

The Cathedral Eucharist

Sunday, 25th October 2026

The Last Sunday after Trinity



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

Our Cantor today is Matthew Horspool, and our organist is John Wilderspin.

The service setting today is the Communion Service by John Merbecke (1510-1585).

*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

**Through all the changing scenes of life,
in trouble and in joy,
the praises of my God shall still
my heart and tongue employ.**

**O magnify the Lord with me,
with me exalt his name;
when in distress to him I called,
he to my rescue came.**

**The hosts of God encamp around
the dwellings of the just;
deliv'rance he affords to all
who on his succour trust.**

**O make but trial of his love:
Experience will decide
how blest are they, and only they,
who in his truth confide.**

**Fear him, ye saints, and you will then
have nothing else to fear;
make you his service your delight,
your wants shall be his care.**

**To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
the God whom we adore,
be glory, as it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.**

*Words by Nahum Tate (1652-1715) and Nicholas Brady (1659-1726)
Tune CP 604 Wiltshire George Smart (1776-1867)*

The Collect

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast
the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
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 Richard Parker, representing the Cathedral Guides and the
Community.*

A Reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians.

¹ You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you
was not in vain, ²but though we had already suffered and been
shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our
God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition.

³For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or
trickery, ⁴but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted

with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. ⁵As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; ⁶nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, ⁷though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. ⁸So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

We say together;

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Those who love me will keep my word,
and my Father will love them,
and we will come to them.**

Alleluia!

John 14:23

The Gospel Reading

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴²“What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?”

They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴“The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet””? ⁴⁵If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Matthew 22:34-End

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Offertory Hymn

**The God of love my Shepherd is,
and he that doth me feed;
while he is mine and I am his,
what can I want or need?**

**He leads me to the tender grass,
where I both feed and rest;
then to the streams that gently pass,
in both I have the best.**

**Or if I stray, he doth convert,
and bring my mind in frame,
and all this not for my desert,
but for his holy Name.**

**Yea, in death's shady black abode
well may I walk, not fear;
for thou art with me, and thy rod
to guide, thy staff to bear.**

**Surely thy sweet and wondrous love
shall measure all my days;
and as it never shall remove
so neither shall my praise.**

Words by George Herbert (1593-1633)

based on Psalm 23

Tune CP 587 University Charles Collignon (1725-1785)

Communion Hymn

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.**

**King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture -
in the body and the blood -
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.**

**At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim with sleepless eye
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Lord most high.**

*Words from the Liturgy of St James, translated by G. Moultrie (1829-1885)
Tune CP 309 Picardy harmonised by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)*

Post Communion

God of all grace,
your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry
with the bread of his life
and the word of his kingdom:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your true and living bread;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.
Amen.

Closing Hymn

**Christ is our corner-stone,
on him alone we build;
with his true saints alone
the courts of heaven are filled:
on his great love
our hopes we place
of present grace
and joys above.**

**O then with hymns of praise
these hallowed courts shall ring;
our voices we will raise
the Three in One to sing;
and thus proclaim
in joyful song,
both loud and long,
that glorious name.**

**Here, gracious God, do thou
for evermore draw nigh;
accept each faithful vow,
and mark each suppliant sigh;
in copious shower
on all who pray
each holy day
thy blessings pour.**

**Here may we gain from heaven
the grace which we implore;
and may that grace, once given,
be with us evermore,
until that day
when all the blest
to endless rest
are called away.**

*Words from pre-9th century Latin
translated by J. Chandler (1806-1876)
Tune CP 395 Harewood by S.S. Wesley (1810-1876)*

Organ Voluntary

*Organ Sonata No. 7 in F minor, Op. 127 Preludio: Allegro non troppo
by Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)*

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. 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. 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.