Evening Prayer
Sunday, 25th October, 2026
The Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to this service of Evening Prayer, led by the Reverend Su McClellan, Cathedral Associate Minster. Our preacher this evening is the Reverend Gillian Roberts.

Our organist this evening is John Wilderspin.

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.

Psalm 119:89-104

89. O Lord, thy word ◆
endureth for ever in heaven.

90. **Thy truth also remaineth from one generation to another ◆**
thou hast laid the foundation of the earth, and it abideth.

91. They continue this day according to thine ordinance ◆
for all things serve thee.

92**. If my delight had not been in thy law ◆**
I should have perished in my trouble.

93. I will never forget thy commandments ◆
for with them thou hast quickened me.

94**. I am thine, O save me ◆**
for I have sought thy commandments.

95. The ungodly laid wait for me to destroy me ◆
but I will consider thy testimonies.

96. **I see that all things come to an end ◆**
but thy commandment is exceeding broad.

97. Lord, what love have I unto thy law ◆
all the day long is my study in it.
98. **Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies ◆**
for they are ever with me.
99. I have more understanding than my teachers ◆
for thy testimonies are my study.
100. **I am wiser than the aged ◆**
because I keep thy commandments.
101. I have refrained my feet from every evil way ◆
that I may keep thy word.
102. **I have not shrunk from thy judgements ◆**
for thou teachest me.
103. O how sweet are thy words unto my throat ◆
yea, sweeter than honey unto my mouth.
104. **Through thy commandments I get understanding ◆**
therefore I hate all evil ways.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

The First Lesson

[1] Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. [2]Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. [3]Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. [4]See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. [5]See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

[6]Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;
[7]let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to
our God, for he will abundantly pardon. [8]For my thoughts are not your
thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. [9]For as the
heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your
ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. [10]For as the rain and the
snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they
have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to
the sower and bread to the eater, [11]so shall my word be that goes out
from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish
that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55:1-11

For The Magnificat

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord:
unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name:
make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might:
powers and dominions lay their glory by;
proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word:
firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore.

Words by Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)
Tune CP 362 Woodlands *Walter Greatorex (1877-1949)*

The Second Lesson

[14] Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee,
and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country.
[15]He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.
[16] When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he
went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He
stood up to read, [17]and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to
him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:
[18] 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
[19] to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'
[20]And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat
down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. [21]Then he
began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your
hearing.' [22]All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious
words that came from his mouth. They said, 'Is not this Joseph's son?'
[23]He said to them, 'Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb,
"Doctor, cure yourself!" And you will say, "Do here also in your home
town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum." ' [24]And he
said, 'Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's home
town. [25]But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time
of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up for three years and six months,
and there was a severe famine over all the land; [26]yet Elijah was sent to
none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. [27]There were
also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of
them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.' [28]When they heard this,
all in the synagogue were filled with rage. [29]They got up, drove him out
of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town
was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. [30]But he passed
through the midst of them and went on his way.

Luke 4:14-30

For The Nunc Dimittis

Lord bid your servant go in peace;
your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn,
this child so long foretold.
This is the Saviour of the world,
the Gentiles' promised light;
God's glory dwelling in our midst,
the joy of Israel.

Behold this child will pierce your heart,
his Word will be a sword,
a sign opposed to hearts concealed
and grace for heaven's adored.
Almighty Father, hear our cry
through Christ the only Son,
whom in the Spirit we adore
for ages without end.

Words by James J. Quinn (1919-2010)
Tune CP 469 Kingsfold *English folksong from English Country Songs (1893)*

The Collect of the Day

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace; that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing of Crosses of Nails

A Cross of Nails is given to new partners and friends of the Community of the Cross of Nails as a symbol of their sharing together with us in the ministry of reconciliation, and to new ICONS schools.

The minister blesses the Crosses of Nails with these words

Eternal God, you have come among us in Christ to reconcile the world to yourself, and have entrusted us with the ministry of reconciliation. Strengthen all who work for the healing of conflict and pain amongst your human family. Bless ✠ these Crosses of Nails and all those at
Evangelische Zwölf Apostel Kirchengemeinde, Berlin,
Kirchengemeinde St Wilhadi, Stade,
Bremische Evangelische Kirche, Bremen,
and Marktkirche, Hannover,
who, inspired by the Cross of Nails, bear witness to the grace and truth of your crucified and risen Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

In the name of God,
who has created all people for friendship with himself;
in the name of Jesus Christ,
who commanded us to love our enemies;
in the name of our Lord the Spirit,
who rescues and restores us in peace;
we send these Crosses of Nails to
Evangelische Zwölf Apostel Kirchengemeinde, Berlin,
Kirchengemeinde St Wilhadi, Stade,
Bremische Evangelische Kirche, Bremen,
and Marktkirche, Hannover,
as a symbol of our partnership in the work of reconciliation;
for the glory of God
and the coming of his kingdom of justice and peace.
Amen.

The Hymn

Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing,
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, thy love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace;
O refresh us,
travelling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give, and adoration,
for thy gospel's joyful sound;
may the fruits of thy salvation
in our hearts and lives abound;
may thy presence
with us evermore be found.

Words by John Fawcett (1740-1817)
Tune CP 503 Alleluia, Dulce Carmen *Essay on the Church Plain Chant (1782)*

The Organ Voluntary

Organ Sonata No. 7 in F minor, Op. 127 Finale. Grave - Vivo - Fuga. Moderato
by Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)

If you would like to make a one-off donation to the Cathedral via your phone, or set up a recurring donation, please use the QR code below. There are also contactless donation points and collection boxes near the entrance. Thank you for your support.

Safeguarding at Coventry Cathedral

We are committed to the safeguarding of all people. For details, please visit https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/safeguarding

Our Safeguarding Team are:

Canon Nitano
Interim Chapter Safeguarding Lead

Jane Williams
Cathedral Community Safeguarding Officer

Jo Brake
Safeguarding Lead for Policy and Process

You can report a concern to our Safeguarding Team by emailing cathedral.safeguarding@coventrycathedral.org.uk or phoning 02476 52 1360

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, 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

Welcome our new Archdeacons and Dean of Coventry

We look forward to welcoming our new Archdeacons and the Revd Canon Andrew Dodd as next Dean of Coventry at their forthcoming installation services:

Installation of Archdeacons

Saturday, 14th November at 3.30pm

Installation of the Dean of Coventry

Saturday, 28th November at 2pm

If you would like to attend either service, please sign up using the **Eventbrite link** shared via congregational email or add your name to the list with the Churchwardens. This will help us plan seating and hospitality. Come and be part of these important moments in the life of our Cathedral and Diocese!

COMING SOON

Mozart's Requiem

Sunday, 1st November at 3pm

Join us for a special service commemorating the faithful departed. All Souls is a time to remember those we have loved and lost, give thanks for their lives and entrust them to God's eternal care. Mozart's moving *Requiem* offers a powerful expression of remembrance and Christian hope.

Names of departed loved ones may be added to the list with the Churchwardens or emailed to our Liturgical Assistant, Matthew Giblin, at Matthew.Giblin@Coventry.Anglican.org.

LORD MAYORS PEACE LECTURE 2026

You are cordially invited to the Coventry Peace Lecture to be given by John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry Cathedral 2013 to 2026, on the theme of **Is Reconciliation possible in the midst of Conflict? Coventry's Gift to the World.** The lecture takes place on 2nd November at Coventry Cathedral. Doors open 6.30pm for 7.00pm start. All welcome.

Save the date – Friends of Coventry Cathedral Event

On Friday 13th November, British-German historian, Katya Hoyer will be speaking at Coventry Cathedral at an event organised by the Friends of Coventry Cathedral. Katya is an award-winning author and has recently released an outstanding book on the Weimar Republic. It should be an excellent evening. The event is free (although a donation of £10 is suggested) and you must reserve a seat, so please book your place using the link provided in the congregational weekly email or email secretaryfriendscc@gmail.com

A SEASON OF RECONCILIATION 2026

"Reconciliation Now: How to speak with hope in a fractured world"

What does reconciliation look like now, in a world marked by war, division, injustice and uncertainty? How do we speak of hope when the world is on fire, and what does it mean to be a Church committed to peace while still wrestling with questions of belonging, truth and trust? This November, our annual Season of Reconciliation invites us to explore these questions through a four-part sermon series. Building on our distinctive vocation of reconciliation, we will consider not only the hope we inherit, but the work reconciliation demands of us today.

Sunday, 1st November | All Saints' Day
"The Courage to Remain"

We look to the saints who kept hope alive, amidst great personal and societal challenges. We explore the example the saints leave us and how that helps us to remain faithful in a fractured world?

Preacher: The Revd Su McClellan, Cathedral Associate Minister and Strategic Church Advocacy & Engagement Advisor at Embrace the Middle East.

Sunday, 8th November | Remembrance Sunday

(NOTE: Service starts at 10am)

"Courage to Work for Peace"

As conflicts continue around the world, how do we pursue peace when violence is still unfolding? Canon Kate will reflect on her experience of a recent visit to Odessa, Ukraine, and what faithful witness and solidarity looks like in the midst of war.

Preacher: The Reverend Canon Kate Massey, Canon for Arts and Reconciliation and Acting Dean.

Sunday, 15th November | Safeguarding Sunday
"The Courage to tell the Truth"

Exploring the correlation of truth-telling, accountability and deep listening in shaping a Safe Church. We reflect on the Church's calling to become a place of safe belonging and what continues to hinder that becoming.

Preacher: The Reverend Canon Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship & Welcome and Interim Chapter Safeguarding Lead.

Sunday, 22nd November | Christ the King Sunday
"Hope Has a Name"

As we celebrate Christ's reign, we ask what it means to recognise Christ in our neighbours, welcome the stranger and live towards God's vision of a reconciled world.

Preacher: The Reverend Matthew Arnold, Priest-on-Placement.

CONGREGATIONAL SKILLS SURVEY!

The St Michael's Committee would like to learn more about the skills, experience and interests of our congregation so we can better involve our congregation members in the ministry of our Cathedral. We would be so grateful if you would complete a quick survey! You can complete a paper copy of the survey available from the welcome desk, or you can complete the electronic copy attached to the congregational email. It should only take a few minutes!

RECONCILIATION BOOK GROUP
Thursday Afternoons in November
2pm at St Clare's at the Cathedral

Over the four weeks of our reconciliation season, Canon Kate will be convening a Reconciliation Book Group to study a classic text by Catholic theologian Robert J Schreiter *Reconciliation: Mission and Ministry in a Changing Social Order.* Each session will begin with an overview of that week's chapter followed by a conversation around its relevance to our own practices of reconciliation. Copies of this book are available online from Blackwells, from several second-hand book outlets or on Kindle If you are struggling to source a copy, but would still like to participate, please speak to Kate as we have a limited number of copies to loan.