortly after the consecration of Coventry Cathedral in 1963, the Chorus continues a rich tradition of singing in notable venues across the UK and Europe.

Rehearsals take place at the Cathedral on Tuesday evenings, 7.15–9.30pm. New singers are always welcome. To find out more or arrange to attend a rehearsal, visit coventrycathedralchorus.com or

contact the Membership Secretary at membership@coventrycathedralchorus.com. Follow Coventry Cathedral Chorus on Facebook and @CovCathChorus on X.

COMMUNITY NEWS

CATHEDRAL PRAYER LIST

At the Cathedral, it is our privilege to pray for those who are unwell or going through a difficult time. Every Sunday, we remember together around 8-10 people who are part of the congregation who have requested our prayers. On weekdays, we pray for about 25 more. As I said, we are very happy to do this. However, every so often it is good to refresh the list. There may well be people who are no longer in need of our prayers. There may even be people that have forgotten they were ever on the prayer list! So if you or someone you know has been added to the prayer list at some point in the last year, could you confirm that you would like us to keep praying for that situation **by the end of August?** At that point we will review the list and remove people we haven't heard about. People can always be added again if their situation changes. And if you know of someone who would benefit from our prayers, again please let us know. You can email any information to kate.massey@coventry.anglican.org

CHILDRENS WORK AT THE CATHEDRAL

Thank you to everyone who expressed an interest in helping us start a children's group during our 10.30am Sunday service. We are so excited to begin offering age-appropriate faith activities for our younger worshippers and hope this will make the Cathedral a more welcoming space for families with children.

We are planning to start this group in September and so are beginning to safely recruit our Children's Group volunteers. We are mainly looking for Children's Group Helpers who will support group leaders in welcoming the children and keeping them safe. However, if you have some experience of leading children's groups and have some time and energy to spare, you might want to be a Children's Group Leader and so do speak to Sarah Raistrick or Kate if you wonder which role fits you best. Recruitment packs including role descriptions will be available at the Cathedral on Sunday mornings which will contain all the information you require. These are new roles in the Cathedral and all of the team will need to be safely recruited - even if you have already been safely recruited for another role.

However, if you have done the necessary safeguarding training in the past three years, you will not need to repeat this. All roles require an enhanced DBS with Barring (Children's List).

Do please pray for this new development in the life of our cathedral.

Baptism & Confirmation

Young people and adults who are interested in exploring Baptism and Confirmation are warmly invited to speak to Canon Nitano Muller. The next Confirmation Service will take place at Coventry Cathedral on Sunday 27 September at 4.00pm. Preparation sessions will be held at St Michael's House on *Thursday 17 September and Thursday 24 September, both at 7.00pm.*

If you would like to find out more or register your interest, please contact **Nitano.Muller@Coventry.Anglican.org**.

COMING SOON

Celebrating Lay Ministry

Saturday 5 September, 3pm

We warmly invite our whole Cathedral community, and especially our wonderful **lay volunteers**, to join us for our Lay Ministry Celebration Service next Saturday.

This is an opportunity to give thanks for the many ways in which lay people share in the life, worship, welcome and ministry of our Cathedral. Whether you serve regularly or simply want to celebrate and encourage those who do, come and join us as we give thanks for the gift of lay ministry among us.

Bells, Worship & Welcome

Next Sunday, 6 September, we are delighted to welcome members of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers to Coventry Cathedral.

The Council will be meeting in Rugby for it's AGM on Saturday 5 September, before joining us at the Cathedral on Sunday for worship.

There will also be a special peal of bells before and after the service, filling the Cathedral precinct with a very special kind of music!

Do come and give our visiting bell ringers a warm Coventry welcome as we worship together.

St Michael and All Angels

Tuesday 29 September | 6.45pm

We are delighted to mark our Patronal Festival of St Michael and All Angels with a special service that will be recorded live for BBC Radio 4. We warmly encourage members of our congregation to come and be part of this special occasion. Doors open at 6.15pm, and the congregation must be seated by 6.40pm, ready for the service and recording to begin promptly at 6.45pm.

Please note: **no late entry** will be possible once the recording has begun.

The service will subsequently be broadcast on BBC Radio 4 on Sunday 11 October at 8.10am.

Come and celebrate our patronal festival with us and help us make this a joyful and memorable occasion for our Cathedral community.

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*

