



Leicester **Cathedral**
A beating heart for City and County

SUNDAY WORSHIP

from the Community
of Leicester Cathedral



Christian Aid Week

10-16 May 2020

Sunday 17 May 2020
The Sixth Sunday of Easter

The Revd Canon Paul Rattigan, Canon Chancellor, leads the service.

Christopher Ouvry-Johns, Director of Music, plays on the Organ

Erstanden ist der heilige Christ BWV628

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Welcome and Greeting

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Words of welcome may be said.

This is the Sixth Sunday of Easter and also the Sunday following Christian Aid Week.

Thus our service will reflect this in various ways.

We meet in the presence of God
**who knows our needs,
hears our cries,
feels our pain,
and heals our wounds.**

Penitence Saying sorry and asking for God's forgiveness

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

cf Romans 8.22, 23

Silence is kept.

God our Father, we are sorry
for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly,
and acted ungratefully.
Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest,
but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.
Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied,
but ignore the cry of the hungry.
Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless,
and do not care enough for the world you have made.
Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone,
as if there were no God and no heaven.
Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

Absolution God's forgiveness for us

The Lord enrich you with his grace,
and nourish you with his blessing;
the Lord defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil;
the Lord accept your prayers,
and absolve you from your offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.
Amen.

Prayer Collect for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples:
help your Church to obey your command
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

The First Reading

Acts 17.22–31

Read by Vic Allsop

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said,

“For we too are his offspring.”

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Hymn

**Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.**

**Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.**

*SERVANT SONG (AM604)
Richard A. M. Gillard (b.1953)
arranged by Betty Pulkingham (b.1928)*

Richard A. M. Gillard (b.1953)

The Gospel Reading

John 14.15–21

Read by Mirjam Ngoy-Verhage

A reading from the Gospel according to John.

”If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

”I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Video

Florence’s Story

Reflection

The Revd Canon Karen Rooms, Canon Missioner

The Anthem

Ihr habt nun Traurigkeit

Ihr habt nun Traurigkeit; aber ich will euch wiedersehen und euer Herz soll sich freuen, und eure Freude soll niemand von euch nehmen.

Sehet mich an: Ich habe eine kleine Zeit Mühe und Arbeit gehabt und habe großen Trost funden.

Ich will euch trösten, wie einen seine Mutter tröstet.

And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

Behold with your eyes, how that I have but little labour, and have gotten unto me much rest.

As one whom his mother comforts, so will I comfort you.

*Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)
from A German Requiem*

John 16.22; Ecclesiasticus 51.27; Isaiah 66.13

Anne Rattigan leads

Prayers of Intercession

The following response is used

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude with The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught 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.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Hymn

**For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord,
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.**

**Lead us forward into freedom,
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.**

**All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.**

**You, Creator-God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.**

*ALLELUIA DULCE CARMEN (AM635)
Essay on the Church Plain Chant, 1782
harmonised by William Henry Monk (1823–1889)*

Fred Kaan (1929–2009)

The Blessing and Dismissal

May God bless us with wonder at creation's glory.
May God bless us with fury at creation's spoiling.
May God bless us with courage at this critical hour.
And may the blessing of God,
Creator, Son and Holy Spirit,
rest upon us and on all creation,
this day and for the future to come.
Amen.

Adapted from ACT Alliance

Until we meet again,
Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Rosie Vinter, Assistant Director of Music, plays on the Organ

Grand Choeur

Théodore Salomé (1834–1896)

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Please donate now.**



caweek.org

Ways of Giving

The costs of running and maintaining Leicester Cathedral are substantial and continuing. Giving during services has ceased. Visitor income has also entirely dropped but we continue to incur costs. Please consider supporting us through a donation or by regular giving during this difficult and uncertain time so that Leicester Cathedral can continue to be a Beating Heart for City and County. Many thanks for your kind support.

Donate **online** at www.leicestercathedral.org/donate

There you can set up a regular gift via **the Parish Giving Scheme**

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