

The Cathedral Eucharist
Sunday, 4th October, 2026
The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity



The President today is the Gillian Roberts. The Deacon is John Lloyd, Cathedral Lay Reader. The Subdeacon is the Reverend Su McClellan, Cathedral Associate Minister, who is also 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 service setting today is Missa Brevis by Grayston Ives (b. 1948). 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

**Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the Head and corner-stone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the church in one,
Holy Sion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.**

**All that dedicated city,
dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pours perpetual melody,
God the One in Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.**

**To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
with thy wonted loving-kindness
hear thy servants as they pray,
and thy fullest benediction
shed within its walls always.**

**Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
what they ask of thee to gain,
what they gain from thee for ever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory
evermore with thee to reign.**

**Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three, and ever One,
consubstantial, co-eternal,
while unending ages run.**

*Words from 7th-8th century Latin
translated by J.M. Neale (1818-1866)*

*Tune CP 208 Westminster Abbey adapted from an anthem by Henry Purcell
(1659-1695)*

The Collect

**Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
through 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 Anandhi Ramar, representing the Phoenix Club and the Cathedral Community.

A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

¹ Then God spoke all these words: ² I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³ you shall have no other gods before me. ⁴ You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁷ You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸ Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labour and do all your work.

¹² Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³ You shall not murder. ¹⁴ You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵ You shall not steal. ¹⁶ You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. ¹⁷ You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

¹⁸ When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, ¹⁹ and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die."

²⁰ Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Speak, Lord, for your servant hears;
you have the words of eternal life.

1 Samuel 3:9; John 6:68

The Gospel Reading

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

³³ 'Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance." ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' ⁴¹They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.'

⁴² Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"?'

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.'

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Matthew 21:33 - End

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Offertory Hymn

**Now thank we all our God,
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.**

**O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore,
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.**

Words by M. Rinkart (1586-1649)

translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

Tune CP 530 Nun Danket Later form of melody by J. Crüger (1598-1662)

Harmony chiefly from F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy Lobgesang (1840)

Anthem

Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors,
and the King of glory shall come in.
Who is this King of glory?
The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord mighty in battle.
Who is this King of glory?
The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory.

*Words from Psalm 24:7 - 10
Music by Liam Condon (b. 1997)*

Communion Hymn

**Author of life divine
who hast a table spread,
furnished with mystic wine
and everlasting bread,
preserve the life thyself hast given,
preserve the life thyself hast given,
and feed and train us up for heaven.**

**Our needy souls sustain
with fresh supplies of love,
till all thy life we gain,
and all thy fullness prove,
and strengthened by thy perfect grace,
and strengthened by thy perfect grace,
behold without a veil thy face.**

*Words by Charles Wesley (1707-1788)
Tune CP Rhosymedre by John Edwards (1805-1885)*

Post Communion

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast:
for here we receive you,
here the memory of your passion is renewed,
here our minds are filled with grace,
and here a pledge of future glory is given,
when we shall feast at that table where you reign
with all your saints for ever.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

**Firmly I believe and truly
God is Three and God is One;
and I next acknowledge duly
manhood taken by the Son.**

**And I trust and hope most fully
in that manhood crucified;
and each thought and deed unruly
do to death, as he has died.**

**Simply to his grace and wholly
light and life and strength belong,
and I love supremely, solely,
him the holy, him the strong.**

**And I hold in veneration,
for the love of him alone,
Holy Church as his creation,
and her teachings as his own.**

**Adoration ay be given,
with and through the angelic host,
to the God of earth and heaven,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

*Words by Saint John Henry Newman (1801-1890)
Tune CP 426 Halton Holgate William Boyce (1711-1779)*

Organ Voluntary

Paeon by Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)

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 below. 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, 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

Preparing the Deanery for Andrew and Louise

As we prepare the Deanery for the arrival of our Dean-Designate, Canon Andrew Dodd and his family in November, there is some work to be done to make their new home ready.

If you are able to make a contribution towards the cost of this work, every gift would be greatly appreciated. If you are a handyman or have practical skills and would **rather lend a hand** with the work itself, we would be especially grateful for help with painting and decorating.

Please speak to Nitano or Kate if you would like to contribute or help practically.

Thank you for helping us prepare a warm welcome for Andrew and Louise and the family!

Children's Work at the Cathedral

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. during our 10.30am Sunday service

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).

Bring your own mug!

If you're a regular with us, please consider bringing your own reusable mug for coffee after the service. It's a small way we can care for creation, reduce waste and be good stewards of the resources entrusted to us. **Your mug. Our coffee. A little less waste.**

Tree Planting in Memory of Pauline Lawrence

Following the morning service on Sunday 11 October, we will gather in the Unity Garden to plant a tree in memory of Pauline Lawrence, who died last year. Pauline was a beloved member of the cathedral congregation.

All are warmly invited to join us for this simple act of remembrance and thanksgiving for Pauline's life.

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*