



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

# **SUNDAY WORSHIP**

from the Community  
of Leicester Cathedral

**Sunday 1 November 2020**  
**All Saints' Day**

*The Revd Canon Emma Davies, Acting Canon Precentor, leads the service.*

*David Cowen, Associate Organist, plays on the Organ*

Voluntary in D (excerpt)

*John Alcock (1715–1806)*

## **Welcome and Greeting**

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

*Canon Emma continues with words of welcome.*

Today is All Saints' Day when we remember all the saints of God, not just the famous names but everyday people whose names we shall never know who, down the ages, have reflected the light of God. Through baptism we become members one of another in Christ, members of a company of saints whose mutual belonging transcends death. This time, too, around All Souls' Day tomorrow and leading to Remembrance Sunday next week is a season of remembrance and in this service we shall take a moment to remember those people we love who have died, our own personal saints, remembered always.

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

## **Penitence Asking for God's forgiveness and healing**

Since we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses,  
let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely,  
looking to Jesus in penitence and faith.

*cf Hebrews 12.1*

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, you are gracious and compassionate:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You are loving to all  
and your mercy is over all your creation:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Your faithful servants bless your name  
and speak of the glory of your kingdom:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

### **Absolution** God's forgiveness for us

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.**

### **Prayer** Collect for All Saints' Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God,  
you have knit together your elect  
in one communion and fellowship  
in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:  
grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints  
in all virtuous and godly living,  
that we may come to those inexpressible joys  
that you have prepared for those who truly love you;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## The First Reading

### Revelation 7.9–17

*Read by Peter Lewis*

A reading from the Book of Revelation.

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing,  
'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honour  
and power and might  
be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,  
and worship him day and night within his temple,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;

for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Second Reading

Matthew 5.1–12

*Read by Pam Spokes*

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

‘Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

‘Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

‘Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

‘Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Reflection

The Revd Canon Alison Adams, Canon Pastor and Sub-Dean

*David Cowen plays*

Prelude from 24 Pieces in Free Style

*Louis Vierne (1870–1937)*

## Pause to Remember

*A short time to remember those we love who have died.*

## **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

**For all the saints who from their labours rest,  
who thee by faith before the world confessed,  
thy name, O Jesu, be forever blest.**

*Alleluia. Alleluia.*

**Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;  
thou, in the darkness, still their one true light.**

*Alleluia. Alleluia.*

**O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.**

*Alleluia. Alleluia.*

**But lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day;  
the saints triumphant rise in bright array:  
the King of glory passes on his way.**

*Alleluia. Alleluia.*

**From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost**

*Alleluia. Alleluia.*

## The Blessing and Dismissal

May God, who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of the saints,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace.

May God give you joy in their fellowship  
and a share in their praises.

May God strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness  
and to come to the full radiance of glory;

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*

Voluntary in D (excerpt)

*John Alcock (1715–1806)*

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