

St Mary's Cathedral

Palmerston Place, Edinburgh



Sunday after Ascension Cathedral Eucharist

21st May 2023

10.30am

Preacher: The Provost

Haydn *Missa Brevis Sancti Joannis de Deo* "Little Organ Mass"

Welcome to St Mary's Cathedral

Our service, which is laid out in this booklet, is a Eucharist. Like Christians throughout the ages, we gather to reflect on scripture together, to pray for our world, and to share bread and wine as Christ's body and blood given for the life of all. Please join in the words in bold in this service sheet. At various points in our liturgy it is our custom to stand or sit, but please do whatever is comfortable for you.

All who wish to receive communion are welcome to do so. If you would rather receive a blessing, then please indicate this by folding your hands across your chest when you go forward.

At communion, a steward will guide you. Please take your place at the kneelers around the altar, standing or kneeling as you wish. **We have now re-instituted communion in both kinds – i.e. the bread and wine – but it is your choice as to whether you receive both or just the one kind (bread).** If you are receiving communion either way, please remain at the kneeler until both the bread and the wine have been offered to you:

- If you wish to receive the wine, please let the ministrant bring it to your lips to offer you a sip. Intinction (dipping the wafer into the wine) is not permitted.
- Please do not put your hands around the rim of the chalice (the communion cup). If you need to guide it, please touch only the base or the stem.
- If you do not wish to receive the wine, please fold your hands across your chest at that point. The wine will be presented to you, but not to your lips.

Afterwards please return to your seat via the side aisles.

Our Sunday Club for children meets during the service in the Walpole Hall. If you don't know where this is, a welcomer will be able to point you in the right direction. There is a play area at the West End of the Cathedral, which families with young children are more than welcome to use.

There will be no collection during the service. Please support the Cathedral as you leave – cash can be left in the donation box and there is also a contactless donation machine. If you would like to support the Cathedral through regular donations, please fill out the form on the back of this service sheet. Thank you for your generosity.

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We gather

Opening Hymn NEH 130

**Hail the day that sees him rise *Alleluya!*
Glorious to his native skies; *Alleluya!*
Christ, awhile to mortals given, *Alleluya!*
Enters now the highest heaven! *Alleluya!***

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

**Lord, though parted from our sight, *Alleluya!*
Far above yon azure height, *Alleluya!*
Grant our hearts may thither rise, *Alleluya!*
Seeking thee beyond the skies. *Alleluya!***

**There we shall with thee remain, *Alleluya!*
Partners of thine endless reign; *Alleluya!*
There thy face unclouded see, *Alleluya!*
Find our heaven of heavens in thee. *Alleluya!***

Charles Wesley (1707-88) and Thomas Cotterill (1779-1823)

Welcome

Grace and peace to you from God our Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Collect for Purity

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

God is love and we are God's children.
There is no room for fear in love.
We love because God loved us first.
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**God our Father, we confess to you
and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry.
Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil,
for the sake of your Son who died for us,
Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

God, who is both power and love,
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by the Holy Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria *(sung by the choir)*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's 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.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven. Mercifully give us faith to know that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

We listen for God's Word

Reading Acts 1.6-14

When the apostles 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.'

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68. 1-10, 33-36 *(said)*

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth, sing praises to the Lord.

Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him. Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God. But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth, sing praises to the Lord.

Sing to God, sing praises to his name; exalt him who rides upon the heavens; Yahweh is his name, rejoice before him! Father of orphans, defender of widows, God in his holy habitation! God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in dry places.

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth, sing praises to the Lord.

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord. He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice. Ascribe power to God; his majesty is over Israel; his strength is in the skies. How wonderful is God in his holy places! the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people! Blessed be God!

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth, sing praises to the Lord.

Reading | Peter 4.12-14; 5.6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn (tune: 388i)

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching ev'ry place and time.**

**In ev'ry insult, rift, and war,
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and ev'ry age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

Gospel Acclamation

Please turn to face the Gospeller as the Gospel book is processed down the Nave.

(sung) Alleluia, Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord.

Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel John 17.1-11

When it is announced:

Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.'

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

(sung) Alleluia, Alleluia.

Sermon The Very Revd John Conway, Provost

We reflect together on what our readings reveal for us today.

We respond in faith and prayer

The Nicene Creed *which Christians have shared since 381 A.D.*

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 substance with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and was made human.
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,
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.**

Intercessions

Prayer is offered for the world and all its people, particularly for those who suffer and those in need, and for the Church.

We share the Peace of Christ

Peace

We meet in Christ's name.

Let us share his peace.

You are invited to share a sign of peace with your neighbours.

Offertory Hymn NEH 271

**Alleluya, sing to Jesus,
His the sceptre, his the throne;
Alleluya, his the triumph,
His the victory alone:
Hark the songs of peaceful Sion
Thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation,
Hath redeemed us by his blood.**

**Alleluya, not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluya, he is near us,
Faith believes, nor questions how;
Though the cloud from sight received him
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?**

**Alleluya, Bread of Angels,
Thou on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluya, here the sinful
Flee to thee from day to day;
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.**

**Alleluya, King eternal,
Thee the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluya, born of Mary,
Earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
Thou within the veil hast entered,
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim
In the Eucharistic Feast.**

We Celebrate Communion

Offering

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made:
it will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands:
it will become the cup of our salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, Author of all being.

Your power sustains,
your love restores, our broken world.

You are unceasingly at work,
from chaos bringing order
and filling emptiness with life.

Christ, raised from the dead,
proclaims the dawn of hope.
He lives in us that we may walk in light.

Your Spirit is fire in us,
your breath is power to purge our sin
and warm our hearts to love.

As children of your redeeming purpose,
who rejoice that in Jesus our human nature
is carried for ever into the glory of heaven,
we offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven,
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Sanctus and Benedictus *(sung by the choir)*

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.

Praise and thanksgiving be to you, Lord of all,
for by the Cross eternal life is ours
and death is swallowed up in victory.

In the first light of Easter,
glory broke from the tomb
and changed the women's sorrow into joy.
From the Garden the mystery shone clear
that he whom they had loved and lost
is with us now in every place for ever.

Making himself known in the breaking of the bread,
speaking peace to the fearful disciples,
welcoming weary fishermen on the shore,
he renewed the promise of his presence
and of new birth in the Spirit
who sets the seal of freedom
on your sons and daughters.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
recalling the night of Israel's release,
the night in which slaves walked free,
at supper with his disciples he took bread
and offered you thanks.

He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:
'Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.'

After supper, he took the cup,
he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:
'Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

We now obey your Son's command.

We recall his blessed passion and death,

his glorious resurrection and ascension;

and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.

Made one with him, we offer you these gifts

and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by your Spirit's life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

**Help us, who are baptised
into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage
in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters,
living and departed.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages,
world without end. **Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.
Lord, unite us in this sign.

The Lord's Prayer

You are invited to say the prayer in the language or version with which you are most familiar.

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us,
we are bold to say:

**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.**

Agnus Dei *(sung by the choir)*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Sharing of Communion

Communion is shared at the Nave Altar. All who wish to receive are warmly invited to do so. Alternatively, you are welcome to receive a blessing. If you need a gluten-free wafer please go to the Lectern side (right hand side) and indicate that you require gluten-free.

Motet Bairstow *Let all mortal flesh*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence and stand with fear and trembling, and lift itself above all earthly thought. For the King of kings and Lord of lords, Christ our God, cometh forth to be our oblation, and to be given for Food to the faithful. Before Him come the choirs of angels with every principality and power; the Cherubim with many eyes, and wingèd Seraphim, who veil their faces as they shout exultingly the hymn: Alleluia!

Offertory Hymn in the Liturgy of St James (c.4th century)

We give thanks and are sent out

Sentence

**Give thanks to our gracious God,
whose mercy endures for ever.**

Post Communion Prayer

**Loving God, your steadfast purpose
is the completion of all things in your Son.
May we who have received the pledges of the Kingdom,
live by faith, walk in hope and be renewed in love,
until the world reflects your glory and you are all in all; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Notices

Closing Hymn NEH 134

*During this hymn the altar party will process to the West End.
Please turn to face them as they do so.*

**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.**

Thomas Kelly (1769-1854)

Blessing

Christ our king make you faithful and strong to do his will, that you may reign with him in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Voluntary

Many thanks to the Chapter House Singers for leading our music today.

You are warmly invited to join us for tea and coffee in the Resurrection Chapel (to the right of the choir) after the service. Please be respectful to those who wish to listen to the organ voluntary by minimising noise while the organist is still playing.

Notices

Details of Services this week can be found on our website:
www.cathedral.net/music-list/

Last chance to sign up for the **Friends of St Mary's Cathedral's visit to the House of the Binns**, on Friday, 26 May 2023. Owned by the National Trust for Scotland, the visit will conclude with lunch in a local Café, a short drive from the House. Members of the Cathedral congregation would be most welcome to join the Friends on this social occasion. Further details from Yvonne Mills: friends@cathedral.net.

Tom Wilkinson, organist at St Mary's Catholic Cathedral, is giving a **recital at the Cathedral** on Sunday 28 May at 4:30pm (immediately after Evensong). A programme of Bach and Liszt, with a retiring collection in aid of scholarships for a baroque music summer school at St Andrews.

The 4th in our occasional series of **Cathedral Conversations on the Creed**, will take place on Thursday 1 June, 7.30-8.30pm on Zoom. Join the Provost and other members of the Cathedral congregation as we continue our exploration of the Creed - focusing this time on the work of the Holy Spirit, and the calling of the Church. All are welcome, whether you have participated in previous sessions or not. Please email office@cathedral.net for the Zoom link.

#The Big Story – our Diocesan Gathering and Celebration this year is on Sat 3 June from 10:30am-3:30pm at St Mary's Cathedral. Come and share with all ages; learn; grow; enjoy; and be inspired! - as we share our stories of faith, and share The BIG Story of the good news of Jesus. Veggie lunch and refreshments provided. Reserve a free space at bit.ly/3MCQIZI.

The **Cathedral Book Group's** next meeting will be on Monday 5 June, 7.30pm (via Zoom) to discuss *Unapologetic* by Francis Spufford. Publicity for the book tells us '*Unapologetic* is a brief, witty, personal, sharp-tongued defence of Christianity by

Francis Spufford, taking on Dawkins' *The God Delusion* and Christopher Hitchens' *God is Not Great.*' New members are always welcome – or do join us just when a particular book interests you. For more information, please email ecumenical@cathedral.net.

Biodiversity Matters! Workshop, Saturday 27 May, 9.30am-3.30pm, Old St Paul's Church. Biodiversity, one of the most important and complex features of our planet, is in crisis. To protect it we need to know about it. Register here: bit.ly/3pJ5gxs.

Please use this tear-off slip to express interest in any of the aspects listed (please tick as appropriate). Please leave the slip on your chair.

- I would like to become a member of St Mary's Cathedral
- Please send me the weekly Cathedral notices by email
- I would like to speak to a member of the Clergy team
- Please send me details of how I can regularly financially contribute

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