



# THE CHRISM EUCHARIST

*with the Reaffirmation of Ordination Commitment  
and the Blessing of the Oils*

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

**WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025**  
**12.00 NOON**

# WELCOME

This booklet contains all you will need to follow the service. Please ask a Steward if you would like a large-print copy. Members of the congregation are invited to join in the texts printed in **bold**.

The celebrant at this service is The Lord Bishop of Chichester, The Right Reverend Dr Martin Warner.

This service will be live-streamed and broadcast online via the Cathedral's website, YouTube channel and Facebook pages. Typically, services are made available for up to 48 hours, however this period may be longer for special recordings. For further information, please contact:

**[info@chichestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:info@chichestercathedral.org.uk)**

Photography, filming and audio recordings are not permitted during this service. Please ensure that mobile telephones are switched off or silenced.

An induction loop is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use this, please switch your hearing aid to 'T'.

Parents and caregivers are reminded that children remain in their care throughout this service and must not be left unattended or to wander around the Cathedral by themselves.

Toilets and baby-changing facilities can be accessed from the North Transept of the Cathedral. Children using these facilities must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

In the event of an emergency please follow the direction of the Vergers and Stewards.

**[www.chichestercathedral.org.uk](http://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk)**

# THE CHRISM EUCHARIST

At his Last Supper, on the eve of his death, Jesus gave his disciples 'a new commandment, that you love one another.' Maundy Thursday brings together a number of related themes: the sacrificial love of Jesus, the love of Christians for one another, the inauguration of the Eucharist and our participation in the royal priesthood of the church. Although for practical reasons we celebrate the Renewal of Ministerial Commitment and the Blessing of the Oils earlier in the week, we should remember its link with Maundy Thursday.

Because Christians as a whole are a priestly people, called 'to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ', this should not be an exclusive clerical service. Rather it should be an opportunity for all disciples of Jesus Christ to renew their commitment to serve him and proclaim the glorious Word of God. The Christian is called to make Christ known and wherever we are to bear witness to Christ in word and action. We are called to bear witness to Christ everywhere, to proclaim the wonderful works of God and to give glory to God through our lives.

'God calls his people to follow Christ and forms us into a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to declare the wonderful deeds of him who has called us out of darkness into his marvellous light... To serve this royal priesthood, God has given particular ministries.' These words from the Ordination service make it clear that clergy and lay people alike share in the one royal priesthood of Jesus Christ with its privilege and obligation to live and proclaim his Gospel.

At this Chrism Eucharist we are all invited to commit ourselves afresh to God's call to follow Christ as members of his royal priesthood. Our bishops, priests and deacons are invited to renew their ordination vows and promise to serve Christ and his people faithfully.

Let us then pray for one another and encourage each other in our various ministries.

# ORDER OF SERVICE

## ORDER OF PROCESSION

Verger

Choir

Crucifer and Acolytes

Deacon of the Gospel

Readers

Permanent Deacons

Priests of the Diocese

Cathedral Priest Vicar

College of Canons

Archdeacons

Dean and Chapter

Honorary Assistant Bishops

Suffragan Bishops

Deacons

Deacon of the Eucharist

Bishop of Chichester

Bishop's Chaplain

## THE GATHERING

*Please stand as the procession enters.*

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN



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

**Come, Christians, follow where our Saviour trod,  
o'er death victorious, Christ the Son of God:**

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

**Each new disciple of the Crucified  
is called to bear the seal of him who died:**

**Saved by the Cross whereon their Lord was slain,  
now Adam's children their lost home regain:**

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

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
as thou hast promised, draw us unto thee:

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:

Scared by the strain, the powers of darkness flee,  
and Christ is Lord, his Death is victory.

Armed with the Cross we fight the arduous fight,  
and vanquish Satan's wiles by Jesus' might.

So as we move together towards the end,  
Faith, Hope, and Charity divinely blend.

Where throned in Glory sits the Crucified,  
with whom is endless life because he died.

Then shall our song of triumph ever be,  
Praise to the Lord, who wrought that victory.

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

George William Kitchin (1827-1912)  
and Michael Robert Newbolt (1874-1956)

Crucifer  
Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947)

## THE GREETING

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*All*     **Amen.**

Jesus Christ has made us a kingdom of priests  
to serve his God and Father.

*All*     **Glory and kingship be his for ever and ever.**

Peace be with you

*All*     **and also with you.**

*The Bishop introduces the service.*

## PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.  
Our sins accuse us: we confess them to God.

Christ came in humility to share our lives: forgive our pride.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All*     **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ came with good news for all people: forgive our silence.  
Christ, have mercy.

*All*     **Christ, have mercy.**

Christ came in love to a world of suffering: forgive our self-centredness.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All*     **Lord, have mercy.**

May Almighty God have mercy upon us,  
forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

*All*     **Amen.**

*The choir leads the congregation in singing*

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

*Refrain:*



*Choir* Glory to God, glory in the highest.  
Peace to his people, peace on earth.

*All* **Glory to God, glory in the highest.**  
**Peace to his people, peace on earth.**

*Choir* Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father:

*All* **Glory to God, glory in the highest.**  
**Peace to his people, peace on earth.**

*Choir* We worship you,



*Choir* give you thanks,

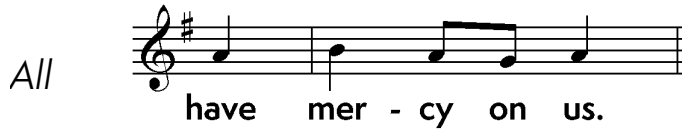


*Choir* praise you for your glory.

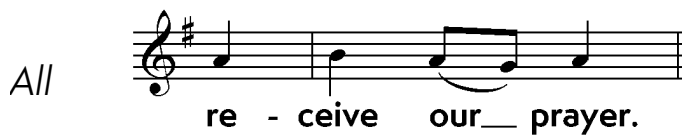
*All* **Glory to God, glory in the highest.**  
**Peace to his people, peace on earth.**



*Choir* Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us,



*Choir* You are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
receive our prayer,



*Choir* Glory to God, glory in the highest.  
Peace to his people, peace on earth.

*All* **Glory to God, glory in the highest.**  
**Peace to his people, peace on earth.**

*Choir* For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

*All* **Glory to God, glory in the highest.**  
**Peace to his people, peace on earth.**

*Choir* Amen.

*Coventry Gloria*  
*Peter Jones (1951-2016)*

## THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

*A period of silent prayer is kept.*

Heavenly Father,  
who anointed your Son Jesus Christ  
with the Holy Spirit and with power  
to bring to the world the blessings of your kingdom:  
anoint your Church with the same Holy Spirit,  
that we who share in his suffering and his victory  
may bear witness to the gospel of salvation;  
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.

*All*     **Amen.**

*Please sit.*

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Read by Jon Hart, ordinand in training*

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion – to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines; but you shall be called priests of the Lord, you shall be named ministers of our God; you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations, and in their riches you shall glory. Because their shame was double, and dishonour was proclaimed as their lot, therefore they shall possess a double portion; everlasting joy shall be theirs.

For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*     **Thanks be to God.**

*Isaiah 61: 1-9*

*Remain seated. The choir leads the congregation in singing*

## PSALM 23

*Response sung first by the choir, then repeated by the congregation:*



The Lord is my shep-herd; there is no - thing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.

*All* **The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort.

*All* **The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

*All* **The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

*All* **The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

*Music: Finton O'Carroll (1922-1981)*

## THE NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Read by Harri England, ordinand in training*

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*     **Thanks be to God.**

*James 5: 13-16a*

*Please stand.*

## HYMN



O for a closer walk with God,  
a calm and heavenly frame;  
a light to shine upon the road  
that leads me to the Lamb!

Return, O holy Dove, return,  
sweet messenger of rest;  
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,  
and drove thee from my breast.

The dearest idol I have known,  
whate'er that idol be,  
help me to tear it from thy throne,  
and worship only thee.

So shall my walk be close with God,  
calm and serene my frame;  
so purer light shall mark the road  
that leads me to the Lamb.

NEH 414  
William Cowper (1731-1800)

Caithness  
Melody from the Scottish Psalter (1635)

## THE GOSPEL READING

*The Deacon says*

The Lord be with you  
*All*     **and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
*All*     **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When Jesus 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, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: '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, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' 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. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
*All*     **Praise to you, O Christ.** *Luke 4: 16-21*

*Please remain standing until the Sermon has been introduced.*

## SERMON

*The Lord Bishop of Chichester*  
*The Right Reverend Dr Martin Warner*

## THE REAFFIRMATION OF ORDINATION COMMITMENT

*The congregation remains seated.*

*The Bishop of Chichester invites priests and deacons to stand and says to them:*

My brothers and sisters, at his Last Supper, our Lord Jesus Christ gave his disciples a new commandment, that they should love one another, and he prayed that they might be one. He gave them an everlasting sign of his own love, in the sacrament of his body and blood. He consecrated himself to his Father's service, to be the high priest of the New Covenant.

Today, as we approach the threshold of the paschal mystery, I invite priests and deacons to renew the commitment they made at their ordination, and to offer themselves anew in Christ's service.

At your ordination you accepted the yoke of Christ for love of the Lord and his Church. Are you resolved to unite yourself more closely to Christ and to become more like him, joyfully sacrificing your own pleasures and ambitions to bring his peace and love to your brothers and sisters?

*Clergy:* **I am, with the help of God.**

With the example of the Lord who washed his disciples' feet, will you be faithful in serving the needs of others and diligent in caring for those in need and trouble, in strengthening the faithful and in searching out the indifferent and the lost?

*Clergy:* **I will, by the grace of God.**

Will you fashion your life according to the pattern of Christ, that you may be a true pastor, by word and example, to the people among whom you serve?

*Clergy:* **I will, by the grace of God.**



Will you encourage the priestly ministry of all the baptized, working in partnership with all whom the Lord has given you, in building up the Church and the kingdom?

*Clergy:* **I will, by the grace of God.**

Will you be a faithful minister of the mysteries of God by leading the worship of his people with devotion and care, and by teaching the Christian faith with joy and conviction?

*Clergy:* **I will, by the grace of God.**

Will you continue to follow in the way of Christ, the head and shepherd of the Church of God, whose grace is sufficient to meet your need?

*Clergy:* **I will, by the grace of God.**

*Bishops who are present now stand and the Bishop of Chichester continues:*

As the High Priest and Shepherd of our souls Jesus Christ ever lives to intercede for us with God our Father. As Deacon, he gave his life as a ransom for many, liberating us into the freedom of his kingdom of justice and peace.

As your bishop(s) we commit ourselves afresh to the truth of his Gospel as the inspiration of our calling to be evangelists, stewards of the mysteries of God and living signs of his kingdom.

Pray that God will enlarge our sympathies with the abundance of his wisdom and love, that serving diligently in this household of faith, we may guide and encourage you in your life and ministry.

Pray that at the last we will all be presented blameless before the throne of grace, through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom, with the Father and the Holy Spirit belong glory and honour, worship and praise, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*All stand.*

## THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Led by Sarah Rodgers, Ian Tout and Annie Compton*

*The Bishop says*

As we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery, let us earnestly pray to God for those on the road to baptism and for all who seek life in Christ.

*First Intercessor:*

For the Church throughout the world,  
as she proclaims the death and resurrection of Christ,

*All*     **Lord, have mercy.**

For Martin our bishop,  
Ruth bishop of Horsham, Will bishop of Lewes,  
for bishops, priests and deacons and all who minister in Christ,  
and for all the holy people of God,

*All*     **Lord, have mercy.**

For candidates for baptism in every congregation,

*All*     **Lord, have mercy.**

*Second Intercessor:*

For all peoples on earth, filled with the Spirit of God,

*All*     **Lord, have mercy.**

For justice, mercy, and peace throughout the world,

*All*     **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those in danger and need:  
the sick and the suffering,  
prisoners, refugees and their families,  
the hungry, homeless, and oppressed,  
*All*     **Lord, have mercy.**

*Third Intercessor:*  
For the dying and those who have died,  
*All*     **Lord, have mercy.**

For our families, friends, and companions,  
and for all those we love,  
*All*     **Lord, have mercy.**

Lifting our voices with all creation,  
with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints,  
let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God  
through Christ our Lord.  
*All*     **To you, O Lord.**

*The Bishop prays:*

Eternal God,  
who sent your anointed Son among us  
to bring good news to all peoples,  
receive the prayers we offer this day  
and grant that those who receive these holy oils  
may join him in his death and resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*All*     **Amen.**

## THE BLESSING OF THE OILS

*Remain standing as the deacons bring the oils to be blessed. The choir sings*

O Redemptor, sume carmen  
temet concinentium.

*O Redeemer, hear the song  
of those who sing before you now.*

Audi Judex mortuorum,  
una spes mortalium,  
audi voces proferentur  
donum pacis prævium.

*Hear, O Judge of those departed,  
only hope of mortal life,  
hear, the voices bring to you a gift,  
a harbinger of peace.*

Arbor foeta alma luce  
hoc sacrandum protulit:  
fert hoc prona praesens turba  
Salvatori saeculi.

*Once the olive tree, in sunshine,  
brought forth fruit for hallowing:  
now the crowd presents its oil  
before the Saviour of the world.*

Stans ad aram imo supplex  
infulatus pontifex,  
debitum persolvit omne,  
consecrato Chrismate.

*At the altar deeply pleading  
suppliant stands the vested priest,  
and with consecrated Chrism  
sets us free from every sin.*

Consecrare tu dignare,  
Rex perennis patriae,  
hoc olivum, signum vivum,  
jura contra daemonum.

*King of our eternal homeland,  
vouchsafe now to consecrate  
oil of olive, living symbol,  
shield against the devil's might.*

*Venantius Fortunatus (530-609)*

*The Bishop says*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
*All*     **who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.**

*A deacon presents the oil for the sick, saying*

The oil for the anointing of the sick and dying.

*The Bishop says*

Lord God, loving Father,  
you bring healing to the sick through your Son Jesus Christ.  
Hear us as we pray to you in faith,  
and send the Holy Spirit, our Helper and Friend,  
that this oil, which nature has given to serve our needs,  
may be a sign of your healing grace.  
May your blessing come upon all who are anointed with this oil,  
that they may be freed from pain and illness  
and made well again in body, mind, and soul.  
Father, may this oil be blessed for our use  
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you for ever and ever.

*All*     **Amen.**

*A deacon presents the oil of the catechumens, saying*

The oil for the signing of the cross at baptism.

*The Bishop says*

Lord God, protector of all who believe in you,  
bless this oil and give wisdom and strength  
to all who are anointed with it in preparation of their baptism.  
Bring them to a deeper understanding of the gospel,  
help them to accept the challenge of Christian living,  
and lead them to the joy of new birth  
in the family of your Church.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

*All*     **Amen.**

*A deacon presents the oil of chrism, saying*

The oil of chrism for anointing at confirmation and ordination.

*The Bishop sings*

Father, we thank you for the gifts you have given us in your love:  
we thank you for life itself and for the many gifts  
that strengthen and enrich it.

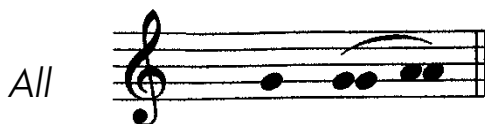
In the Old Covenant you made this oil a sign of consecration,  
and when the fullness of time had come  
you brought that mystery to perfection  
in the life of our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son.

In his suffering and death he offered a full, perfect  
and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.  
He revealed the resurrection by rising to new life.  
He sent your Spirit to fill the Church  
with every gift needed to complete your saving work.

This holy oil is a sign of your love for your people  
and of your will that they should have life in abundance.  
By anointing them with the Spirit,  
you strengthen your people and transform them  
into the likeness of Christ your Son,  
giving them a share in his royal, priestly, and prophetic work.

And so, Father, by the power of your love,  
make this mixture of oil and perfume a sign of your blessing.  
Pour out the gifts of your Holy Spirit  
on our brothers and sisters who will be anointed with it.  
Let the splendour of holiness shine on the world  
from every place and thing signed with this oil.

Above all, Father,  
we pray that through this sign of your anointing  
you will grant increase to your Church  
until it reaches the eternal glory  
where you, Father, will be all in all,  
together with Christ your Son,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
for ever and ever.



**A - men.**

# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

## THE PEACE

*The Bishop says*

Christ is our peace.  
He has reconciled us to God in one body by the Cross.  
We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
*All*     **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*When exchanging the Peace, please respect others' personal boundaries.*



## THE OFFERTORY HYMN

*As we sing, the bread and wine are brought to the altar.*



**The Church's one foundation  
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation  
by water and the word:  
from heaven he came and sought her  
to be his holy Bride,  
with his own blood he bought her,  
and for her life he died.**

**Elect from every nation,  
yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation  
one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
one holy name she blesses,  
partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses  
with every grace endued.**

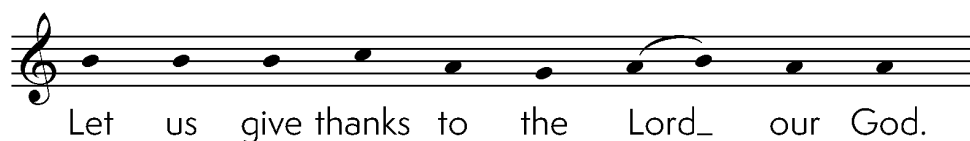
'Mid toil, and tribulation,  
and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation  
of peace for evermore;  
till with the vision glorious  
her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great Church victorious  
shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union  
with God the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion  
with those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we  
like them, the meek and lowly,  
on high may dwell with thee.

*NEH 484*  
*Samuel Stone (1839-1900)*

*Aurelia*  
*Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)*

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER



It is indeed right and good  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
By the outpouring of your Holy Spirit  
you anointed him to be the servant of all  
and ordained that he should enter into your kingdom through suffering.  
And now he stands by us and pours out for our healing  
the oil of consolation and the wine of renewed hope.  
In your wisdom and love you anoint your holy people  
to be a royal priesthood,  
to share in Christ's suffering  
and to reveal his glory to the world.  
Therefore earth unites with heaven to sing a new song of praise;  
we too join with angels and archangels  
as they proclaim your glory without end:

*The choir sings*

## SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most High.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

*Missa Brevis  
William Walton (1902-1983)*

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues:*

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father,  
who, in your tender mercy,  
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;  
who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered  
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction  
for the sins of the whole world;  
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,  
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,  
and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,  
according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,  
in remembrance of his death and passion,  
may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

*All*     **Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,  
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,  
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension  
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
we offer you through him this our sacrifice  
of praise and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death,  
and through faith in his blood,  
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins  
and all other benefits of his passion.  
Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins,  
to offer you any sacrifice,  
yet we pray that you will accept this  
the duty and service that we owe.

Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,  
and fill us all who share in this holy communion  
with your grace and heavenly blessing;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever.



*Please remain standing.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*The Bishop invites the congregation to pray:*

All **Our Father,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Bishop breaks the consecrated bread and says*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

*All*     **Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

*The choir sings*

## AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
grant us thy peace.

*Missa Brevis  
William Walton (1902-1983)*

## GIVING OF COMMUNION

*The Bishop says*

Behold the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

*All*     **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*The Bishop and people receive communion. Please sit until directed by the Stewards.*

*Members of all Christian churches are welcome to receive communion. Please indicate if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please come to the communion station and bow your head.*

*After you have received communion, please try to maintain a prayerful silence.*

*During communion, the choir sings*

## THE MOTET

O sacrum convivium! in quo Christus sumitur:  
recolitur memoria passionis ejus:  
mens impletur gratia:  
et futurae gloriae nobis pignus datur.

*O sacred banquet! in which Christ is received:  
the memory of his Passion is renewed:  
the mind is filled with grace:  
and a pledge of future glory is given to us.*

*Antiphon to Magnificat, Corpus Christi*

*Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)*



*The following hymns may also be sung:*

## HYMN DURING COMMUNION



And now, O Father, mindful of the love  
that bought us, once for all, on Calvary's tree,  
and having with us him that pleads above,  
we here present, we here spread forth to thee  
that only offering perfect in thine eyes,  
the one true, pure, immortal sacrifice.

Look, Father, look on his anointed face,  
and only look on us as found in him;  
look not on our misusings of thy grace,  
our prayer so languid, and our faith so dim;  
for lo, between our sins and their reward  
we set the passion of thy Son our Lord.

And then for those, our dearest and our best,  
by this prevailing presence we appeal;  
O fold them closer to thy mercy's breast,  
O do thine utmost for their souls' true weal;  
from tainting mischief keep them white and clear  
and crown thy gifts with grace to persevere.

And so we come: O draw us to thy feet  
most patient Saviour, who canst love us still;  
and by this food, so awful and so sweet,  
deliver us from every touch of ill:  
in thine own service make us glad and free,  
and grant us nevermore to part from thee.

NEH 273  
William Bright (1824-1901)

Unde et memores  
W. H. Monk (1823-1889)

## HYMN DURING COMMUNION



Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:  
*all are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where prophets speak,  
and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek  
to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness  
and as symbol of God's grace;  
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:  
*all are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where love is found  
in water, wine and wheat:  
a banquet hall on holy ground,  
where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:  
*all are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger  
bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger:  
*all are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

***All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.***

*Sing Praise 176*

*Two Oaks  
Words and Music: Marty Haugen (b. 1950)*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*The Bishop says*

Let us pray.

*Please stand.*

Lord God almighty,  
you have given us fresh strength in these sacramental gifts.  
Renew in us the image of Christ crucified.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

*All*    **Amen.**

## THE SENDING OUT

### THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*The Bishop says*

The Lord be with you  
*All*     **and also with you.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
*All*     **who has made heaven and earth.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord,  
*All*     **now and for ever. Amen.**

Almighty God, who for the salvation of the human race  
gives to his people many gifts and ministries  
to the advancement of his glory,  
stir up the gifts of his grace,  
sustain each one of you in your own ministry;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you, and remain with you always.  
*All*     **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.  
*All*     **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN *during which the oils are carried in procession to be distributed*



Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,  
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,  
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,  
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for the church, as we recall our story,  
set free by grace while shaped by text and creed;  
help us today to glimpse again your glory,  
Lord of the church, our hungry spirits feed.

Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,  
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,  
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,  
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.

Lord, for our land, in this our generation,  
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;  
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,  
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

**Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,  
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;  
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,  
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.**

**Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,  
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;  
past put behind us, for the future take us,  
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.**

*Common Praise 81  
Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)  
v.2 by David Stone*

*Lord of the Years  
Michael Baughen (b. 1930)  
arranged by David Iliff (b. 1939)*

## CLOSING MUSIC

FINAL from SYMPHONY NO. 1

*Louis Vierne (1870-1937)*

*After the service, those who wish to collect oils for use in the parishes should proceed through to the Eastern Arm of the Cathedral, following the direction of the stewards. Each of the oils will be available at three dispensing positions.*

## **ORDER OF RECESSION**

Verger

Crucifer and Acolytes

Deacons carrying the Oils

Verger

Choir

Readers

Permanent Deacons

Priests of the Diocese

Cathedral Priest Vicar

College of Canons

Archdeacons

Dean and Chapter

Honorary Assistant Bishops

Suffragan Bishops

Deacons

Deacon of the Eucharist and Deacon of the Gospel

Bishop of Chichester

Bishop's Chaplain



# THE OILS

In the Old Testament the anointing of a person with oil had a particular religious significance as it set them apart for God either as a priest (*Exodus 30: 30-32*) or as king (*1 Samuel 10: 1; 16: 12-13; 2 Samuel 5: 3*). All Christian followers are people set apart, holy to the Lord; not for their own sakes but to serve God. Christian worship assimilated this Old Testament use of oil and it is appropriate during Holy Week as we reflect on Jesus, the Christ, the 'Anointed One', that the olive oils should be blessed and made available for our use.

Historically the oils were blessed because they were needed for initiation rites during the Easter celebrations. For centuries ministers during Holy Week have joined with their Bishop in preparation for the celebration of Jesus' Passion and Resurrection and received for their parishes the oils which are used in the Church's sacramental ministry.

The first oil is **the Oil of the Sick** for use in the Church's ministry of healing and wholeness, following the example of the Apostles (*Mark 6: 13*) and the teaching of James (*James 5: 14-15*): 'Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the Church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.' Oil soothes and heals and the Oil of the Sick blessed at this service is a sign of the Anointed One; those who are anointed with the oil receive the healing, saving power of the Messiah. The anointing of the sick is linked to the sacraments of baptism and confirmation as sickness and death itself are united to the passion and death of Jesus into whose life we are baptized and transformed into signs of hope.

**The Oil of Baptism** awaits the hundreds throughout the diocese who will be baptized into the life of Christ – making new Christians! We remember how in the gospels Peter acknowledged Jesus as 'the Christ' (*Mark 8: 29*), recognising him as the Lord's anointed (*Christos*, in Greek, *Messiah* in Hebrew). As Jesus had been anointed with an outpouring of the Holy Spirit at his baptism (*Acts 10: 38*) so from the earliest times, it became the Church's custom to trace the sign of the cross in oil (the Oil of Catechumens) on the heads of candidates for baptism, as a sign of their anointing with the Holy

Spirit in union with Christ. The New Testament speaks of the gift of the Holy Spirit as anointing (*1 John 2: 20; 2 Corinthians 1: 21-22*).

**The Oil of Chrism** has perfume and balsam added to make it fragrant. The oil is used for a variety of consecrations – confirmation, at the ordination of priests and bishops, and in the consecration of church buildings and altars. As priests and monarchs in the Hebrew scriptures were anointed with oil to set them apart for God's service (*Exodus 29: 7*) so the Chrism Oil is used at the ordination of priests of the New Covenant, and at confirmations, as a sign that candidates sealed with the Spirit confirm their place in the 'royal priesthood' of Christ and the Church (*1 Peter 2: 9*) – the 'kingdom and priests serving our God' (*Revelation 5: 10*).

These are some of the biblical and historical roots which help us in our understanding of the use of these oils in the Church's sacramental ministry: the Oil of the Sick, the Oil of the Catechumens and the Oil of Chrism that are blessed for our use at this Chrism Eucharist.

## THE USE OF THE OILS

At the end of the liturgy, the Oils are distributed to the clergy and other representatives of the parishes of the diocese. These oils replace those blessed last year and are used in the ministry of the Church throughout the coming year, especially at the baptisms and confirmations of Eastertide. They should be reverently kept in a secure place and be used only for the purposes for which they have been provided, by authorised ministers and according to approved rites. Further supplies are kept at the Palace in Chichester should more be needed during the year.