



THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITICAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTERBURY

Sung Eucharist for Racial Justice Sunday



Second Sunday before Lent

Sunday 8th February 2026

11.00am

Quire

Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Service

The Choral Setting is
Jonathan Dove (b. 1959), Missa Brevis

Please ask the priest if you require a gluten-free communion wafer.

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.

Cover Image: The Peace Window
By Ervin Bossányi (1891-1975)
South-East Transept, Canterbury Cathedral

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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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.

The Gathering

A welcome is offered

Stand to sing



Extol the God of justice
with heart and soul and voice;
remember all his wonders,
recount them and rejoice.
He stands with all who labour
for what is true and right,
till wickedness and falsehood
are banished from his sight.

²Extol the God of justice
enthroned for evermore,
a stronghold in affliction,
a refuge to the poor:
he hears the cry of victims
and senses their despair;
in faithfulness he honours
the faith that sparks our prayer.

³Extol the God of justice,
however dark the day:
the hope that calls for mercy
will not be turned away;
for evil shall not triumph,
nor human sin prevail:
the Lord is God eternal,
whose judgements cannot fail.

Words: Martin Leckebusch (b 1962)

Tune: KING'S LYNN

AM 558

The President says

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

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

**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.**

The Deacon introduces

Prayers of Penitence

Human sin disfigures the whole creation,
which groans with eager longing for God's redemption.
We confess our sin in penitence and faith.

Remain standing

We have wilfully misused your gifts of creation;
Lord, be merciful: **forgive us our sin.**

We have seen the ill-treatment of others
and have not gone to their aid;
Lord, be merciful: **forgive us our sin.**

We have condoned evil and dishonesty
and failed to strive for justice;
Lord, be merciful: **forgive us our sin.**

We have heard the good news of Christ,
but have failed to share it with others;
Lord, be merciful: **forgive us our sin.**

We have not loved you with all our heart,
nor our neighbours as ourselves;
Lord, be merciful: **forgive us our sin.**

The President says

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.
Amen.

Remain standing as the choir sings

Gloria in Excelsis

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus
te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter
magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, Rex coelestis, Deus pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe; Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris, qui
tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis; qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe
deprecationem nostram; qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu: in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his 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 sins 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.*

The Collect

Let us pray.

Silence is kept

Merciful God,
you are righteous and love justice:
stir the hearts of your people that,
rejoicing in our diversity,
we may repent of the wrongs of the past,
and, by your grace, seek the peaceable kingdom of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Sit

The Liturgy of the Word

Epistle *Romans 13.8-12*

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Remain seated as the choir sings Psalm 136.1-9, 23-27

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious :
and his mercy endureth for ever.

O give thanks unto the God of all gods :
for his mercy endureth for ever.

O thank the Lord of all lords :
for his mercy endureth for ever.

all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.'
But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The organist plays a Gospel fanfare

Once the Sermon has been introduced please sit

Sermon The Reverend Guy Hewitt,
Director, The Church of England Racial Justice Unit

After the Sermon, a few moments of silence are kept as we reflect on what we have heard and then the choir sings

The Motet

See what love the Father has given us,
that we may be called the children of love.
And everyone who hopes in him through the Lord is blessed.

Words: 1 John 3.1-3 (altd)

Music: Lena J McLin (1928-2023)

Following the Motet please stand

The Nicene Creed

**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.

Please sit or kneel when the President says 'Let us pray'

Prayers of Intercession

One of these responses is used

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Stand

The President says

God calls us to peace:

in God's justice is our peace.

Christ calls us to be God's people:

in Christ is our peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Members of the congregation greet one another

Remain standing to sing

The Offertory Hymn *during which the table is prepared and the gifts of the people are gathered and presented. If you would prefer to give electronically, please use the QR code*



When the Thurifer turns to bow to the congregation, all turn to the altar



*A new commandment I give unto you,
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.*

¹By this shall all know that you are my disciples,
if you have love one for another. *(Repeat, then refrain)*

²You are my friends if you do what I command you.
Without my help you can do nothing. *(Repeat, then refrain)*

³I am the true vine, my Father is the gard'ner.
Abide in me: I will be with you. *(Repeat, then refrain)*

⁴True love is patient, not arrogant nor boastful;
love bears all things, love is eternal.

Words: Based on John 13.34-35, John 15, 1 Corinthians 13

Music: Unknown

The President takes the bread and wine and praises God for his gifts

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now united 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.

Amen.

The 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 thanks and praise.

You are worthy of our thanks and praise, Lord God of truth,
for you made us in your image
and redeemed us through your Son.
You taught us by your prophets
to work for that day when justice, mercy and peace will reign.
Let the day come quickly
when the walls that separate us are broken down,
and when suffering and oppression, racism and discrimination
will be no more.
As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth,
keep us faithful in prayer and active in service,
until all your people rejoice with the angels in heaven, singing:

The choir sings

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.	<i>Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.</i>
Benedictus qui venit In nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.	<i>Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.</i>

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.

The Deacon says

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The President says

As we join our prayers with the Church Universal, so we say,
each in our own language, the prayer that Jesus taught us.

**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.**

Notre Père...

Vater Unser...

Onze Vader...

Padre Nuestro...

Ojczy Nasz...

Baba Yetu...

E to matou Matua...

Ein Tad...

Πάτερ ἡμῶν

Remain standing for

Breaking of the Bread

The President breaks the consecrated bread, saying

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

The President says

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Sit as the President and other ministers begin

The Distribution of Communion

Please come up for Communion as directed by the stewards. All baptised Christians who receive communion in their own church are encouraged to receive today. If you are accompanied by children who do not yet receive, please bring them with you to receive a blessing. They must not be left on their own.

*If you are not a communicant, you are welcome to come forward at this point in the service to receive a blessing, keeping your hands to your sides. Please ask the priest if you **need a gluten-free host**.*

*We request that **you do not intinct (dip) your host in the wine** but either take a sip from the cup or remain with your head bowed. This is for the reasons of good hygiene.*

If you wish to receive communion without climbing the steps to the High Altar, please join the line for the station in the North-East Transept.

*We keep a **prayerful silence** during Communion to allow others to prepare to receive the sacrament or pray afterwards.*

During Communion, the choir sings the Agnus Dei

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

*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.*

Prayer after Communion

Stand as the President says

Let us pray.

Silence is kept

Blessed God,
help us, whom you have fed and satisfied in this eucharist,
to hunger and thirst for what is right;
help us, who here have rejoiced and been glad,
to stand with those who are persecuted and reviled;
help us, who here have glimpsed the life of heaven,
to strive for the cause of right
and for the coming of the kingdom of Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen.

All then say

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood
of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you
our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

The Dismissal



The kingdom of God is justice and joy,
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy;
God's power and glory in Jesus we know,
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

²The kingdom of God is mercy and grace,
the captives are freed, the sinners find place,
the outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share,
and hope is awakened instead of despair.

³The kingdom of God is challenge and choice,
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross,
our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

⁴God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal,
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole;
the heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call,
and all things cry, 'Glory!' to God all in all.

Words: Bryn Rees (1911-83)

Tune: PADERBORN

AM 569i

May God the Father
bring us to the home which his Son prepares for all who love him.
Amen.

May God the Son
give us the will to live for him each day in life eternal.
Amen.

May God the Holy Spirit
give us the assurance that our citizenship is in heaven with the blessed
and beloved, and the whole company of the redeemed.
Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Deacon says

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

All remain standing as the choir and clergy depart

Organ Voluntary

Tea and coffee will be served in the Clagett Auditorium following this morning's Eucharist. All are very welcome.

Kindly supported by the Friends of Canterbury Cathedral.

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www.canterbury-cathedral.org/support-us/friends**

Safeguarding : Do you need to talk?

Are you concerned about the safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult?

Or is there something that you would like to discuss that affects you?

A safeguarding concern is anything that may impact the safety and wellbeing of a child, young person or vulnerable adult; if they are being neglected, harmed or at risk of being harmed by others or themselves, and are in need of protection. To report a non-emergency safeguarding concern please scan the QR code and complete our online form or email safeguarding@canterbury-cathedral.org

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CONTACT THE CATHEDRAL CONSTABLES OFFICE:

Located by the main entrance to the Precincts, Christ Church Gate.

Alternatively, please call 01227 866237



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