



**BLACKBURN  
CATHEDRAL**

The Cathedral  
Eucharist  
on  
Maundy Thursday

*Thursday, 17 April 2025, 8pm*



*Christ considers the Lilies in the wilderness, Stanley Spencer*

*Welcome  
to this evening's  
service*

The President is  
**The Very Reverend Peter Howell-Jones**  
*The Dean*

The Preacher is  
**The Very Reverend Dr Frances Ward**  
*Dean Emerita of St. Edmundsbury*

The Deacon is  
**Canon James Lawrence**  
*The Missioner*

The Subdeacon is  
**Mihaela Mladin**

The service is sung by  
**The Cathedral Choir**

Directed by  
**John Robinson**  
*Organist and Director of Music*

The organist is  
**John Hosking**  
*Organist in Residence*

The setting for the service is **Darke in F**

**The service is live streamed**

# The Gathering

*Please remain seated as the choir and ministers move to the west end of the Cathedral before the notices*

*Please stand to sing*

## Processional

BLAENWERN



Jesus calls us here to meet him  
as through word and song and prayer  
we affirm God's promised presence  
where his people live and care.  
Praise the God who keeps his promise;  
praise the Son who calls us friends;  
praise the Spirit who, among us,  
to our hopes and fears attends.

Jesus calls us to confess him  
Word of Life and Lord of All,  
sharer of our flesh and frailness  
saving all who fail or fall.  
Tell his holy human story;  
tell his tales that all may hear;  
tell the world that Christ in glory  
came to earth to meet us here.

Jesus calls us to each other:  
vastly different though we are;  
language, colour, class and gender  
neither limit nor debar.

Join the hand of friend and stranger;  
join the hands of age and youth;  
join the faithful and the doubter  
in their common search for truth.

Jesus calls us to his table  
rooted firm in time and space,  
where the church in earth and heaven  
finds a common meeting place.

Share the bread and wine, his body;  
share the love of which we sing;  
share the feast for saints and sinners  
hosted by our Lord and King.

*John L Bell (born 1949) and Graham Maule (1958-2019)*  
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## 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.**

*The president introduces the celebration*

# The Prayers of Penitence

*The deacon says*

Our Lord Jesus Christ says;  
If you love me, keep my commandments.  
Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.  
Let us confess to almighty God our sins against his love,  
and ask him to cleanse us.

*There is a period of silence*

*The deacon says*

Have mercy on us, O God,  
in your great goodness;  
according to the abundance of your compassion  
blot out our offences.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Against you only have we sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Purge us from our sin and we shall be clean;  
wash us and we shall be whiter than snow.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*The president says*

May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son  
and strengthen us to live in the power of the Spirit  
all our days. **Amen.**

*The choir sings*

Glory be to God on high,  
and in earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee, we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King,  
God the Father almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ:  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;  
thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ,  
with the Holy Ghost,  
art the Most High,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

Let us pray.

*Silence is kept – please remain standing*

God our Father,  
you have invited us to share in the supper  
which your Son gave to his Church  
to proclaim his death until he comes:  
may he nourish us by his presence,  
and unite us in his love;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*Please sit down.*

## The Liturgy of the Word

### Old Testament Reading

*Read by John Wilson*

*(Exodus 12.1-14)*

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning



you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm**  
(116.1-2,11-16)

*The choir sings*

I am well pleased :  
that the Lord hath heard the voice of my prayer;  
that he hath inclined his ear unto me :  
therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.  
What reward shall I give unto the Lord :  
for all the benefits that he hath done unto me?  
I will receive the cup of salvation :  
and call upon the Name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows now in the presence of all his people :  
right dear in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.  
Behold, O Lord, how that I am thy servant :  
I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid;  
thou hast broken my bonds in sunder.  
I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving :  
and will call upon the Name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows unto the Lord, in the sight of all his people :  
in the courts of the Lord's house,  
even in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.

# New Testament Reading

Read by Ceri Davies

(1 Corinthians 11.23-26)

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand to sing*

## Gradual Hymn

O Waly Waly



An upper room our Lord prepared  
for those he loved until the end:  
and his disciples gather there,  
to celebrate their risen friend.

A lasting gift he gave his own:  
to share his bread, his loving cup.  
Whatever burdens bow us down  
he by his cross shall lift us up.

And after food he washed their feet  
for service too, is sacrament.  
In him our joy shall be complete  
sent out to serve, as he was sent.

*Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)*

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# The Gospel

*The deacon says*

*(John 13.1-17, 31b-35)*

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

## **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' Jesus said to him, 'One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.' For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.' After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord – and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please sit for the sermon*

*The Very Reverend Dr Frances Ward*

*There is a period of silence after the sermon for reflection*

## Foot Washing

*As the president begins to wash people's feet and dry them with a clean towel, the choir sings*

Ubi caritas et amor,  
Deus ibi est.  
Congregavit nos  
in unum Christi amor.  
Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur.  
Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum.  
Et ex corde diligamus  
nos sincero. Amen

*Music by Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978)*

*Where there is love and charity,  
God is there.  
The love of Christ has brought us  
together in one body.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in Him.  
Let us fear and love the living God.  
And let us love Him with all our  
hearts. Amen*

I give you a new commandment:  
love one another as I have loved you,  
so you are to love one another.  
If there is this love among you,  
then all will know that you are my disciples.  
*Text John 13.34-5, music by Peter Nardone (b. 1965)*

*The washing ends with the President saying:*

Almighty Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ taught us  
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters  
we do also for him:  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as he was the servant of all, who gave up his life and died for us,  
yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

# The Prayers of Intercession

*Led by Canon Michael Wedgeworth*

In the power of the Spirit let us pray to the Father  
through Christ the Saviour of the world.

Father, on this, the night he was betrayed,  
your Son Jesus Christ washed his disciples' feet.

We commit ourselves to follow his example of love and service.

Lord, hear us.  
**and humble us.**

On this night,  
he prayed for his disciples to be one.  
We pray for the unity of your Church.

Lord, hear us.  
**and unite us.**

On this night,  
he prayed for those who were to believe through  
his disciples' message.  
We pray for the mission of your Church.

Lord, hear us.  
**and renew our zeal.**

On this night,  
he commanded his disciples to love,  
but suffered rejection himself.  
We pray for the rejected and unloved.

Lord, hear us.  
**and fill us with your love.**

On this night,  
he reminded his disciples  
that if the world hated them it hated him first.  
We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith.

Lord, hear us.  
**and give us your peace.**

On this night, he accepted the cup of death  
and looked forward to the new wine of the kingdom.  
We remember those who have died in the peace of Christ.

Lord, hear us  
**and welcome all your children into paradise.**

*Please stand with the president for the peace*

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### The Peace

*The president says*

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.'

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.



*Please give what you prayerfully can. You may prefer to use the collection point or card reader on the way out. If you are a UK tax payer please use and sign the blue gift aid form provided on your chair. Alternatively, The Parish Giving Scheme is the easy way to give regularly to support the ongoing ministry of Blackburn Cathedral and you can find out more and sign up by using the QR code provided here. Blackburn Cathedral's Parish Giving Scheme Code is: 030603001*

# Preparation of the Table

*The deacon prepares the table*

*Please remain standing to sing the hymn during which there will be a collection*

## Offertory hymn

SONG 1



O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray  
that all thy Church might be for ever one,  
grant us at every Eucharist to say  
with longing heart and soul, 'Thy will be done':  
O may we all one bread, one body be,  
through this blest sacrament of unity.

For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;  
make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;  
draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,  
by drawing all to thee, O Prince of peace:  
thus may we all one bread, one body be,  
through this blest sacrament of unity.

We pray thee too for wanderers from thy fold;  
O bring them back, good Shepherd of the sheep,  
back to the faith which saints believed of old,  
back to the Church which still that faith doth keep;  
soon may we all one bread, one body be,  
through this blest sacrament of unity.

So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,  
may we be one with all thy Church above,  
one with thy saints in one unbroken peace,  
one with thy saints in one unbounded love:  
more blessed still, in peace and love to be  
one with the Trinity in Unity.

*William Turton (1856-1938)*

## **Taking of the Bread and Wine**

At the Eucharist we are with our crucified and risen Lord.

We know that it was not only our ancestors,  
but we who were redeemed  
and brought forth from bondage to freedom,  
from mourning to feasting.

We know that as he was with them in the upper room  
so our Lord is here with us now.

**Until the kingdom of God comes  
let us celebrate this feast.**

Blessed are you Lord, God of the universe,  
you bring forth bread from the earth.

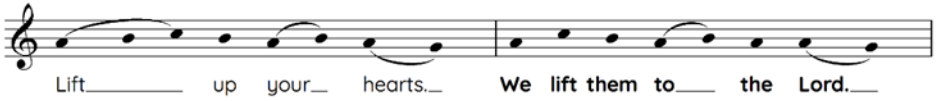
**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you Lord, God of the universe,  
you create the fruit of the vine.

**Blessed be God for ever.**



# Eucharistic Prayer



It is indeed right to give you thanks,  
Father most holy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For on this night he girded himself with a towel  
and, taking the form of a servant,  
washed the feet of his disciples.

He gave us a new commandment  
that we should love one another as he has loved us.

Knowing that his hour had come,  
in his great love he gave this supper to his disciples  
to be a memorial of his passion,  
that we might proclaim his death until he comes again,  
and feast with him in his kingdom.

Therefore earth unites with heaven  
to sing a new song of praise;  
we too join with angels and archangels  
as they proclaim your glory without end:

*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. Amen.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in this very night when 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of his kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Christ is the bread of life.

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
We proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,  
until you come in glory.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise;  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
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:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Joining our prayers with those of the Church Universal, so we  
say, each in our own language, the prayer our Saviour taught us,

Notre père, qui es aux cieux ... Missierna, li inti fis-smewwiet...  
Vater unser im Himmel ... Padre nosso, que estais nos céus...  
Padre nostro che sei nei cieli ... Ojczy nasz, któryś jest w niebie...  
Otče náš, jenž jsi na nebesích ... ي السَّمَاوَاتِ،  
Têve Mūsū, kuris esi danguje! ... Ein Tad, yr hwn wyt yn y nefoedd...  
Tatal nostru care esti in ceruri ...

**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 Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread, saying:*

Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.**

*If you are able, please remain standing while the choir sings*

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,  
have mercy upon us.

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

## **The Giving of Communion**

*The president says*

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*Communion is available in both kinds, and the minister distributing bread will say*

The body of Christ.

**Amen.**

*After receiving the bread, if you wish to receive wine please move to the station near the central aisle, and return to your place by the central aisle of the Nave.*

*The minister distributing wine will say*

The blood of Christ.

**Amen.**

*If you do not wish to receive communion wine, please walk past that second distribution point, and return to your place by the central aisle of the Nave.*

*While you are waiting to go for communion you may wish to sit down.*

## **During communion**

*The choir sings*

*Ave Verum Corpus, Edward Elgar*

## **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament  
you have given us the memorial of your passion:  
grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries  
of your body and blood that we may know within ourselves  
and show forth in our lives  
the fruit of your redemption,  
for you are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**

# The Conclusion

## The Stripping of the Sanctuary

*The sanctuary is stripped bare, as we sing*

Gerontius 439 i



Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
and in the depth be praise,  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!  
when all was sin and shame,  
a second Adam to the fight  
and to the rescue came.

O wisest love! that flesh and blood,  
which did in Adam fail,  
should strive afresh against their foe,  
should strive and should prevail;

And that a higher gift than grace  
should flesh and blood refine,  
God's presence and his very self,  
and essence all-divine.

And in the garden secretly,  
and on the cross on high,  
should teach his followers and inspire  
to suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
and in the depth be praise,  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways.

*John Henry Newman (1801 – 1890) adapted.*

*Silence is kept*

*The choir and clergy process out*

*The president says*

When the disciples had sung a hymn,  
they went out to the Mount of Olives.

*Please remain seated as the procession leaves in silence.*

*Once the ministers have recessed, please either leave in silence or stay in your seat for as long as you wish to take part in the Watch.*

***Jesus said to the disciples  
“Could you not stay with me one hour?”***

*The President will read the Gospel of the Watch at 9.50pm.*

## **Gospel of the Watch**

*Luke 22.31-62*

‘Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.’ And he said to him, ‘Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!’ Jesus said, ‘I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.’ He said to them, ‘When I sent you out without a purse, bag, or sandals, did you lack anything?’ They said, ‘No, not a thing.’ He said to them, ‘But now, the one who has a purse must take it, and likewise a bag. And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me, “And he was counted among the lawless”; and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled.’ They said, ‘Lord, look, here are two swords.’ He replied, ‘It is enough.’ He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, ‘Pray that

you may not come into the time of trial.’ Then he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed, ‘Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.’ Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them, ‘Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.’ While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, ‘Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?’ When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, ‘Lord, should we strike with the sword?’ Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, ‘No more of this!’ And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, ‘Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!’ Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, ‘This man also was with him.’ But he denied it, saying, ‘Woman, I do not know him.’ A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, ‘You also are one of them.’ But Peter said, ‘Man, I am not!’ Then about an hour later yet another kept insisting, ‘Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.’ But Peter said, ‘Man, I do not know what you are talking about!’ At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, ‘Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.’ And he went out and wept bitterly.

*The Cathedral will close at 10.00pm*

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