



**Liverpool  
Cathedral**

# Eucharist

Third Sunday of Advent

**15<sup>th</sup> December, 2024**

## **Welcome to Liverpool Cathedral for the Third Sunday of Advent.**

*The Eucharist is the central act of Christian worship, given by Jesus Christ. The name means 'Thanksgiving'. We have gathered because Christ has invited us to receive salvation. This is a feast. Christ, the Lamb of God, who gave his life, once for all, is offered for the hungry. His sacrifice is stronger than our sin, and has broken the power of death. Our hearts turn to God, by the Holy Spirit at work within us, lifted in praise to the Father in union with Christ, the Son of God. By grace we are fellow children with him, adopted into the eternal love of God. Through the words of scripture and preacher; the beauty of music and stone; the diverse other people present, and through Christ's broken bread, the gift of his life for us, the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. The liturgy begins as you turn to reflect, reading the scripture for today, and examining your life and the world, in the light of the Gospel.*

*The president today is the Revd Canon Dr Philip Anderson.*

*The preacher today is the Revd Canon Myles Davies.*

*An induction loop system is in operation: hearing aids should be switched to the 'T' position. Please ensure that all mobile telephones and devices are silenced before the service begins. Throughout this order of service, indications of where the congregation should stand, sit or kneel are given for guidance only; please feel free to follow your own practice if this is different. If you are a United Kingdom taxpayer, the value of the collection today will be significantly enhanced if you use the Gift Aid envelope available from the stewards. Thank you.*

*The music is provided by the L64 choir and The Occasional Singers.  
The Musical setting of today's Eucharist is the Communion Service in F  
by Harold Darke (1888-1976)*

*During communion, prayers for healing with the laying on of hands, and anointing, will be offered in the War Memorial. If you would like to receive this ministry please make your way there after coming forward to receive the sacrament.*

Common Worship: Times and Seasons, material from which is included in this service is copyright The Archbishops' Council, 2006. The Scripture quotations contained in this service are taken from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, Anglicised Edition, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, and is used with permission. All rights reserved. Hymns are reproduced in accordance with the terms of Christian Copyright Licence 176768 - Liverpool Cathedral is a registered charity no 1205970

# The Gathering

At 10.25am notices are given from the Ambo.

At 10:30am the Choir enters from the East. **All Stand.** The Cathedral Procession enters from the West as the hymn begins.

Hymn No 32



**Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,  
and manifest thy virgin-birth:  
let every age adoring fall;  
such birth befits the God of all.**

**Begotten of no human will,  
but of the Spirit, thou art still  
the Word of God, in flesh arrayed,  
the Saviour, now to us displayed.**

**From God the Father he proceeds,  
to God the Father back he speeds,  
runs out his course to death and hell,  
returns on God's high throne to dwell.**

**Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,  
and darkness glow with new-born light,  
no more shall night extinguish day,  
where love's bright beams their power display.**

**O Jesu, virgin-born, to thee  
eternal praise and glory be,  
whom with the Father we adore.  
And Holy Spirit, evermore, Amen.**

*Veni Redemptor gentium St Ambrose (c.340-397) translated John Mason Neale (1818 – 1866); Tune: Puer Nobis Nascitur; music adapted by Michael Praetorius (1571-1621) harmonised by George R Woodward (1848-1934)*

## **The Greeting**

*The President greets the people*

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

**All sit.**

## **Prayer of Preparation**

**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 says*

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.

**We kneel or sit** in penitence as the choir sing

Kyrie eleison      Christe eleison      Kyrie eleison  
*Lord, have mercy    Christ, have mercy    Lord, have mercy*

**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.**

*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.**

## **The Collect**

*The President says*

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at your first coming sent your messenger  
to prepare your way before you:  
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries  
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way  
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,  
that at your second coming to judge the world  
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

**We sit.**

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

**Reading:** *Zephaniah 3. 14-end*

A reading from the Book of the prophet Zephaniah.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!  
Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!  
The Lord has taken away the judgements against you,  
he has turned away your enemies.  
The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;  
you shall fear disaster no more.  
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.  
The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.  
I will deal with all your oppressors at that time.  
And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.  
At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

*The choir sings*

### **Psalm 146. 4-end**

Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help,  
whose hope is in the Lord their God;  
Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them:  
who keeps his promise for ever;  
Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong  
and bread to those who hunger.  
The Lord looses those that are bound;  
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;  
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;  
The Lord loves the righteous;  
The Lord watches over the stranger in the land;  
he upholds the orphan and widow;  
but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.  
The Lord shall reign for ever, your God, O Zion, through all generations.

### **Reading: Phil. 4. 4-7**

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**We stand to sing**

Hymn No 569



**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.**

**The 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.**

**The 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.**

**God'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 – 1983); Tune: Paderborn; German folk melody included in Gesangbuch, Paderborn 1765; arr by Sydney H Nicholson (1875 – 1947)*

**We remain standing** and turn to face the Deacon who proclaims the Gospel.

**Gospel Reading**

*Luke 3. 7-18*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord!

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



*After the Gospel Reading, the Choir sings a portion of*

## **The Advent Prose**

Pour down, O heavens, from above,  
and let the skies rain down righteousness.

You are my witnesses, says the Lord,  
and my servant whom I have chosen,  
that you may know me and believe me.



I myself am the Lord, and none but I can deliver;  
what my hand holds, none can snatch away.

## **Sermon**

*The Revd Canon Myles Davies*

***We sit for the sermon.***

*After the Sermon, the Organist improvises during a time of reflection and prayer.*

## **The Creed**

***We stand*** and the President says

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**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.**

***We sit or kneel for***

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*The bidding after each petition is*

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**

***We stand.***

*The President says*

In the tender mercy of our God,  
the dayspring from on high will 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.

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.

*During the hymn a collection is taken and received for the mission and ministry  
of Liverpool Cathedral and the table is prepared.*

Please give what you can to the collection at the Offertory, generously, in response to God's great generosity to us. Your offering will help sustain the Cathedral as a place of encounter and a community open to all. This costs over £9000 a day. If you prefer you can donate via the contactless giving points, or via the Liverpool Cathedral 'Make a Donation' page, via this QR code.



If you are a UK tax payer please help us reclaim an extra 25p for every £1 you give, from the Treasury, by putting your donation into a completed Gift Aid envelope. Please consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme, so your offering is regular and sustained.

**We sing**

Hymn No 39



**Hills of the North, rejoice, river and mountain-spring,  
hark to the advent voice; valley and lowland, sing.  
Christ comes in righteousness and love,  
he brings salvation from above.**

**Isles of the Southern seas, sing to the listening earth,  
carry on every breeze**

**hope of a world's new birth:  
In Christ shall all be made anew,  
his word is sure, his promise true.**

**Lands of the East, arise, he is your brightest morn,  
greet him with joyous eyes,**

**praise shall his path adorn:  
your seers have longed to know their Lord;  
to you he comes, the final word.**

**Shores of the utmost West, lands of the setting sun,  
welcome the heavenly guest**

**in whom the dawn has come:  
he brings a never-ending light  
who triumphed o'er our darkest night.**

**Shout, as you journey home, songs be in every mouth,  
lo, from the North they come,  
from East and West and South:  
in Jesus all shall find their rest,  
in him the universe be blest.**

*Words: Editors of English Praise 1975, based on Charles Oakley (1832 – 1865)  
Tune: Little Cornard; Martin Shaw (1879 – 1958)*

## **Preparation of the Table**

*The President takes the bread and wine and says*  
Pour upon the poverty of our love, and the weakness of our praise,  
the transforming fire of your presence. **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.**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and everlasting Father,  
through Jesus Christ your 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:

*The choir sings*  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.



in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you  
in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:



## The Lord's Prayer

***We kneel or sit.***

In whatever language we use to pray, we say together

**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.**

## Breaking of the Bread

*The President breaks the consecrated bread.*

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.**

## Giving of Communion

*The President says the invitation to communion*

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*The President and people receive communion. Every Christian is welcome to receive Holy Communion in this Cathedral.*

*N.B. Please do not dip the consecrated bread into the wine as fingers also become immersed.*

*You are welcome to continue to receive just the bread, and thereby receive Christ fully, if you are concerned about infection. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please indicate this to the ministers by bringing this service booklet with you. Gluten free wafers are available from the minister by the Rankin Porch (right hand side of the congregation), as is alcohol-free wine.*

*You are invited, if you wish, to move to the War Memorial after receiving communion, for prayers for healing, with the laying on of hands and anointing.*

*During communion the choir sings*

### **Agnus Dei**

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

*After Communion, the choir sings*

### **Motet**

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, Trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look East and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, One more seed is planted there: Give up your strength the seed to nourish, That in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim. One more light the bowl shall brim, Shining beyond the frosty weather, Bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.

*Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965); Besançon carol melody, arr. Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)*

## Prayer after Communion

**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 Advent Wreath

*The third of the candles on the Advent Wreath is lit.*  
Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true:  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets,  
but in our days you speak through your Son,  
whom you have appointed the heir of all things.  
Grant us, your people, to walk in his light,  
that we may be found ready and watching  
when he comes again in glory and judgement;  
for you are our light and our salvation.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

## The Dismissal

**All stand.**

*The President says*  
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

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.**

**We remain standing** to sing, turning to face the Bridge as the Cathedral  
Procession passes

**Blessing**





**Thy kingdom come! on bended knee  
the passing ages pray;  
and faithful souls have yearned to see  
on earth that kingdom's day.**

**But the slow watches of the night  
not less to God belong;  
and for the everlasting right  
the silent stars are strong.**

**And lo, already on the hills  
the flags of dawn appear;  
gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,  
proclaim the day is near.**

**The day in whose clear-shining light  
all wrong shall stand revealed,  
when justice shall be throned in might,  
and every hurt be healed;**

**When knowledge, hand in hand with peace,  
shall walk the earth abroad:  
the day of perfect righteousness,  
the promised day of God.**

*Words: Frederick Hosmer (1840 – 1929)  
Tune: Irish; Ashworth's Collection of Tunes (1749)*

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

*The organist plays the concluding voluntary.  
Tea and coffee are served in the Baptistry following the service, and all are  
welcome.*

## **Donations towards Cathedral's Christmas Flowers**

*Please pass donations towards the cost of the Cathedral's Christmas flowers to Canon Myles Davies after this service, by the Dulverton Bridge.*

---

## **Exploring the Sunday Gospel**

*If you wish to reflect upon next week's Gospel reading in preparation for worship, then please Google 'Exploring the Sunday Gospel at Liverpool'.*

---

**Receive our weekly  
Life at Liverpool Cathedral  
email**  
Scan the QR code to sign-up



## **Parking at the Cathedral**

*If you have parked at the Cathedral today please remember to pay. Thank you.*

---

## **Safeguarding**

*We are committed to the best possible practice with regard to safeguarding. For details go to <https://liverpoolcathedral.org.uk/safeguarding>.*

---

## UPCOMING SERVICES

### The Third Sunday of Advent (December 15)

1:00pm	Sepas	Lady Chapel
3:00pm	Choirs of Angels Service <i>(The Cathedral voluntary choirs)</i>	Main Space
5:00pm	Charismatic-Catholic Service	Lady Chapel

### Monday (December 16)

8:30am	Morning Prayer	Lady Chapel
12:05pm	Eucharist	Lady Chapel
5:30pm	Evensong	Presbytery

### Tuesday (December 17)

8:30am	Morning Prayer	Lady Chapel
12:05pm	Eucharist	Lady Chapel
5:30pm	Evensong	Lady Chapel

### Wednesday (December 18)

8:30am	Morning Prayer	Lady Chapel
12:05pm	Eucharist	Lady Chapel
5:30pm	Evening Prayer	Lady Chapel

### Thursday (December 19)

8:30am	Morning Prayer	Lady Chapel
12:05pm	Eucharist	Lady Chapel
5:30pm	Evensong	Lady Chapel

### Friday (December 20)

8:30am	Morning Prayer	Lady Chapel
12:05pm	Eucharist - BCP	Lady Chapel
5:30pm	Evening Prayer	Lady Chapel

### Saturday (December 21)

8:30am	Morning Prayer	Lady Chapel
12:05pm	Eucharist	Nave Altar
3:00pm	A Christmas Sequence	Main Space

### The Fourth Sunday of Advent (December 22)

8:30am	Holy Communion	Lady Chapel
10:30am	Eucharist	Main Space
3:00pm	Holly Bough Service	Main Space
5:00pm	Charismatic-Catholic Service	Chapter House

*As you journey through Advent and Christmas, why not come and join us for our other services:*

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **The Christmas Sequence (Saturday, December 21 at 3pm)**

A Service of Music and Readings for the days approaching Christmas. Enjoy a Christmas Sequence of Carols performed by our Cathedral Choir.

### **The Holly Bough Carol Service (Sunday, December 22 at 3pm)**

A festive service of readings and carols with the procession of the Holly Bough and Christmas trees through the Cathedral.

### **Family Carol Service (Tuesday, December 24 at 11am)**

A special shorter family-style Christmas carol service, with music from our voluntary choirs.

### **Christmas Eve Carols (Tuesday, December 24 at 2pm and 4pm)**

The Cathedral Choir and congregation sing seasonal carols on Christmas Eve.

### **Midnight Mass (Tuesday, December 24 at 11:30pm)**

Welcome the first moments of Christmas Day in this atmospheric service. The setting is the Missa Brevis St Joannis de Deo by Joseph Haydn.

### **Christmas Day Eucharist (Wednesday, December 25 at 10:30am)**

A Festival Eucharist for Christmas Day. The musical setting for this Eucharist is the Missa Brevis by Jonathan Dove.

### **Epiphany Carol Service (Sunday, January 5 at 3pm)**

As we come to the Epiphany, we move from reflecting on the Saviour's birth, to the visit of the wise men to the Holy Family.