

**The Cathedral Eucharist
Sunday, 23rd August, 2026
The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity**



The President today is the Reverend Canon Kate Massey, Acting Dean. The Deacon is John Lloyd, Cathedral Lay Reader. The Subdeacon is the Reverend Su McClellan, Cathedral Associate Minister, who is also preaching.

Our organist today 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.

Opening Hymn

**When morning gilds the skies,
my heart awaking cries,
may Jesus Christ be praised:
alike at work and prayer
to Jesus I repair;
may Jesus Christ be praised.**

**Whene'er the sweet church bell
peals over hill and dell,
may Jesus Christ be praised:
O hark to what it sings,
as joyously it rings,
may Jesus Christ be praised.**

**My tongue shall never tire
of chanting with the choir,
may Jesus Christ be praised:
this song of sacred joy,
it never seems to cloy,
may Jesus Christ be praised.**

**Does sadness fill my mind?
A solace here I find,
may Jesus Christ be praised:
or fades my earthly bliss?
My comfort still is this,
may Jesus Christ be praised.**

**The night becomes as day,
when from the heart we say,
may Jesus Christ be praised:
the powers of darkness fear,
when this sweet chant they hear,
may Jesus Christ be praised.**

**Be this, while life is mine,
my canticle divine,
may Jesus Christ be praised:
be this the eternal song
through ages all along,
may Jesus Christ be praised!**

German, 19th century

Translated by Edward Caswall (1814-1878)

Tune CP 619 Laudes Domini by Joseph Barnby (1838-1896)

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid
and giving us those good things
which we are not worthy to ask
but through the merits and mediation
of 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 First Reading

Read by Rob Halligan, representing the Cathedral community.

A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

^{1:8}Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. ¹⁰Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." ¹¹Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. ¹²But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. ¹³The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, ¹⁴and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

¹⁵The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, ¹⁶"When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." ¹⁷But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. ¹⁸So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" ¹⁹The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." ²⁰So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. ²¹And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. ²²Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

^{2:1}Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ²The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. ³When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

⁵The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, “This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,” she said. ⁷Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?” ⁸Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Yes.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother. ⁹Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, “because,” she said, “I drew him out of the water.”

Exodus 1:8-2:10

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

**We have a gospel to proclaim,
good news for all throughout the earth;
the gospel of a Saviour’s name:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.**

**Tell of his birth at Bethlehem
not in a royal house or hall
but in a stable dark and dim,
the Word made flesh, a light for all.**

**Tell of his death at Calvary,
hated by those he came to save,
in lonely suffering on the Cross;
for all he loved his life he gave.**

**Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
empty the tomb, for he was free.
He broke the power of death and hell
that we might share his victory.**

**Tell of his reign at God's right hand,
by all creation glorified.
He sends his Spirit on his church
to live for him, the Lamb who died.**

**Now we rejoice to name him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel-message we proclaim:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.**

Words by Edward J. Burns (b. 1938)

Tune CP 612 Fulda William Gardiner (1770-1853)

The Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' ¹⁴ And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ¹⁵ He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Matthew 16:13-20

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Offertory Hymn

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.

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.

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.

Words by George Herbert (1593-1633)
Tune CP 494 Gwalchmai J.D. Jones (1827-1870)

Communion Hymn

God is love, and where true love is, God himself is there.

**Here is Christ we gather, love of Christ our calling.
Christ, our love, is with us, gladness be his greeting.
Let us all revere and love him, God eternal.
Let us love Christ in sisters and in brothers all.**

God is love, and where true love is, God himself is there.

**When we Christians gather, members of one Body,
let there be in us no discord, but one spirit.
Banished now be anger, strife and every quarrel.
Christ, our God, be present always here among us.**

God is love, and where true love is, God himself is there.

**Grant us love's fulfilment, joy with all the blessed,
when we see your face, O Saviour, in its glory.
Shine on us, O purest Light of all creation,
be our bliss while endless ages sing your praises.**

God is love, and where true love is, God himself is there.

*Words from the Litany of Maundy Thursday, tr. James Quinn (1919-2010)
Tune CP 441 Ubi Caritas Mode vi 10th century or earlier*

Post Communion

**God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Closing Hymn

***Lift high the Cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.***

**Come, let us follow where our Captain trod,
our King victorious, Christ the Son of God:**

**Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
the hosts of God in conquering ranks combine:**

**Each new-born soldier of the Crucified
bears on his brow the seal of him who died:**

**This is the sign which Satan's legions fear
and angels veil their faces to revere:**

**Saved by this Cross whereon their Lord was slain,
the sons of Adam their lost home regain:**

**From north and south, from east and west they raise
in growing unison their song of praise:**

**O Lord, once lifted on the glorious Tree,
as thou hast promised, draw all unto thee:**

**Let every race and every language tell
of him who saves our souls from death and hell:**

**From farthest regions let them homage bring,
and on his Cross adore their Saviour King:**

**Set up thy throne, that earth's despair may cease
beneath the shadow of its healing peace:**

**For thy blest Cross which doth for all atone
creation's praises rise before thy throne:**

***Lift high the Cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.***

*Words by G.W. Kitchin (1827-1912) and M.R. Newbolt (1874-1956)
Tune CP 499 Crucifer S.H. Nicholson (1875-1947)*

Organ Voluntary

Prelude in G Minor by Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

We invite those joining us for worship to contribute to the costs of mission at the Cathedral. Please use the cash or contactless donation points, or the QR code here. This will take you to the Cathedral's page for the Parish giving Scheme which will enable you to make a one-off donation, or set up a regular gift should you wish. Thank you so much for your support and generosity.



If you would like to revisit this morning's sermon, please visit this page:
<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/worship-music/services/sermons>

We serve refreshments at the back of the Nave after this service, please do join us and if you are visiting, please introduce yourself to one of the ministers.

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, 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

Let's play this summer: Family events

Come and join us each Thursday during the Summer Holidays to explore different themes through classic children's books!

Thursday 27th August 10 - 12noon, Let's Play: Be Brave!
Games, crafts and much more, all around the topic of "being brave"

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.

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*