

# Magnificat

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SEPTEMBER 2018

# Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my saviour,  
for you, Lord, have looked with favour on your lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
You, the almighty, have done great things for me,  
and holy is your name.

You have mercy on those who fear you,  
from generation to generation.

You have shown strength with your arm  
and scattered the proud in their conceit,  
casting down the mighty from their thrones  
and lifting up the lowly.

You have filled the hungry with good things  
and sent the rich away empty.

You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,  
to remember the promise of mercy,  
the promise he made to our forebears,  
to Abraham and to his children for ever.

(from Luke 1)

Dear friends,

As I write, our Festival programme of concerts, exhibitions and services is drawing to a close. It is wonderful to have the opportunity to contribute to the celebration of the arts in Edinburgh during August, and **to showcase both established and emerging talent. I'm delighted that** much of that is available freely (although we always value any donations offered!), but I am also very aware that that creative offering is dependent on a huge team of volunteers who welcome performers and audience, staff the events, and ensure that everything runs smoothly. In particular I would like to thank Helen Hood and Sheila Kidney for co-ordinating that effort, and for the gracious welcome they offer to so many during this month.

Our thanks too, to our choir and Mr Ferguson, for their music making during the Festival. When most other Cathedral choirs are enjoying a summer break, they returned to offer sublime music – our departing choristers left us on a real high. Our thanks to them all.

Even as the Festival winds down, so our autumn activities begin. John McLuckie, our Vice-Provost, will lead the first of our monthly Sunday Introductions, after the morning service on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, speaking about the orthodox practise of centring prayer. On that day we shall also be celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Norwegian Church in Edinburgh with our guest preacher, Rev Tjebørn Holt.

Later in September I will be travelling with a number of members of the congregation to Iona for a retreat. That will focus particularly on the psalms as vehicles of prayer, taking us more deeply into that central vocation of the Cathedral, to be a place of prayer and encounter with God. The psalms bear witness to the variety of prayer – from ecstatic praise to deep lament – indicating the emotional range and depth of prayer as we discover more about ourselves, our neighbours and God.

Also in September, the Cathedral plays host to the Edinburgh **Interfaith Association's annual Peace Service**, on September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. This significant occasion brings together people from many of the

different religious traditions resident and worshipping in Edinburgh, witnessing to their common desire and search for peace. Please do come and join them to hear something of those understandings of peace, and to meet and welcome our visitors.

At the end of September, our new curate, Andy Philip, is starting work with us. Please do join him, and his family, on September 30<sup>th</sup> at 3.30pm as he is ordained to the diaconate.

My thanks to the many of you who have donated so generously to our Organ appeal. As many of you will know, the work on the organ has now been timetabled to happen from September 2019 – July 2020. This is a year later than originally planned, which does give us a little more time **to raise the £500,000 needed to complete this major overhaul. I'm** delighted that close to £300,000 has already been raised. You will find details in this magazine of an Organ concert on October 12<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm, part of the drive to raise the remaining amount. Please do invite anyone you think might be interested to hear both what our magnificent organ is capable of, and why the overhaul is needed at this time.

Along with this magazine, many of you will receive a letter from me **outlining the current state of the Cathedral's finances, with an appeal to** consider your own level of giving. As our programme of summer and autumn activities bears witness, the Cathedral continues to encourage us all on the journey inwards – in prayer and faith – and in the journey outward – engaging with the city and world around us. That dual vocation depends on the dedication and help of many people, volunteering time as well as financial support. For that we are immensely grateful. I would ask you to consider the letter prayerfully and help us ensure that the **Cathedral's vibrant witness continues to grow, as we seek to embody our** vision of the Cathedral being a place *where all are nurtured in faith and hope and love: through transforming encounter with God in word, music and beauty, and with one another in the warmth of welcome, the depth of theological conversation and in generous action for our community and city.*

With every blessing,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

# Aspects of Cathedral Life

Our next session will be on September 27th when Carole Barclay will be telling us about the Pastoral Link Visitors (PLV), who deliver Cathedral magazines and play a very important part in the Cathedral's work in staying in touch with members of the congregation, particularly those who are housebound. Carole will also tell us about her experience of receiving Maundy money from the Queen earlier this year. We will start at 2.30pm with tea and coffee in the Chapter House, as usual. All welcome.

**The sessions are free and open to all. You don't have to sign up – just come along when you can.**

More information from the Cathedral Office.

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

Selah Alleluia Orhobor Beckles

Claire Wallace

James Elwyn Frederick Johnson

### Marriage

Philip Cowling & Christine Steele

**Robert Martin & Olga Nędza**

#### Contact details

**Please sign me up for details of the Cathedral's activities.**

Name:

Email address:

- Please send me the weekly notices on email

Please return this slip to the Cathedral office, or email details to [office@cathedral.net](mailto:office@cathedral.net). The Cathedral will only use your email address to contact you about Cathedral notices, and will never divulge your email address to third parties.



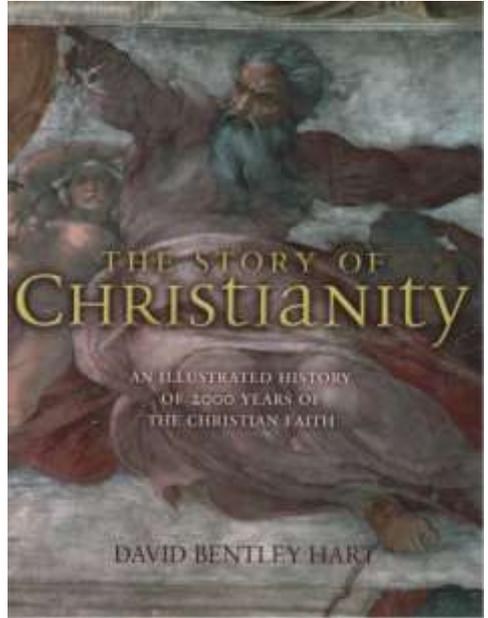
# ORGAN GALA 2018

On 12th October at 7pm the Cathedral will host an Organ Gala concert, which will be a celebration of the magnificent instrument we are so privileged to enjoy here at St Mary's. Whilst the primary function of our 'Father' Willis organ is a liturgical one, this concert will be a rare opportunity to experience some of its other features: playing orchestral transcriptions, working in collaboration with other instruments and singers, organ duets... or maybe trios... or maybe even more! The evening will feature a broad variety of music played by a roster of distinguished Edinburgh organists past and present, and the audience will have a bird's eye view of what goes on at the console courtesy of a big screen projection. The Gala will also be an occasion for us to show our appreciation to everyone who has already donated so generously to the Organ Appeal, and offers a chance to bid a fond farewell to the organ before its removal for a full restoration by Harrison and Harrison next year. Seating is unreserved, entry is free and we would be delighted to see a plentiful crowd! Enquiries to the Music Department via the Cathedral Office.



# Cathedral Book Group

Cathedral Book Group will discuss *The Story of Christianity: A history of 2,000 years of the Christian faith* by David Bentley Hart when it meets next on Tuesday 4 September, 8pm.



## **“A distinguished theologian presents**

a history of 2,000 years of the Christian faith, presented in 50 short chapters, each focusing on a critical facet of Christian history or theology, and each amplified by timelines and quotations, this magisterial account does full justice to the range of Christian tradition, belief, and practice—Eastern

Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Anglican, Presbyterian, Evangelical, Coptic, Chaldean, Ethiopian Orthodox, Armenian Orthodox, and Malankaran, to name but a few of the many possibilities. From the persecutions of the early church to the papal–imperial conflicts of the Middle Ages, from the religious wars of 16th- and 17th- century Europe to the challenges of science and secularism in the modern era, and from the ancient Christian communities of Africa and Asia to the “house churches” of contemporary China, this sequence of essays focusing on critical “moments” in the religion triumphantly captures the **heterogeneous richness of Christian history.”**

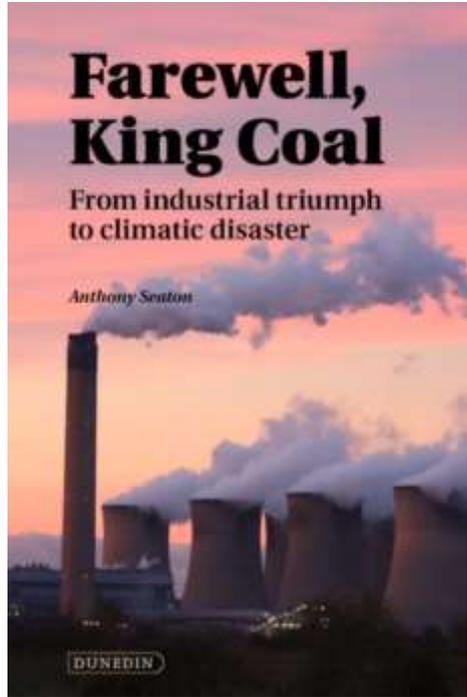
Everyone is most welcome at these meetings, as a regular attender or to discuss one particular book. Further information from the Cathedral Office .

# Book Launch

**Professor Anthony Seaton's** new book, called "Farewell King Coal; from industrial triumph to climatic disaster", will be released at a Book Launch event in the Song School, on November 5 at 6.30pm. Email [office@cathedral.net](mailto:office@cathedral.net) if you would like to attend.

When the last deep coal mine in Britain closed in 2016 it marked the end of the most transformative era in the history of mankind. In writing this account of the rise and decline of the coal industry and its effects on the health of the miners, of those who worked with coal products and of almost all of us who have breathed in the pollution from its combustion, Professor Seaton points to the often hidden adverse consequences of transformative technologies. He also traces the early history of the discoveries that led to the concept of man-made climate change and discusses the converging threats to civilisation from unregulated technological advance.

Professor Seaton has worked as a chest physician and environmental medicine academic in West Virginia, Cardiff, Edinburgh and Aberdeen. He has been involved in research into lung diseases and air pollution for most of his career. His other publications include several medical textbooks and many popular essays in the Scottish Review.



# BBC Broadcast

Our broadcast evensong from Wednesday 15 August is available to listen to on iPlayer until September 18, with a fixed version of the recording (with no transmission interference). The choir was in fine **voice, so it's worth a listen if you couldn't catch it live!**



## Bereavement Support Group

First Friday of the month – 7<sup>th</sup> September; 5<sup>th</sup> October; 2<sup>nd</sup> November; 7<sup>th</sup> December: 10:30 – 12:00 The Lounge, Annan House (Palmerston Place Church)

Whether you have been bereaved recently or some time ago, this group will offer an opportunity to share experiences and gain support from others who are in a similar situation. We will explore ways of coping with the challenges – both big and small. Everyone is welcome. The group will operate on a drop-in basis, so please come as and when you are able.

Further information: [marion@cathedral.net](mailto:marion@cathedral.net)

# Light a candle

God of justice,  
you call us to stand together,  
to walk side by side,  
to share ideas, dreams and burdens –  
to work together for a just harvest of your  
good gifts.

Together, we have the power to grow hope,  
to plant seeds that yield a better future.

This season, we pray with our global family.

May we embrace the gift of each other –  
and walk side by side with our  
sisters and brothers  
to bring about change.

**Together, we're stronger.**

May we offer our gifts this season

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# From the Archives

The following two extracts published in the April and October 1918 Monthly Papers illustrate two of the various Government restrictions imposed on the Cathedral.

The Bread of Holy Communion.

**A rubric in the Prayer Book suggests that “the best and purest Wheat Bread that may conveniently be gotten” ought to be procured for use in the Holy Communion.** For very many years now special loaves have been made for the Cathedral (and many other Churches) for this sacred purpose. But the regulations laid down by the Food Control Department render it impossible for pure wheaten bread to be supplied by ordinary bakers. With the sanction of the Bishop and of the Cathedral Chapter, the use of wafer bread is to be introduced before Easter Day, if a supply can be obtained from England where certain religious communities, with the permission of the authorities, have the privilege of baking it from pure wheat flour, and without yeast, for Church use.

The Coal Shortage

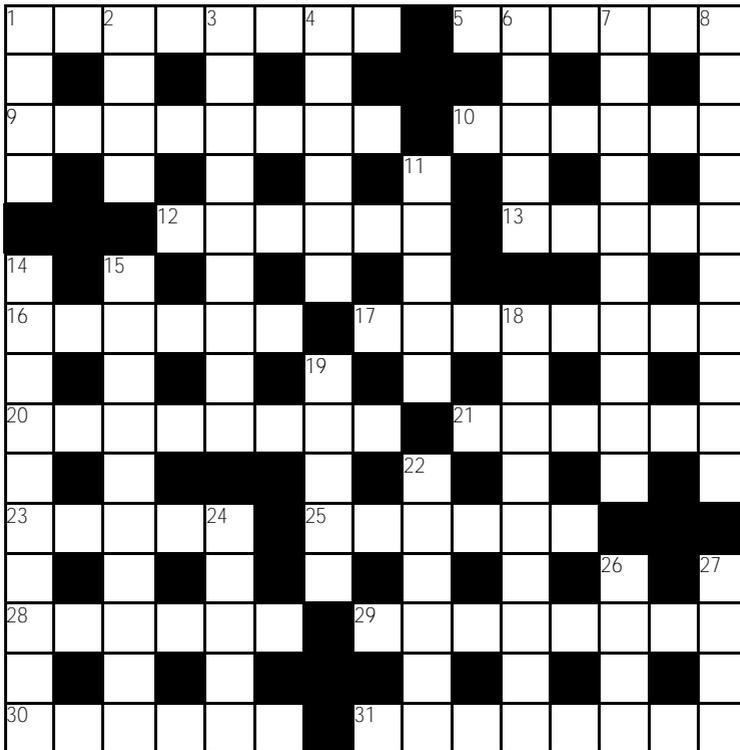
Through it has not yet been officially intimated to the Cathedral Authorities what precise amount of coal will be allowed for the Cathedral furnaces, it has been stated that not more than 50 per cent of the quantity used last year can be counted on. The Board of Management are quite alive to the needs of the Cathedral in the matter of lighting and heating and will do their best to obtain special terms for the Cathedral on the ground of the many week-day services; but we must all be prepared to endure hardships in this matter, and the more cheerfully we endure them the better for ourselves.

Missing Magazines

In the Cathedral archive there are copies of all the Cathedral magazines starting from January 1879 to the present day except for the period 1940 to 1956. I am trying to locate these missing magazines and would greatly appreciate help in this. If somebody has taken them for research purposes and is still using them, please let me know. However, if they have finished with them, do please return them.

Many thanks.

Iain Morrison, Archivist



Crossword set by Elaine McCulloch Smith

Solution in the December/January Magnificat

Clues (**Scripture clues are always to be found in King James's Authorised Version**)

Across

- 1 **But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer little ..... (Luke 18) (8)**
- 5 An African weaver bird or a senior cleric perhaps (6)
- 9 and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is .... (Mark 16) (8)**
- 10 A variety of smoked haddock (6)
- 12 Male religious, such as Franciscans (6)
- 13 A large group of bees (5)
- 16 Greet (6)
- 17 Somebody who repeatedly and annoyingly asks someone to do something (8)
- 20 Raccoon-like mammal, native to high bamboo forests from Himalayas to China (3,5)
- 21 Deeply respect or admire (6)
- 23 A young relative (5)
- 25 Makes a bill law (6)
- 28 Fictional French detective without his tea, according to RC fasting rule(6)
- 29 Painting in the Louvre of a smiling woman by Leonardo da Vinci (4,4)
- 30 Young bird which sounds like a library in Parliament Square (6)
- 31 Time of year when lamb, for example, is plentiful and in good condition (2,6)

Down

- 1 Junior Scouts (4)
- 2 Mischievous (4)
- 3 By the grace of God (Latin) (3,6)
- 4 Dialect name for the nocturnal bird, nightjar(6)
- 6 Evergreen climbing plants (5)
- 7 Bird of prey (3,7)
- 8 Arboreal, weasel-like mammal, found in native trees of the Highlands (4,6)
- 11 Island of the Inner Hebrides (5)
- 14 Extremely large (10)
- 15 Young bird whose wings are large enough for flight (10)
- 18 Large dog from Scandinavia (5,4)
- 19 Viper (5)
- 22 A monkey (6)
- 24 **The eagle's home (5)**
- 26 Informal term for 1 across (4)
- 27 A light brown colour(4)

Solution to the July/August Crossword

C	O	R	P	O	R	A	L		C	A	M	P	U	S
O		A		B		F			S		A			I
P	R	I	E	S	T	L	Y		C	H	O	R	A	L
E		N		E		O		A		E		S		V
			S	Q	U	A	L	L		S	T	O	L	E
E		W		U		T		T			N			R
U	T	O	P	I	A		D	A	Z	Z	L	I	N	G
C		R		E		L		R		A		C		I
H	E	L	M	S	M	A	N		S	C	R	A	W	L
A		D				V		P		H		L		T
R	O	O	D	S		E	P	I	C	A	L			
I		R		A		R		L		R		N		A
S	E	D	I	L	E		A	L	L	I	N	A	L	L
T		E		V			A		A		V			B
S	C	R	E	E	N		C	R	O	S	I	E	R	S

# HARVEST SUNDAY

30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018

## COLLECTION OF FOODSTUFFS FOR FOOD BANK

Each year at Harvest we give thanks for the many things we have received over the past year and remember those who have not enjoyed a good harvest. In recent times our Harvest collection has been directed towards meeting local needs, as many people in our city do not experience a good harvest because all year round they are living in poor financial circumstances. So once more this Harvest Sunday we are collecting non-perishable foodstuffs for the Edinburgh North West Foodbank.

Across the UK the demand for the services of foodbanks is growing as the gaps between affluent and poor continue to widen and many people, even those in employment, struggle to get by week to week trying to manage on low wages or depending on State Benefits. Recent figures from the Trussell Trust indicate that one in five people in the UK live below the poverty line. There is a view in some quarters that Foodbanks only help to prop up a deficient state system which should ensure nobody goes hungry, but the reality is that many people are hungry on a daily basis and discussion about the principles and merits of Foodbanks does not help to feed hungry people. The Edinburgh North West Foodbank through its Edinburgh Food Project operates 8 distribution centres offering a total of 16 opening times weekly. These centres are in Pilton, Tollcross, Broughton, Grassmarket, Oxfgangs, Craigmillar, South Queensferry, and Drumbrae.

This level of operation can only be sustained if there are regular donations of food. Over 90% of the food distributed by Foodbanks is donated by the public. During the past year stocks of some items at our local Foodbank have been very low or non-existent due to increased volume of demand for food assistance. This is especially the case during school holidays. The national picture indicates there is increasing reliance on foodbanks at times of emergency. The fact that the Benefits Offices are a major source of referrals to foodbanks indicates a governmental acceptance that their delay in processing benefits causes hardship. Many people are employed on zero hours contracts and they find budgeting difficult as it is hard when unexpected bills arise or there is less income some weeks due to lack of work hours. Many of the recipients of foodbanks are people in work on low incomes, those with families

as well as single people. If a crisis occurs real hardship can result making it difficult to find sufficient money to buy food.

The Edinburgh North West Foodbank is a member of the Trussell Trust which is a nationwide network of foodbanks, sharing values and practice. ([www.trusselltrust.org](http://www.trusselltrust.org)).

Although it was initiated by a local faith group the Edinburgh North West Foodbank provides assistance to people of all backgrounds and those of all faiths and of none. They give food only to people who are referred by frontline professionals and they provide sufficient food for 3 days to tide people over an emergency only. More information is on their website [www.edinburghnw.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.edinburghnw.foodbank.org.uk)

For our Harvest Sunday collection we are seeking donations of non-perishable

Fruit Juice (long life cartons)	Tinned rice pudding
Tinned Cold Meat	UHT Milk
Tinned Fish	Tinned Vegetables
Pasta Sauces (jars)	Tinned spaghetti in sauce
Rice (500g size)	Jelly
Tinned Fruit	Instant Coffee (Small jar)
Tinned Custard	Split Red Lentils

food for the Edinburgh North West Foodbank. The following items are urgently needed:

Also needed are kettle pack items for those who have only a kettle and no cooking facilities – Cuppa Soups; Instant Noodles; Pasta with Sauce (mug size)

Please bring any donations on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018 when they will be collected at the end of the 10.30am Eucharist. If unable to come on that date donations can be left with the vergers during the preceding week.

*Thank you for your support!*

# The Cathedral Walkers

DO YOU LIKE TO WALK?

DO YOU LIKE TO TALK?

Why not join the Cathedral Walkers where we do both!

The Walk & Talk group meets monthly and is an opportunity for Cathedral people to meet socially and get to know one another while enjoying a walk together. The aim is to make the walks suitable for all age groups and abilities so they are geared to people of average fitness and stamina levels. All our walks are accessible by public transport and range between 5 and 7 miles in length on good paths, with no scrambling.

The walks usually are held on the first Thursday of the month throughout the year.

Since the publication of the last Magnificat we have had two walks. On 5th July thirteen of us walked from Newbridge to South Queensferry. It was during the hot, sunny spell but the walk was ideal for the weather as we had shelter from trees for much of the time and so were not overwhelmed with the heat. From Newbridge the walk followed an old railway line, shaded with trees and with banks full of wild flowers. It was a beautiful sunny and clear day affording us lovely views of the bridges as we walked above South Queensferry. Everyone completed the course of 5 miles and eleven of us enjoyed lunch together at **'The Picnic'** before heading for the bus back to town. The picture to the right was taken on the walk.



On 2nd August nine participants walked from Rosewell village to Penicuik. I was away on holiday and I am very grateful to Anthea and Alasdair Taylor who undertook both the recce and leading the walk. They report that the walk started in Rosewell village and then followed the former Penicuik railway line leading via Auchendinny to Penicuik. Points of interest included information boards at various locations, a platform and name at the former Rosslyn Castle station, a viaduct (well fenced and not very high) and 2 short tunnels, both lit. The walk was 5.2 miles and the weather was dry and intermittently sunny. Eight of the group enjoyed lunch together in the Penicuik Arts Association Café/Gallery before returning to Edinburgh by bus. Below is a photo taken on this walk.



Our next walk is scheduled for 6th September and if anyone is interested in joining us contact can be made via the Cathedral Office.

John Spencer

**Sunday Introductions at St Mary's Cathedral**  
**Palmerston Place, Edinburgh**

All most welcome at any of these introductory talks,  
held on Sundays in front of the High Altar,  
12 noon to 12.45pm

2 September 2018

**Rev Canon John McLuckie**

***An Introduction to Eastern Orthodox Spirituality***

14 October 2018

**Nurse Cheryl Henderson**

**Education & Dementia Co-ordinator, Elder Homes**

***An Introduction to Dementia Awareness  
and how we can help***

18 November 2018

**Margaret Walker, Volunteer and Trainer**

***An Introduction to the Multifaith Listening Service,  
Edinburgh Sheriff Court***

9 December 2018

**Dr Philippa Townsend**

**Chancellor's Fellow in New Testament and  
Christian Origins, University of Edinburgh**

***An Introduction to Luke***

For further information,  
please see weekly notices or  
email [faithandgrowth@gmail.com](mailto:faithandgrowth@gmail.com)

