



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

SUNDAY WORSHIP

from the Community
of Leicester Cathedral

Sunday 25 October 2020
Bible Sunday

The Revd Canon Alison Adams, Canon Pastor and Sub-Dean, leads the service.

David Cowen, Associate Organist, plays on the Organ

Chorale from Chorale and Fugue

Healey Willan (1880–1968)

Welcome and Greeting

We meet in the presence of God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Canon Alison continues with words of welcome.

Today is Bible Sunday and we are also nearly at the end of Black History Month. One invitation we can take from both of those things as Christians is to be curious about other perspectives and to listen to how the stories of the Bible might be heard afresh. So, today, Canon Karen will be in conversation with Cecilia, one of the members of our Cathedral Community, about one of the passages of Scripture we shall hear. We begin by using a prayer from the Anglican Church of Kenya.

Almighty God,
you bring to light things now hidden in darkness,
and know the shadow of our hearts:
cleanse and renew us by your Spirit,
that we may walk in the light and glorify your name,
through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world.
Amen.

God gathers us across the distance.
Let us worship God together.

Penitence Asking for God's forgiveness and healing

The word of God is living and active.
It judges the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
All is open and laid bare before the eyes of him
to whom we give account.

cf Hebrews 4.12

We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept.

May your loving mercy come to me, O Lord,
and your salvation according to your word:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Your word is a lantern to my feet
and a light to my path:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

O let your mercy come to me that I may live,
for your law is my delight:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Absolution God's forgiveness for us

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by the Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer Collect for Bible Sunday

Let us pray.

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast
the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The First Reading

Colossians 3.12–17

Read by Chi Okafor

A reading from Paul's letter to the Colossians.

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

Luke 4.14–30

Read by Mirjam Ngoy-Verhage

A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.' All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, 'Is not this Joseph's son?' He said to them, 'Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, "Doctor, cure yourself!" And you will say, "Do here also in your home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum." ' And he said, 'Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's home town. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up for three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.' When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Hear the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Reflection

The Revd Canon Karen Rooms and Cecilia Adjadje

David Cowen plays

Choral Dorian

Jehan Alain (1911–1940)

Doreen Ndetaramo leads

Prayers of Intercession

The following response is used

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

and this response may be used at the end:

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

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

**Dear Christ, uplifted from the earth,
your arms stretched out above
through every culture, every birth,
to draw an answering love.**

**Still east and west your love extends
and always, near and far,
you call and claim us as your friends
and love us as we are.**

**Where age and gender, class and race,
divides us to our shame,
you see a person and a face,
a neighbour with a name.**

**May we, accepted as we are,
yet called in grace to grow,
reach out to others, near and far,
your healing love to show.**

ST BOTOLPH (AM620ii)
Gordon Slater (1896–1979)

Brian Wren (b.1936)

The Blessing and Dismissal

Christ the Sun of Righteousness
shine upon you
and scatter the darkness from before your path;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Until we meet again,
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

David Cowen plays

Fugue from Chorale and Fugue

Healey Willan (1880–1968)

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