



BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL



Sermon on the Mount, Cosimo Rosselli (1481-1507)

The Parish Eucharist on The Twelfth Sunday of Trinity

Sunday 7 September 2025, 9.00am

Welcome
to this morning's
service

The President and Preacher is
The Revd. James Lawrence
Canon Missioner

The Choir is
The Cathedral Youth Choir
Conducted by
Helen Davies

The Organist is
John Hosking
Organist in Residence

The setting is – **The Blackburn Mass, Davy**

Preparation

For individual use before the service begins.

The Old Testament Reading

(Deuteronomy 30.15–20)

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

The Gathering

Please stand to sing

Processional Hymn

137 DOWN AMPNEY



Spirit of truth and grace,
come to us in this place
as now in Jesus' name God's people gather.

Open our eyes to see
truths that will ever be,
and in communion draw us close together.

Spirit of joy and peace,
make all anxieties cease
with knowledge of the Father's perfect caring.
Then may God's children know
love that won't let us go
and joy that fills each day, beyond comparing.

Spirit of life and power,
revive us in this hour
and stir our hearts to praise with true devotion.
Fill us with heavenly fire,
and every heart inspire,
that we may serve the world with your compassion.

Iain D. Cunningham

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

*The choir sings the refrain first which is then repeated at once by everyone
and sung again after each section as indicated*



Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
For you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Amen.

The Collect

Let us pray.

Silence is kept – please remain standing

God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Please sit

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

(Philemon 1–21)

Read by Terry Givens

A reading from the book of Philemon.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to
Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in your house:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is

indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a slave but as more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to sing

Gradual Hymn

NOTTINGHAM



Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine:
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart - it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure-store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Frances R Havergal (1836-1879)

The Gospel

(Luke 14.25–33)

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Large crowds were travelling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, ‘Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, “This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.” Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Revd. James Lawrence, Canon Missioner

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 Michael Wedgeworth

This response is used

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

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

*and those who mourn, remembering those who have died recently,
and those whose anniversaries are at this time,*
Margaret Seymour (7), Rita Barnes (9), Gordon Shaw (10),
Keith Banks (11), Rachel Abram (12), John Whittle (13)
[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

God will speak peace to his people,
to those who turn to him in their hearts.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

4081 BLAENWERN



Jesus calls us here to meet him
is 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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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.

You are worthy of our thanks and praise,
Lord God of truth,
for by the breath of your mouth
you have spoken your word,
and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image
and placed us in the garden of your delight.
Though we chose the path of rebellion
you would not abandon your own.

Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace.
You gave your people the law and taught us by your prophets
to look for your reign of justice, mercy and peace.

As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth,
we echo the song of the angels in heaven,
evermore praising you and *singing*:

Everyone sings

2
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are

8
full of your glo - ry, Ho - san-na in the high - est *mf* Bles-sed is he that

12
comes in the name... of the Lord *f* Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ
you reveal the power of your love
made perfect in our human weakness.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

Embracing our humanity,
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
loving us to the end,
he gave himself to death for us;
dying for his own,
he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

On the night he gave up himself for us all
he 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.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

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.
Amen. Lord, we believe.

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross,
we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb,
we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high
and we long for his coming in glory.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption,
Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation
be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
form us into the likeness of Christ
and make us a perfect offering in your sight.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Look with favour on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.
Bless the earth,
heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free
and fill your Church with power from on high.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth
to feast with Mary, Paul, and all your saints
at the table in your kingdom,
where the new creation is brought to perfection
in Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
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 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 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.**

Andante con moto *mf*

2

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world have

8 *mp*

mer - cy up - on us. Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the

14 *mf*

world have mer - cy up - on us. Lamb of God you

19 *dim.* 3

take a - way the sin 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

During Communion

The choir sings

Ave verum corpus natum,
de Maria Virgine;
vere passum, immolatum
in cruce pro homine;
cuius latus perforatum
vero fluxit sanguine;
esto nobis praegustatum
in mortis examine.
O dulcis, O pie, O Jesu Fili Mariae;
miserere mei. Amen

Hail true body
born of the Virgin Mary:
you truly suffered and were
sacrificed on the cross for humanity;
from your pierced side
flowed the true blood;
be to us our chosen food
at the hour of our death.
O tender, O holy, O Jesus Son of Mary,
have mercy on me. Amen

Music by Robert Lucas Pearsall (1795-1856)

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken world,
in the name 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

"Jig" Fugue in C BuxWV 174

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637 – 1707)

CHORAL EVENSONG TODAY

4.00pm

Wood in D

O Nata Lux – Morten Lauridsen

Responses: Radcliffe

Psalms 121

NEXT SUNDAY – The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Exodus 32.7–14

I Timothy 1.12–17

Luke 15.1–10

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*Rosselli, Cosimo, 1439-1507. Sermon on the Mount, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-image/act-image-link.pl?RC=58320> [retrieved August 22, 2025]. Original source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/snarfel/4287572119>.*

Notices for the Week beginning Sunday 7 September

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	

Revd Jenny Gaffin, Canon Precentor

Canon Jenny commences a phased return to ministry at the Cathedral this weekend.

Her return to Sunday duties begins with leading Choral Evensong today at 4pm. For a period, Jenny will be working two days during the week and these, with some flexibility as appropriate, will be Tuesdays and Saturdays. Jenny is grateful for your prayers during her absence and would value your continuing prayers during this period of returning. She looks forward to seeing you all again in the coming weeks.

Canon Andrew Horsfall, Interim Dean

CANON ANDREW, INTERIM DEAN

Canon Andrew is away today, attending the Welcome Service for the Interim Dean of Carlisle.

Saturday 13th September Morning Eucharist Cancelled

As the cathedral hosts the Nicaea conference our worship pattern will change. There will be no 9am Eucharist, instead the conference will include a 9.20am morning prayer service and Ecumenical service at 1pm.

BLACKBURN FOODBANK IN SEPTEMBER

We are collecting **Spreads and Spices** (Jam, peanut butter, salt, pepper etc). If you can afford to give, please add it to your weekly or monthly shopping list and donate.

FLOWERS

Flowers today are given by Christine and Stephen Adams in loving memory of family and friends.

ANNUAL CONGREGATION SUMMER BBQ - TODAY

Our summer BBQ will be today after the 10.30am service. Everyone is welcome! A group photo of the congregation will be taken during the BBQ but you won't be required to participate if you don't want to.

STEWARD AND WARDEN SOCIAL

Andrew Horsfall, Interim Dean, will be hosting a social for stewards and wardens on the 5th October in the cathedral library after Evensong. Please talk to Louise Hicks, Senior Warden, if you would like to join the steward team.

QUARTERLY CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our next meeting will be held on the 21st September at Noon in the South Transept. Catherine Smith, the Diocesan Safeguarding officer will be there.

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

The Lord's Prayer Tour

Friday 10th October 2025

In less than 70 words, Jesus gives us a prayer to learn by heart and a prayer that gets inside our hearts, shaping the way we live. This special *Faith in the North* event will be led by archbishop Stephen Cottrell, with teaching, music film, Q&A, and space for reflection.

Tickets £0 – but please book online
To book and find out more visit www.blackburncathedral.com/event/the-lords-prayer-tour

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