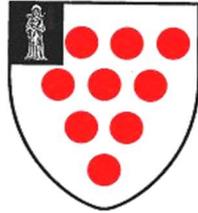


The Cathedral Church of Christ  
and the Blessed Mary the Virgin of Worcester



# Sung Eucharist

Advent Sunday  
28 November 2021

President and preacher:  
The Bishop of Dudley

*Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free,  
from our fears and sins release us,  
let us find our rest in thee.*

# Welcome



to everyone worshipping in Worcester Cathedral this morning.

**Large-print** copies of this service-booklet are available from the stewards.

If you are here for the first time, contact Canon Stephen Edwards (stephenedwards@worcestercathedral.org.uk) who can give you a **welcome booklet**.

All baptised, communicant members of churches in which God the Holy Trinity is worshipped are welcome to receive **communion** if they wish.

Those who are not receiving communion are warmly invited to come forward with those who are receiving communion, if they wish, to receive instead a silent **blessing**. Please hold something in your hands as a sign that you wish to receive a blessing, and the minister will bless you without touching you.

Please speak to a steward or verger before the service if you wish to receive **gluten-free** consecrated bread, or to have communion brought to you in your seat.

This service is being **live streamed** to Facebook. Please talk to a steward if you have any queries or concerns.

A **collection** will be taken as you leave the cathedral at the end of the service, which includes a facility for contactless donation. Your gift 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, which allows the cathedral to claim an additional 25% of the donation from the government, at no additional cost to the donor. If you wish to give regularly, please contact Gerald Harris of the Stewardship Committee via the Chapter Office (01905 732900).

**Refreshments** are served in the Chapter House (through the Cloisters) after the service. All are warmly welcome.

## Today's Music

The choral setting of the eucharist today is the *Missa Sanctae Margaretae* by Gabriel Jackson (b. 1962), and the communion motet is *The Truth from Above* by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958).

*The Truth from Above* is an English folk-carol, which originates from the Shropshire and Herefordshire areas. The version of the melody which will be heard today was collected by Ralph Vaughan Williams from Herefordshire in July 1909, and is therefore sometimes known as *The Herefordshire Carol*. It was used by Vaughan Williams as the opening section of his *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*.

# The Gathering

*The people stand as the ministers enter, and the choir sings the Advent Prose*

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,  
and let the skies pour down righteousness.

Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity for ever:  
thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness,  
Jerusalem a desolation: our holy and our beautiful house,  
where our fathers praised thee.

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen;  
that ye may know me and believe me:  
I, even I, am the Lord, and beside me there is no Saviour:  
and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry:  
I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions:  
fear not, for I will save thee:  
for I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

*Words: Isaiah 45.8, 64.9-11, 43.10-13, 40.1, 46.13, 44.22, 41.13, 43.3*

*Music: Plainsong*

## The Greeting

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

*All* **Amen.**

*All* Peace be with you  
**and also with you.**

*The bishop welcomes the people and introduces the service.*

## Prayers of Penitence

*Minister* When the Lord comes,  
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.  
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

*All* **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

<i>Choir</i>	<i>Kyrie eleison.</i>	Lord, have mercy.
	<i>Christe eleison.</i>	Christ, have mercy.
	<i>Kyrie eleison.</i>	Lord, have mercy

*Bishop* Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon *you*,  
pardon and deliver *you* from all *your* sins,  
confirm and strengthen *you* in all goodness,  
and keep *you* in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*Bishop* Let us pray.

*The people remain standing.*

Almighty God,  
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and to put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life,  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;  
that on the last day,  
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty  
to judge the living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## *The Liturgy of the Word*

*The people sit for the readings and psalm.*

### **First Reading**

*Reader* A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

*Jeremiah 33.14-16*

*All* For the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

*Choir* Unto thee, O Lord, will I lift up my soul; my God, I have put my trust  
in thee :  
O let me not be confounded, neither let mine enemies triumph  
over me.

For all they that hope in thee shall not be ashamed :  
but such as transgress without a cause shall be put to confusion.

Shew me thy ways, O Lord :  
and teach me thy paths.

Lead me forth in thy truth, and learn me :  
for thou art the God of my salvation; in thee hath been my hope  
all the day long.

Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies :  
and thy loving-kindnesses, which have been ever of old.

O remember not the sins and offences of my youth :  
but according to thy mercy think thou upon me, O Lord, for thy  
goodness.

Gracious and righteous is the Lord :  
therefore will he teach sinners in the way.

Them that are meek shall he guide in judgement :  
and such as are gentle, them shall he learn his way.

All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth :  
unto such as keep his covenant, and his testimonies.

*Psalm 25.1-9*

## Second Reading

*Reader* A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one

another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

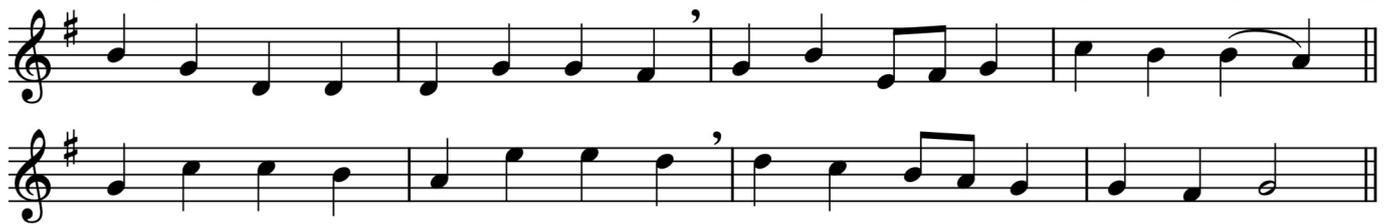
1 Thessalonians 3.9-13

All For the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

*The people stand to sing this hymn*

CROSS OF JESUS

John Stainer (1840-1901)



**1**  
Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free,  
from our fears and sins release us,  
let us find our rest in thee.

**3**  
Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a king,  
born to reign in us for ever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

**2**  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art,  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

**4**  
By thine own eternal Spirit,  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all-sufficient merit  
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley (1707–1788)

## Gospel Reading

*The people remain standing for this acclamation which heralds the Gospel reading*

Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

1 Corinthians 4.5





*The people 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.**



# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

## The Peace

*The people stand.*

*Bishop* In the tender mercy of our God,  
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,  
to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. *Luke 1.78-79*

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

## Taking of the Bread and Wine

*This hymn is sung, during which the bread and wine are placed on the altar*

PICARDY

French carol, probably 17th century,  
found in Tiersot's *Mémoires* (Paris, 1887)



1

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence  
and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
for with blessing in his hand  
Christ our God to earth descendeth,  
our full homage to demand.**

2

**King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
as of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords, in human vesture,  
in the body and the blood:  
he will give to all the faithful  
his own self for heavenly food.**

3

**Rank on rank the host of heaven  
spreads its vanguard on the way,  
as the Light of light descendeth  
from the realms of endless day,  
that the powers of hell may vanish  
as the darkness clears away.**

4

**At his feet the six-winged seraph;  
cherubim with sleepless eye,  
veil their faces to the Presence,  
as with ceaseless voice they cry,  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Alleluia, Lord most high!**

*Liturgy of St James  
translated by Gerard Moultrie (1829–1885)*

*Bishop* Let us pray.

*The people remain standing.*

As the grain once scattered in the fields  
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,  
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together  
from the corners of the earth  
into your kingdom.

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

*Bishop* The Lord be with you  
*All* **and also 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 to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and everlasting Father;  
through Jesus Christ you Son.  
For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,  
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world  
to open for us the way of salvation.  
Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,  
we now watch for the day  
when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.  
And so we join our voices with angels and archangels  
and with all the company of heaven  
to proclaim your glory  
for ever praising you and singing:

<i>Choir</i>	<p><i>Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.</i></p> <p><i>Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.</i></p>	<p>Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.</p> <p>Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.</p>
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*Bishop* We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them, and said:  
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

<i>Minister</i>	Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
<i>All</i>	<b>Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life: Lord Jesus, come in glory.</b>

*President* Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
St Oswald, St Wulfstan and all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*The people kneel.*

*Bishop* Awaiting his coming in glory,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

*All* **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## Breaking of the Bread

*The bishop breaks the consecrated bread, saying*

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

*The bishop invites the people to communion, saying*

Jesus is 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 receives communion and says to those intending to receive  
communion*

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life.

*Those intending to receive communion respond*

**Amen.**

*Choir* *Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.*

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

*Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.*

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

*Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona nobis pacem.*

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

*The people receive communion in one kind (consecrated bread only) from a standing station. All baptised members of churches in which God the Holy Trinity is worshipped are welcome to receive communion if they wish.*

*Those who are not receiving communion are warmly invited to come forward with those who are receiving communion, if they wish, to receive instead a silent blessing. Please hold something in your hands as a sign that you wish to receive a blessing, and the minister will bless you without touching you.*

*Those coming forward are asked to form a single line, socially distanced from one another, and return to their seats via the side-aisles, as directed by the stewards and vergers.*

*During the giving of communion, the choir sings*

This is the truth sent from above,  
the truth of God, the God of love;  
therefore don't turn me from the door,  
but hearken all, both rich and poor.

The first thing that I will relate,  
that God at first did man create.  
The next thing which to you I tell,  
woman was made with him to dwell.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes,  
till God the Lord did interpose;  
and so a promise soon did run  
that he'd redeem us by his Son.

And at this season of the year  
our blest Redeemer did appear,  
and here did live, and here did preach,  
and many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved,  
to show us how we must be saved;  
and if you want to know the way,  
be pleased to hear what he did say.

*Words: traditional English carol  
Music: arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)*

*The people stand to sing this hymn*

SHEEN

Gustav Holst (1874-1934)



**From glory to glory advancing, we praise thee, O Lord;  
thy name with the Father and Spirit be ever adored.  
From strength unto strength we go forward on Sion's highway,  
to appear before God in the city of infinite day.**

**Thanksgiving and glory and worship and blessing and love,  
one heart and one song have the saints upon earth and above.  
O Lord, evermore to thy servants thy presence be night;  
ever fit us by service on earth for thy service on high.**

*Liturgy of St James*  
*translated by Charles Humphreys (1840–1921)*

## **Prayer after Communion**

*Bishop* Let us pray.

*The people remain standing.*

O Lord our God,  
make us watchful and keep us faithful  
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;  
that, when he shall appear,  
he may not find us sleeping in sin  
but active in his service  
and joyful in his praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*All*            **Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## *The Dismissal*

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

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

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

*The bishop blesses the people, saying*

*All*            Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,  
scatter the darkness from before your path,  
and make you ready to meet him when he comes 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.**

*Choir*        Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
In the name of Christ. Amen.

*The ministers and people depart.*

*The offerings of the people are collected as they leave.*

## **Organ Voluntary**

*Fantasia on 'Helmsley'*

*Kenneth Leighton (1929–1988)*

*Those leaving immediately are asked to be aware of those who wish to listen to the organ voluntary.*

*All are warmly welcome to refreshments served in the Chapter House (through the Cloisters).*

**Please take this booklet home as an aid to prayer and reflection  
during the week, and then re-cycle it.**

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