



Worcester Cathedral

Sunday News

11 OCTOBER 2020

18TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

TODAY'S SERVICES

10.30 am **Sung Eucharist for 'Prisons Sunday'**

The readings for this service can be found at the end of this notice sheet. Please note that this service is livestreamed through our Facebook page and the camera angle includes images of those receiving communion.

4 pm **Evensong**

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES

Monday	5.30 pm	Evensong
Wednesday	1 pm	Holy Communion
Thursday	5.30 pm	Evensong
Friday	11.30 am	Holy Communion (<i>Book of Common Prayer</i>)
Saturday	5.30 pm	Evensong
Sunday	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist
	4 pm	Evensong

MUSIC SCHEME

The monthly music scheme for October is now available on the cathedral website. To download a copy please visit

www.worcestercathedral.co.uk/worship/monthly-music-and-services

FACE COVERINGS

Please note that it is mandatory for worshippers and visitors to wear face coverings in the cathedral.

ONLINE SERVICES

A daily celebration of the eucharist is livestreamed through the cathedral Facebook page. On Sundays this is at 10.30 am and on Monday to Saturday at 8 am. It is also available on the diocesan website.

NEW WORSHIPPERS

are especially welcome and are invited to contact Canon Stephen Edwards who will be in touch with a welcome booklet.

stephenedwards@worcestercathedral.org.uk

PARKING

Those attending the 10.30 am service on Sundays may park on College Green. The bollard will be raised and requires a code to get in and out – there won't be a member of staff in attendance. If you want to park there, please email *parking@worcestercathedral.org.uk* to obtain the code (it won't change from week to week). The code will be active between 9 am and 12.30 pm. **Please try to avoid parking on College Yard.**

TEST AND TRACE SYSTEM

In accordance with government and Church of England advice, all worshippers and visitors are encouraged to use the voluntary 'test and trace' system in operation at the cathedral. This takes three forms. You can either register your attendance at the cathedral by emailing *attendance@worcestercathedral.org.uk*, either before or after your visit, making clear on which date you attended. Or you can complete a piece of paper with your contact details, ideally using your own pen, and place it in the 'Test and Trace' box by the north door. Or you can scan the new NHS 'Test & Trace' QR code which will be clearly visible at the cathedral entrance (a separate QR code is available for the Cloister Café). Please note that you need to register attendance for **each separate visit to the cathedral**. We will supply the attendance information to relevant authorities if it is requested, and you will not otherwise be contacted. We will not use the attendance information for any

other purpose, and the emails and paper slips will be deleted/destroyed after three weeks.

PRISONS WEEK

The Criminal Justice Affairs Group (CJAG) for the Diocese of Worcester is very grateful to the Dean and Chapter of Worcester Cathedral for welcoming us each year on the second Sunday in October, Prisons Sunday. For over 40 years Prisons Week has led Christian communities in prayer for the needs of all those affected by prisons: prisoners and victims, their families, their communities, those working and volunteering in prisons and the criminal justice system. In the 5 years that CJAG has existed, this cathedral Eucharist has been a special and valued focus that has underpinned our work and reminded us of our Christian roots as a criminal justice group, an opportunity to recharge our batteries and renew our commitment.

CJAG aims to offer a Christian perspective, raising awareness and advising the Diocese on criminal justice matters. Members of the group have experience within prisons, the police, the Crown Prosecution Service, the courts, probation, youth justice, the Parole Board and defence lawyers, as well as the Church.

This year CJAG is concentrating on the impact of Covid 19 on the criminal justice system. For example the total backlog in crown and magistrate courts has ballooned to 560,000 cases resulting in high levels of anxiety for those remanded in custody and the community and for victims and witnesses. It is estimated that it will take 10 years to clear. Mental health workers report that the pandemic has triggered an across-the-board deterioration in prisoners' mental health. With the suspension of so-called non-essential services, prisoners may be denied pastoral, educational and therapeutic services. Prison workers too are at elevated risk of mental ill-health. Months of prison visits being suspended has taken its toll. Being locked in a cell for 23 hours a day for months on end can only be described as a breach of human rights.

The criminal justice system has never been more in need of our prayers. Remember how alone each person feels, locked up and away from all those whom they love, and the impact on families. Please pray each day during

Prisons Week, from today until next Sunday, and ask yourselves whether there is one thing that you as an individual or as a church, can do to help any of the people that you are praying for. How can we help each affected person to feel that they are not alone? Together let us pray, let us act and let us declare to one another “You are not alone.” We are united in lockdown, united in prayer.

Rev'd Charmian Manship

DAYS OF MUSIC

Amongst our many benefactors we particularly thank God for the Voluntary Choir men and Les Postlethwaite, in whose name days of music have generously been endowed this week.

ALL SOULS'

There will be a requiem eucharist for All Souls' day at 7.30 pm on Monday 2 November. All are most welcome. Names of the departed will be remembered during the eucharist. If you would like a name to be added to this list please email prayer@worcestercathedral.org.uk mentioning the All Souls' requiem service in your email.

HARVEST

Thank you to all who donated to our Worcester Food Bank harvest appeal last Sunday.

LUNCHTIME RECITALS

We are delighted that Lunchtime Recitals have restarted at Worcester Cathedral, and this autumn season will feature past and present members of the Cathedral's Music Department. The recitals will still be taking place every week on a Thursday but at a new time: 1.15 pm until 1.55 pm. Please do come to support this recital if you are able as we welcome live concerts back to Worcester Cathedral.

Organ recitals will be held on 15th and 22nd October, before we take a break for half-term and the series then resumes on 5th November. We look forward to seeing you there!

YOUR GIFT TO THE CATHEDRAL

will support the cathedral's ministry and mission and help to keep the building in good repair and open to all without charge. UK tax-payers are kindly asked to use gift-aid envelopes, completing the front, which increases donations by 25%. Donations may also be made via the contactless points in the cathedral. If you wish to give regularly, please use the form in the welcome booklet available from the stewards or vergers, or speak with Gerald Harris of the stewardship committee.

METAL RECYCLING

The cathedral is pleased to support a scheme for recycling metal, run by Worcester Rotary Club. Proceeds in September and October go to a Beirut Fund assisting the people of that city after the terrible explosion there. Please contact John or Liz Wright on 01905 339661, who would be able to collect any contributions.

COMMUNITY ANNUAL MEETING

Given the current restrictions on meetings, the Community Annual Meeting will not now take place. The annual report and accounts will be published on the cathedral website.

SUNDAY EARLY SERVICE

From Sunday 1st November the 8 am Holy Communion service, according to the *Book of Common Prayer*, will return. The service will take place in the nave with entry by the north door.

PRAYERS & INTERCESSIONS

The Prayer Diary can be found on the diocesan website:

www.cofe-worcester.org.uk

We pray for those being ordained in Magdeburg cathedral on 11th October: Christoph Backhaus, Dr. Mareike Verena Blischke, Nicole Breithaupt, Jakob Haferland, Philine Marianne Hommel, Maria Theresia Knabe, Judith Kölling, Dr. Saskia Lieske, Hagen Mewes, Andreas Paulsen, Christoph Rätz, Theresa Hauser, Aaron Rogge, Andreas Tschurn, Dr. Florian Zobel.

Please pray for the departed, among them Zilphia Watkins, John Renney, Maggie Shapland, Brian Tetley, and Donna Bartram.

CATHEDRAL WEBSITE

Visit the cathedral website to sign up for our newsletter, to make a donation, or to find out more about Worcester Cathedral: www.worcestercathedral.co.uk

Readings for Sunday 11th October

FIRST READING Isaiah 25.1–9

1 O LORD, you are my God;
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

2 For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.

3 Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

4 For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
5 the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

6 On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,
of rich food filled with marrow,
of well-matured wines strained clear.

7 And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death for ever.

8 Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people
he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

9 It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God;
we have waited for him,
so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

PSALM 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd : therefore can I lack nothing.

² He shall feed me in a green pasture : and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.

³ He shall convert my soul : and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil : for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

⁵ Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me : thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

⁶ Surely thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life : and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

SECOND READING Philipians 4.1–9

¹ My brothers and sisters,
whom I love and long for,
my joy and crown,

stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.

³ Yes, and I ask you also,

my loyal companion, help these women,
for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel,
together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers,
whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say, Rejoice.

⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone.
The Lord is near.

⁶ Do not worry about anything,
but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving
let your requests be made known to God.

⁷ And the peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, beloved,
whatever is true, whatever is honourable,
whatever is just, whatever is pure,
whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable,
if there is any excellence
and if there is anything worthy of praise,
think about these things.

⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned
and received and heard and seen in me,
and the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL Matthew 22.1–14

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to the chief priests and Pharisees in parables, saying:

² 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king
who gave a wedding banquet for his son.

³ He sent his slaves to call those
who had been invited to the wedding banquet,
but they would not come.

⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying,
"Tell those who have been invited:
Look, I have prepared my dinner,

my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered,
and everything is ready;
come to the wedding banquet.”

5 But they made light of it and went away,
one to his farm, another to his business,

6 while the rest seized his slaves,
maltreated them, and killed them.

7 The king was enraged.

He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers,
and burned their city.

8 Then he said to his slaves,

“The wedding is ready,
but those invited were not worthy.

9 Go therefore into the main streets,
and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.”

10 Those slaves went out into the streets
and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad;
so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

11 But when the king came in to see the guests,
he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe,

12 and he said to him,

“Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?”

And he was speechless.

13 Then the king said to the attendants,

“Bind him hand and foot,
and throw him into the outer darkness,
where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

14 For many are called, but few are chosen.’