

CHICHESTER
CATHEDRAL

SUNG EUCHARIST

**ASCENSION DAY
THURSDAY 14TH MAY 2026
5.30PM**

For over 950 years, Chichester Cathedral has been a place of worship, welcome and community. Today, it costs us approximately £7,000 a day to maintain the Cathedral.

Chichester Cathedral does not receive any regular funding from government or from central church sources, and relies heavily on generous donations.

We kindly ask you to make a cash donation to the collection taken during this service.

Whatever you give, whether large or small, will help to secure the future of this Cathedral.

Gift Aid envelopes are available from the Stewards, which will enable us to reclaim an additional 25% of your donation from HMRC – please complete these before the collection.

If you do not have any cash, please scan the QR code below to donate online or tap to donate as you exit the Cathedral – our Stewards will be available to assist you.



Charity Name: Chichester Cathedral
Charity Number: 1205740

WELCOME

Welcome to Chichester Cathedral. We are delighted that you are joining our community in worship today. If you would like to learn more about our life here or would like to become more closely associated with this community, we encourage you to make yourself known to a member of the clergy after the service.

This booklet contains all you will need to follow the service. Please ask a Steward if you would like a large-print copy.

The celebrant at this service is the Dean, The Very Reverend Dr Edward Dowler, and the sung Mass Setting is the *Communion Service* by Philip Moore (b. 1943).

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

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

ORDER OF SERVICE

From 5.25pm, please maintain a prayerful silence in preparation for the service.

THE GATHERING

Please stand as the procession enters.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN



**Hail the day that sees him rise *Alleluia!*
glorious to his native skies; *Alleluia!*
Christ, awhile to mortals given, *Alleluia!*
enters now the highest heaven! *Alleluia!***

**There the glorious triumph waits; *Alleluia!*
lift your heads, eternal gates! *Alleluia!*
Christ hath vanquished death and sin; *Alleluia!*
take the King of glory in. *Alleluia!***

**See! the heaven its Lord receives, *Alleluia!*
yet he loves the earth he leaves: *Alleluia!*
though returning to his throne, *Alleluia!*
still he calls mankind his own. *Alleluia!***

Lord, though parted from our sight, *Alleluia!*
far above yon azure height, *Alleluia!*
grant our hearts may thither rise, *Alleluia!*
seeking thee beyond the skies. *Alleluia!*

There we shall with thee remain, *Alleluia!*
partners of thine endless reign; *Alleluia!*
there thy face unclouded see, *Alleluia!*
find our heaven of heavens in thee. *Alleluia!*

NEH 130

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)
and Thomas Cotterill (1779-1823)

Llanfair

Robert Williams of Anglesey (1781-1821)

THE GREETING

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

All **Amen.**

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Seeing we have a great high priest
who has passed into the heavens,
Jesus the Son of God,
let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith,
and make our confession to our heavenly Father.

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the Father:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, your word is a light to our path:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd,
leading us into everlasting life:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The president pronounces the Absolution:

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The choir sings

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

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;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

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.
Amen.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ
to have ascended into the heavens,
so we in heart and mind may also ascend
and with him continually dwell;
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 FIRST READING

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This,' he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Acts 1: 1-11

The choir sings

THE PSALM

O clap your hands together, all ye people: O sing unto God with the voice of melody.

For the Lord is high, and to be feared: he is the great King upon all the earth.

He shall subdue the people under us : and the nations under our feet. He shall choose out an heritage for us : even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.

God is gone up with a merry noise: and the Lord with the sound of the trump.

O sing praises, sing praises unto our God: O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.

For God is the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.

God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon his holy seat.

The princes of the people are joined unto the people of the God of Abraham: for God, which is very high exalted, doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.

Psalm 47

THE SECOND READING

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put

this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Ephesians 1: 15-23

THE GOSPEL READING

Please stand. The choir leads the Gospel Acclamation:



Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Go, make disciples of all the nations;
I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.

All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

When the Gospel is announced, the reader 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.**

Jesus said to the disciples, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Luke 24: 44-end

Please remain standing as the Gospel procession returns, until invited to sit.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Jessica Reid

Rector of Fishbourne and Apuldram; Rural Dean of Westbourne

THE NICENE CREED

Please stand.

All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please sit or stand. These responses are used:

All Lord, in your mercy or Lord, hear us.
hear our prayer. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

And at the end:

All Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

THE PEACE

Please stand.

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father'. Alleluia.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN

during which bread and wine are brought to the altar, and a cash collection is taken

Chichester Cathedral relies heavily on your generous donations. Whatever you give, whether large or small, helps us to maintain this special place and everything we offer. Other ways to donate are detailed at the front of this booklet.



**Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
first-begotten from the dead,
thou alone, our strong defender,
liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Jesu, true and living Bread!**

**Here our humblest homage pay we;
here in loving reverence bow;
here for Faith's discernment pray we,
lest we fail to know thee now.
Alleluia, Alleluia,
thou art here, we ask not how.**

Though the lowliest form doth veil thee
as of old in Bethlehem,
here as there thine angels hail thee,
Branch and Flower of Jesse's stem.
Alleluia, Alleluia,
we in worship join with them.

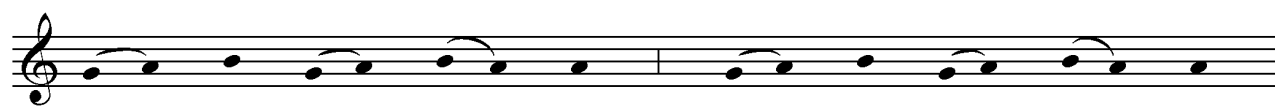
Paschal Lamb, thine Offering, finished
once for all when thou wast slain,
in its fullness undiminished
shall for evermore remain,
Alleluia, Alleluia,
cleansing souls from every stain.

Life-imparting heavenly Manna,
stricken Rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship thee, the Lamb who died,
Alleluia, Alleluia,
risen, ascended, glorified!

NEH 296
G. H. Bourne (1840-1925)

St Helen
George Martin (1844-1916)

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER



The_ Lord be_ with you *All* and_ al - so_ with you.



Lift___ up your_ hearts._ *All* **We lift them to_ the Lord.**



Let us give thanks to the Lord_ our God.



All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good,
our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ the King of glory.
Born of a woman,
he came to the rescue of our human race.
Dying for us,
he trampled death and conquered sin.
By the glory of his resurrection
he opened the way to life eternal
and by his ascension,
gave us the sure hope
that where he is we may also be.
Therefore the universe resounds with Easter joy
and with choirs of angels we sing for ever to your praise:

The choir sings

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues:

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.

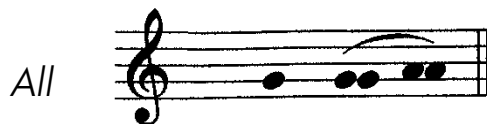
Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
All **Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
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.



A - men.

Please remain standing.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 president breaks the consecrated bread.

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.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

All **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The president 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

AGNUS DEI

Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world,
give us your peace.

THE MOTET

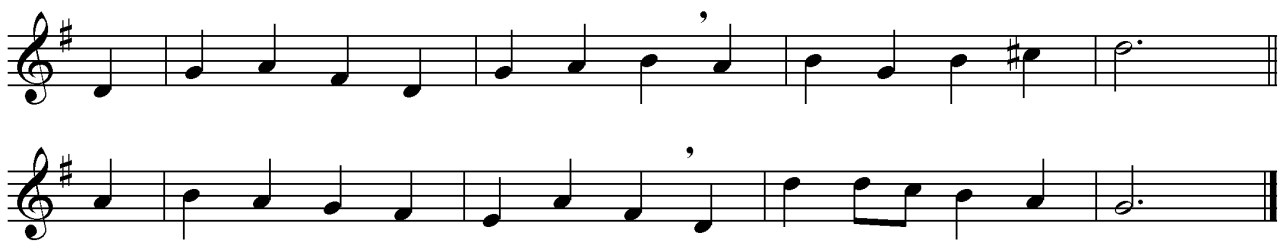
Psallite Domino,
qui ascendit super coelos coelorum ad orientem.
Alleluia.

*Sing ye to the Lord,
who mounteth above the heaven of heavens, to the east.
Alleluia.*

Psalm 68: 32-33

William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)

COMMUNION HYMN – *please remain seated.*



**The head that once was crowned with thorns
is crowned with glory now:
a royal diadem adorns
the mighty victor's brow.**

**The highest place that heaven affords
is his, is his by right,
the King of kings and Lord of lords,
and heaven's eternal light;**

**The joy of all who dwell above,
the joy of all below,
to whom he manifests his love,
and grants his name to know.**

To them the cross, with all its shame,
with all its grace is given:
their name an everlasting name,
their joy the joy of heaven.

They suffer with their Lord below,
they reign with him above,
their profit and their joy to know
the mystery of his love.

The cross he bore is life and health,
though shame and death to him;
his people's hope, his people's wealth,
their everlasting theme.

NEH 134
Thomas Kelly (1769-1854)

St Magnus
Jeremiah Clarke (c. 1673-1707)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Please stand.

God our Father,
you have raised our humanity in Christ
and have fed us with the bread of heaven:
mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual blessings,
we may set our hearts in the heavenly places;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

THE SENDING OUT

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

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

May the Spirit,
who set the Church on fire upon the day of Pentecost,
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ;
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. Alleluia, alleluia.
All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

HYMN



Rejoice, the Lord is King,
your Lord and King adore;
mortals, give thanks and sing,
and triumph evermore:
*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.*

Jesus, the Saviour, reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above:
*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.*

His kingdom cannot fail;
he rules o'er earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus given:
*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.*

**He sits at God's right hand
till all his foes submit,
and bow to his command,
and fall beneath his feet:
*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.***

NEH 443
Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Gopsal
George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

CLOSING MUSIC

TRANSPORTS DE JOIE *from* L'ASCENSION

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

Please remain standing as the procession departs, and then sit for a period of quiet contemplation as the organ voluntary is played.

All are then invited to continue our Ascensiontide celebrations with drinks in the Deanery Garden.

If you have not yet been able to make a donation, there will be an opportunity to donate either by cash or card as you leave (our Stewards will be available to assist you), or you can scan this QR code to donate online.



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The Book of Common Prayer (1662)

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