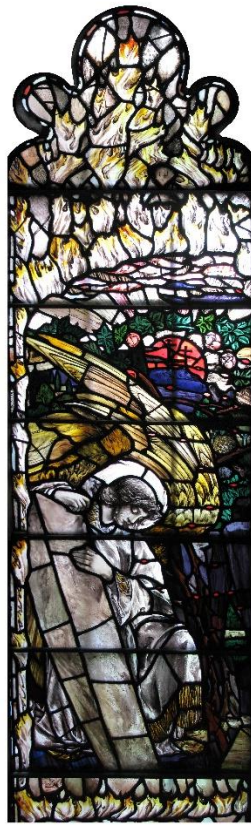




THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITICAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTERBURY

# Solemn Evensong



Easter Day

5<sup>th</sup> April 2026

5.30 pm

Quire

# Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Service

## Livestreaming

This service will be livestreamed and you may be seen on camera, although we will not deliberately take any close-ups of the congregation.

By attending you agree to be seen in this way.

If you have any concerns please speak to a member of the clergy.

The image on the cover is from the Resurrection Window by Christopher Whall (1849-1924), South-West Transept

## Health and Safety

Much of the present Cathedral was built hundreds of years ago. Whilst most of the parts of this ancient cathedral that are normally open to the public are easily accessible for all, the historic stone floor may be unpredictably uneven in places, entry to some parts is via stone steps or access ramps of varying gradients, and lighting levels may vary.

Please exercise due care and attention before, during and after the service and move around with regard for your safety. The Cathedral is unable to accept liability for any personal injury or damage to property unless this is due to our own negligence.



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**By cash or cheques** payable to 'Canterbury Cathedral' in Gift Aid envelopes - UK taxpayers please fill in the details on the envelope. Or you can give a one-off donation at one of our **contactless donation points** in the South Transept after the service.



Please ensure that mobile phones are switched off. No form of visual or sound recording, or any form of photography, is permitted during Services. Thank you for your co-operation.



An induction loop system for the hard of hearing is installed in the Cathedral. Hearing aid users should adjust their aid to T.



**Large print** orders of service are available from the stewards and virgers. Please ask.

# ORDER OF SERVICE

*All stand as the procession enters the Quire*

*The choir sings the **Introit***

Haec est dies quam fecit Dominus:  
exultemus et laetemur in ea.  
Alleluia.

*This is the day which the Lord hath  
made: let us be glad and rejoice  
therein. Alleluia.*

*Words: Psalm 118.24*

*Music: Jacobus Handl (1550-91)*

*A welcome is offered*

*The Cantor and choir sing the **Preces***

O Lord, open thou our lips  
*and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.*

O God, make speed to save us.  
*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
*as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.*

Praise ye the Lord.  
*The Lord's name be praised.*

*Music: John Rutter (b. 1945)*

*Sit as the choir sings*

**Psalm** 66.1-11

O be joyful in God, all ye lands :  
sing praises unto the honour of his Name, make his praise to be glorious.

Say unto God, O how wonderful art thou in thy works :  
through the greatness of thy power  
shall thine enemies be found liars unto thee.

For all the world shall worship thee :  
sing of thee, and praise thy Name.

O come hither, and behold the works of God :  
how wonderful he is in his doing toward the children of men.

He turned the sea into dry land :  
so that they went through the water on foot; there did we rejoice thereof.

He ruleth with his power for ever; his eyes behold the people :  
and such as will not believe shall not be able to exalt themselves.

O praise our God, ye people :  
and make the voice of his praise to be heard;

Who holdeth our soul in life :  
and suffereth not our feet to slip.

For thou, O God, hast proved us :  
thou also hast tried us, like as silver is tried.

Thou broughtest us into the snare :  
and laidest trouble upon our loins.

Thou sufferedst men to ride over our heads :  
we went through fire and water,  
and thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.

*Stand*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:  
world without end. Amen.

*Sit*

## **Old Testament Reading**

*Song of Solomon 3.2-5, 8.6-7*

*Stand as the choir sings*

## **Magnificat**

*During this, the Altar is censed. As the thurifer turns to cense the people, please turn to face the High Altar.*

My soul doth magnify the Lord :  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded :  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from henceforth :  
all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me :  
and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him :  
throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm :  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat :  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things :  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel :  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :  
world without end. Amen.

*Music: Charles MacPherson (1870-1927) in E*

*Sit*

## New Testament Reading

*Revelation 1.12-18*

*Stand as the choir sings*

### **Nunc Dimittis**

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :  
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen : thy salvation;  
Which thou hast prepared : before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :  
world without end. Amen.

*Music: Charles MacPherson (1870-1927) in E*

*Turn East and say together the*

### **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth:  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
the holy catholic Church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*The Cantor and choir sing the* **Versicles and Responses**

The Lord be with you. *And with thy spirit.*

Let us pray.

*Sit or kneel*

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

*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. Amen.*

*O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.  
And grant us thy salvation.*

*O Lord, save the King.  
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.*

*Endue thy ministers with righteousness.  
And make thy chosen people joyful.*

*O Lord, save thy people.  
And bless thine inheritance.*

*Give peace in our time, O Lord.  
Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.*

*O God, make clean our hearts within us.  
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.*

*Music: John Rutter (b. 1945)*

## **The Collects**

Almighty God, who through thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death, and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life: We humbly beseech thee, that as by thy special grace preventing us thou dost put into our minds good desires, so by thy continual help we may bring the same to good effect; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that, by thee, we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen*

*Sit as the choir sings*

## **Anthem**      Christ rising again

Christ rising again from the dead, now dieth not. Death from henceforth hath no power upon him, for in that he died but once to put away sin, but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. And so likewise count yourselves dead unto sin, but living unto God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Words:* from Romans 6.9-11

*Music:* William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

## **Homily**              The Dean

*Sit or Kneel*

## **Prayers**              *concluding with*

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us all evermore.  
Amen.**

*Stand to sing*



Most glorious Lord of life, that on this day  
didst make thy triumph over death and sin,  
and having harrowed hell, didst bring away  
captivity thence captive, us to win:

<sup>2</sup>This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin,  
and grant that we for whom thou diddest die,  
being with thy dear blood clean washed from sin,  
may live for ever in felicity:

<sup>3</sup>And that thy love we weighing worthily,  
may likewise love thee for the same again;  
and for thy sake, who dost all grace supply,  
with love may one another entertain;

<sup>4</sup>So let us love, dear Love, like as we ought;  
love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

*Words:* Edmund Spenser (c. 1552-99)

*Tune:* FARLEY CASTLE

AM 210

*The Dean says*

## **Acclamation**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**He has given us new life and hope.**

**He has raised Jesus from the dead.**

God has claimed us as his own.

**He has brought us out of darkness.**

**He has made us light to the world.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

## **Blessing**

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
through the blood of the eternal covenant,  
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,  
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## **Organ Voluntary**

*There will be a retiring collection.  
If you would prefer to give electronically,  
please use the QR code.*



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