



Choral Evensong
with an
act of commitment for
The Vine Community
The First Sunday after Trinity



Sunday, 19 June, 2022 at 4.00pm

Welcome to this afternoon's service

The Service is led by
The Very Reverend Peter Howell-Jones
The Dean

The cantor
Canon Gary O'Neill
Interim Precentor

The responses are
Preces and Responses for Upper Voices by David Terry (b. 1975)

The canticles are
Evening Service in C Minor by George Dyson (1883-1964)

**The Cathedral Choir
and Chester Cathedral Choir**
are directed by
John Robinson
Organist and Director of Music
and
Philip Rushworth
Director of Music

Refreshments will be served after the service.



The Vine Community

The Vine Community is a simple and flexible framework for living out a Christian life. It challenges us to set our own personal targets to help us to grow and develop in faith and be confident witnesses, disciples and leaders in our own local settings.

These should be both realistic and stretching, in response to the questions:

- How can I make space for God?
- How can I keep growing as a Christian?
- How can I show the hope and joy of Jesus Christ in the world?

There is a wide range of resources available to support those who wish to take part, and a programme of events comprising two quiet days; two general gatherings for mutual support and growth as a 'community' which will be held in different places across the Diocese and a service of commitment at the Cathedral in June each year.

Part of the principle of the Vine Community is that it should be accessible to all, so there is no charge for any of the events.

There are also different resources available for individual adults and for families and children

For more information, visit:

<https://www.blackburn.anglican.org/the-vine-community-main-homepage>

The Gathering

Please stand as the choir and ministers enter.

Introit

The choristers of Chester Cathedral sing

To thee before the close of day,
Creator of the world we pray
that with thy wonted favour thou,
wouldst be our guide and keeper.

From all ill dreams defend our sight,
from fear and terrors of the night;
withhold from us our ghostly foe,
that spot of sin we may not know.

O Father, that we ask be done,
through Jesus Christ thine only son,
who, with the Holy Ghost, and thee
doth live and reign eternally. Amen.

Te lucis ante terminum 7th century hymn tr. John Mason Neale (1818-66)

Music by Keith Roberts (b.1971)

Opening responses

The cantor and choir sing the responses

*O Lord, open thou our lips.
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.*

*O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.*

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.*

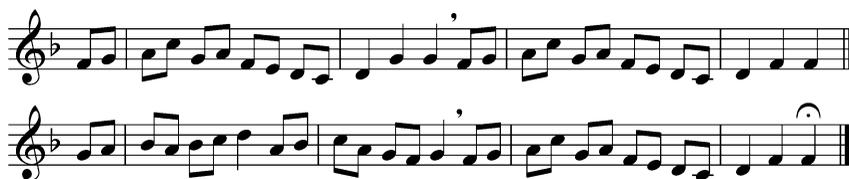
*Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.*

Welcome and Introduction

The Dean, the Very Reverend Peter Howell-Jones, introduces the service.

Office Hymn

KELVINGROVE
KELVINGROVE A&M 510



Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know, and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you, and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind, and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare,
will you let me answer prayer in you, and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free, and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you, and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside, and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound in you, and you in me.

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you, and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you, and you in me.

John Bell (b. 1946)

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Please sit down.

The Lord, even the most mighty God, hath spoken :
and called the world,
from the rising up of the sun unto the going down thereof.
Out of Sion hath God appeared : in perfect beauty.
Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence:
there shall go before him a consuming fire,
and a mighty tempest shall be stirred up round about him.
He shall call the heaven from above :
and the earth, that he may judge his people.
Gather my saints together unto me :
those that have made a covenant with me with sacrifice.
And the heavens shall declare his righteousness :
for God is Judge himself.
Hear, O my people, and I will speak :
I myself will testify against thee,
O Israel; for I am God, even thy God.
I will not reprove thee because of thy sacrifices,
or for thy burnt-offerings :
because they were not always before me.
I will take no bullock out of thine house : nor he-goat out of thy folds.
For all the beasts of the forest are mine :
and so are the cattle upon a thousand hills.
I know all the fowls upon the mountains :
and the wild beasts of the field are in my sight.
If I be hungry, I will not tell thee :
for the whole world is mine, and all that is therein.
Thinkest thou that I will eat bulls' flesh : and drink the blood of goats?
Offer unto God thanksgiving : and pay thy vows unto the most Highest.
And call upon me in the time of trouble :
so will I hear thee, and thou shalt praise me.

Please stand.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Please sit down.

First Reading

1 John 4.7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Please stand for the Magnificat which is sung by the choir.

Magnificat

My soul doth magnify the Lord :
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded :
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

For behold, from henceforth :
all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me :
and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him :
throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm :
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat :
and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things :
and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel :
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Please sit down

Second Reading

John 15.1-8

Jesus said, 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.'

Please stand for the Nunc dimittis which is sung by the choir.

Nunc dimittis

Lord, now lettest thy servant depart in peace :
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen :
thy salvation :

which thou hast prepared :
before the face of all people;

to be a light to lighten the Gentiles :
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth:
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried:
He descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen**

The cantor and choir sing

*The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.*

Please kneel or sit down.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon 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. Amen.
O Lord shew thy mercy upon us.
And grant us thy salvation.*

*O Lord, save the Queen.
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.*

*Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
And make thy chosen people joyful.*

*O Lord, save thy people.
And bless thine inheritance.*

*Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou. O God.*

*O God, make clean our hearts within us.
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.*

Collects

*Lord, you have taught us
that all our doings without love are nothing worth:
send your Holy Spirit
and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love,
the true bond of peace and of all virtues,
without which whoever lives is counted dead before you.
Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.*

*O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels,
and all just works do proceed;
give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give;
that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments,
and also that by thee
we being defended from the fear of our enemies
may pass our time in rest and quietness;
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.*

*Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord;
and by thy great mercy defend us
from all perils and dangers of this night;
for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.*

Please sit down.

Anthem

A Song of Wisdom

I came forth from the mouth of the Most High,
and covered the earth as a mist.

I dwelt in high places,
and my throne is in the pillar of the cloud.

Alone I compassed the circuit of heav'n,
and walked in the depth of the abyss.

In the waves of the sea and in all the earth,
and in ev'ry people and nation, I got possession,
with all these I sought rest.

And I took root in the people that was glorified,
in the portion of the Lord's own inheritance.

I was exalted like a cedar tree in Libanus
and as a cypress on the mountains of Hermon.

I was exalted like a palm tree on the shore,
and a fair olive tree in the plain.

And my branches are branches of glory and grace,
and my flowers are the fruit of the glory and riches.

Come unto me ye that are desirous of me,
and be ye filled with my fruits.

And I came out as a stream from a river,

I said, I will water my garden and will water abundantly my garden bed;
and lo my stream became a river and my rivers became a sea.

For my thoughts are fill'd from the sea
and my counsels from the great deep.

I came forth from the mouth of the Most High,
and my throne is the pillar of the cloud.

Ecclesiasticus 24

Music by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Sermon

The Bishop of Blackburn

There is a short silence for reflection after the sermon.

Please stand to sing

Hymn
TRURO388 I



O blessed spring, where Word and sign
embrace us into Christ the Vine:
here Christ enjoins each one to be
a branch of this life-giving tree.

Through all the changes of the years,
uncertain faith, rebellious tears,
sustained by Christ's infusing rain,
the boughs will shout for joy again.

Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree,
be praised for this blest mystery:
that Word and water thus revive
and join us to your Tree of Life.

Susan Palo Cherwien (b. 1953).

Please sit down.

Commitment to the Vine Community

The Bishop says

The Vine Community is dispersed group of people with a simple and flexible framework for living out a Christian life. That framework challenges its members to make their own personal pledges, which will be renewed each year, to help them to grow and develop in faith and to be confident witnesses, disciples and leaders in their own local settings.

Each of those who are present has already made a personal pledge to make space for God, to keep growing as a Christian and to show the hope and joy of Jesus Christ in the world. I now invite them to make a public commitment to live in accordance with those pledges during the next year.

The Bishop addresses those making their commitment, saying

Jesus says,

Abide in me as I abide in you.

John 15.4

Will you make space for God in your life?

With the help of God, I will.

Jesus says,

I am the vine, you are the branches.

John 15.5

Will you keep growing as a Christian?

With the help of God, I will.

Jesus says,

This is my commandment, that you love one another. *John 15.12*

Will you show the hope and joy of Jesus Christ in the world?

With the help of God, we will.

The Bishop addresses the whole congregation

The Vine Community is rooted in a commitment to abide, grow and bear fruit. Will you support the members of the Vine community to keep that commitment.

With the help of God, I will.

Vine Community Prayer

The members of the Vine Community say together

Almighty God, whose son Jesus Christ is the True Vine, help us to make space for you in our lives: to abide in you as you abide in us.

Give us grace to grow as Christians in our community: to follow his example and listen to your call; that through our words and our actions, we might bear fruit and show the hope and joy of Jesus Christ in the world.

Amen

The Bishop blesses those who have made their commitment, saying

The God of all grace,

who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, the True Vine, establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith; and the blessing ...

Each of those who have made their commitment are given a Vine Community badge.

Please stand to sing

Final Hymn

BLAENWERN 408 i



Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

The Blessing

The Organ Voluntary

Grand Choeur in D-Dur (alla Händel)
(Grand chorus in D Major after Handel)

Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

Refreshments are available at the West end of the Cathedral.

Future events for the Vine Community

Wednesday 13th July 7-9pm

Vine community gathering at Blackburn Cathedral. This will be an opportunity to meet, talk together in small groups, and explore the available resources. Optional Evening Prayer is at 5pm and food will be available at 6pm at a small cost for those who wish. The evening will finish with night prayer.

Saturday 8th October 2022

Vine community quiet day at Blackburn Cathedral:
'I am the Vine'.

Thursday 19th January 2023 7-9pm

Vine Community gathering at Whalley Abbey

Saturday 29th April 2023

Vine Community Quiet Day at Whalley Abbey: 'making space for God'.

Sunday 18th June 2023 4pm

Service of commitment at Blackburn Cathedral.

