



**BLACKBURN
CATHEDRAL**



The Assumption of the Virgin, Francesco Botticini (1446-1498)

The Parish Eucharist on The Nineth Sunday of Trinity

Sunday 17 August 2025, 9.00am

Welcome to this morning's service

The President is
The Revd. Andrew Horsfall
Interim Dean

The Preacher is
The Revd. Michael Wedgeworth
Canon Emeritus

The Organist is
John Hosking
Organist in Residence

Preparation

For individual use before the service begins

The Old Testament Reading *(Jeremiah 23.23–29)*

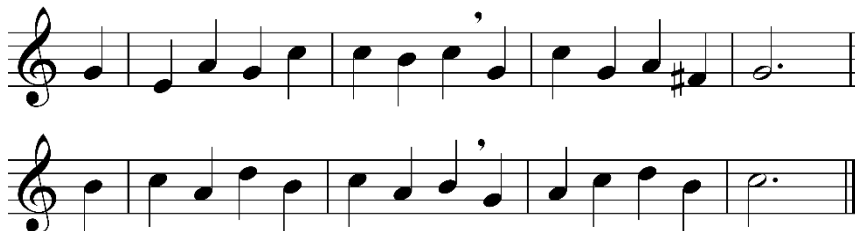
Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

The Gathering

Please stand to sing

Processional Hymn

417 ST. ANNE



Come, O thou all-victorious Lord,
thy power to us make known;
strike with the hammer of thy word,
and break these hearts of stone.

Give us ourselves and thee to know,
in this our gracious day;
repentance unto life bestow,
and take our sins away.

Conclude us first in unbelief,
and freely then release;
fill every soul with sacred grief,
and then with sacred peace.

Our desperate state through sin declare,
and speak our sins forgiven;
by perfect holiness prepare,
and take us up to heaven.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

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 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 Prayers of Penitence

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

**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.**

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 Gloria

EVELYNS 338



Glory in the highest to the God of heaven!
Peace to all your people through the earth be given!
Mighty God and Father, thanks and praise we bring,
singing Hallelujah to our heavenly king;

Jesus Christ is risen, God the Father's Son!
With the Holy Spirit you are Lord alone!
Lamb once killed for sinners, all our guilt to bear,
show us now your mercy, now receive our prayer;

Christ the world's true Saviour, high and holy One,
seated now and reigning from your Father's throne:
Lord and God, we praise you! Highest heaven adores:
in the Father's glory, all the praise be yours!

Christopher Idle after Gloria in Excelsis

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The Collect

Let us pray.

Silence is kept – please remain standing

Gracious Father,
revive your Church in our day,
and make her holy, strong and faithful,
for your glory's sake
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Please sit

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

(Hebrews 11.29 – 12.2)

Read by Michael Wedgeworth

A reading from the book of Hebrews.

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, without us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to sing

Gradual Hymn

377 ST DENIO



Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changest thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908)

The Gospel

(Luke 12.49–56)

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

‘I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.’

He also said to the crowds, ‘When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, “It is going to rain”; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, “There will be scorching heat”; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Revd. Mchael Wedgeworth, Canon Emeritus

There is a period of silence after the sermon for reflection

Please stand with the president

The Creed

**Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe.
Amen.**

Please sit

The Prayers of Intercession

Led by Linda Cronshaw

This response is used

**Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.**

*Those who are sick or for whom prayers have been asked,
Eric Barnes, Jenni Bellamy, Arthur Blundell, Christopher Browne,
John Broughton, Jenny Gaffin, Susan Garlick, Liz Frayne, Carol and Clifford
Fishwick, Ray Duckworth, Chris Drewe, Peter Howell-Jones, Ray Hutchins, Pam
Jelly, Liam Johnson, Graham Jordan, Ruth McGaughey, Robert Moore, Tracey
Riley, Harry Searles, Isla Smith, Harvey Stansfield, Sue Penfold, Brian and Ruth
Whittle, Margaret Young*

*and those who mourn, remembering those who have died recently,
and those whose anniversaries are at this time,*

**Judith Broughton
Kenneth Simpson, Jack Walker, Patricia Pickering (17), Robert Lund,
Shauna Lamont (18), Kathleen Mary Miller, Grace Durham (19),
Keith Picton Evans, Annete Elizabeth Flynn (21)**
[numbers are the day of the month]

And at the end

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

Please stand with the president for the peace

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The president says

Blessed are the peacemakers:
they shall be called children of God.
We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We share the peace with one another joyfully

*During the offertory hymn a collection is taken, 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 taxpayer, please use the blue gift aid form provided.
If you would prefer to give online, please visit blackburncathedral.co.uk/donate*

Preparation of the Table

The president prepares the table

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

Offertory Hymn

2961 ST. HELEN



Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
first-begotten from the dead,
thou alone, our strong defender,
liftest up thy people's head.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Jesu, true and living bread.

Here our humblest homage pay we,
here in loving reverence bow;
here for faith's discernment pray we,
lest we fail to know thee now.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou art here, we ask not how.

Life-imparting heavenly manna,
stricken rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship thee, the lamb who died,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Risen, ascended, glorified!

George Hugh Bourne (1840-1925) alt.

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Be present, be present,
Lord Jesus Christ,
our risen high priest;
make yourself known in the breaking of bread.
Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

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.

Blessed are you, Lord God,
our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech,
that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

Everyone sings

Slane 239, Michael Foster (b.1946)



*Holy, most holy, all holy the Lord,
in power and wisdom for ever adored!
The earth and the heavens are full of your love;
our joyful hosannas re-echo above!*

*Blessèd, most blessèd, all blessèd is he
whose life makes us whole and whose death sets us free;
who comes in the name of the Father of light,
let endless hosannas resound in the height!*

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.

When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
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.

Jesus Christ is Lord
**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Bring us at the last with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Paul, all your
saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
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

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as we join our prayers with those of the Church Universal, so we pray, each in our own language, as our Saviour taught us,

Notre père, qui es aux cieux ... Missierna, li inti fis-smewwiet...
Vater unser im Himmel ... Padre nostro, 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 Mūsų, 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

**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.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us 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.**

To receive the bread, or a blessing, please walk down the central aisle as directed by a steward. To receive wine please move to the chalice at the side

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 side aisles of the Nave

While you are waiting to go for communion you may wish to sit

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept

Holy Father,
who gathered us here around the table of your Son
to share this meal with the whole household of God:
in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace,
gather people of every race and language
to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**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 Dismissal

Please stand as the president pronounces God's blessing

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Please do consider staying for tea or coffee after the service

The Organ Voluntary

NEXT SUNDAY – THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Isaiah 58.9b–14

Hebrews 12.18–29

Luke 13.10–17

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Notices for the Week beginning Sunday 17 August

FOR SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS PLEASE CONTACT

Under 18s Coordinator	Denise Sanderson	07938 793844
Vulnerable Adults Coordinator	Stewart Hopkinson	07515 652776
Diocesan Safeguarding Officer	Catherine Smith	07711 485170
	catherine.smith@blackburn.anglican.org	

BLACKBURN FOODBANK IN AUGUST

We are collecting **toiletries** (toothpaste, brushes, soap, shampoo, sanitary products etc). If you can afford to give, please add it to your weekly or monthly shopping list and donate.

FLOWERS

The flowers today are given by Margery and Gary Wignall in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

MUSIC OVER THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

24 th August	Cantor – Damian O'Keefe
31 st August	Cantor – Angela Hicks

ANNUAL CONGREGATION SUMMER BBQ

This year our summer BBQ will be held on Sunday 7th September after the 10.30am service – save the date.

CATHEDRAL NEWSLETTERS

We are working hard to improve our communications across the various Cathedral communities. Last week we published the first edition of the quarterly Cathedral Matters newsletter - please take a copy home with you and pass it to a friend.



If you use email, please ensure that you are on the list to receive the monthly Cathedral email newsletter too. If not, you can sign up at www.blackburncathedral.com/newsletter or by scanning the code.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

The Council of Nicaea Conference – 1700th Anniversary

Friday 12th – Saturday 13th September 2025

Blackburn Cathedral, in partnership with Churches Together, is honoured to host an Ecumenical conference to celebrate the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea. The event brings together theologians, ecumenical leaders and local participants to engage in meaningful conversations about unity, respectful disagreement and how faith communities can respond to conflict in the world today.

The conference will explore how the principles of honest disagreement and loving engagement can help address the challenges we face - with both passion and compassion - and reflect on the enduring legacy of Nicaea.

Tickets £0 – £30 – A range of packages including lunch and refreshments
To book and find out more visit www.blackburncathedral.com/nicaea

Creation Care Conference: God's World and Our Mission

Friday 31st October & Saturday 1st November 2025

This conference is for all who are passionate about the Church's response to the climate crisis, rooted in Christian theology and discipleship bringing together voices from across the Christian spectrum to explore how faith communities can respond to the environmental crisis.

Keynote speaker: **Dr Canon Ruth Valerio**

Tickets £0 – £30 – A range of packages including lunch and refreshments
To book and find out more visit www.blackburncathedral.com/creation