



RIPON
CATHEDRAL

Easter Day

Festal Evensong

Sunday 31st March 2024

3.30pm



Welcome to Ripon Cathedral

Welcome to Ripon Cathedral for this act of worship. Christian worship has taken place on this site since Wilfrid built the first church here in 672AD. The crypt of that original church still survives and is the oldest part of any English cathedral and regular prayer has taken place there for over 1350 years.

Built on the firm foundation of that heritage, the Cathedral today continues to proclaim the Christian faith, with daily prayer and active service in Jesus' name.

If you would like to find out more about how the cathedral community is seeking to grow God's Kingdom in this 21st century, please visit our website. Regular updates of all that we are involved in and our worship are posted on our Facebook page and we tweet regularly using "@riponcathedral".

Sitting, kneeling, standing

As human beings, we worship with our bodies as well as through our music and prayers. This order of service invites you to sit or stand as appropriate. Please see these as merely invitations and adopt the posture you find most comfortable.

Large print versions of the Order of Service are available. Please ask those who welcomed you if you would like one.



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Giving to support the work of the Cathedral

Stewardship of all the gifts that God has given is a part of Christian discipleship. Giving is a part of that, and the support of charities and the church is an important part of that in terms of time, talent and money. We would encourage you in your stewardship, offering the following easy ways to support the work of the Cathedral:

- use the collection bags or plates;
- use the card terminals;
- for bank transfers Account Name: The Chapter of Ripon Cathedral Sort Code: 40 38 23 Account Number: 91067737.
- To support the Development Trust use this QR code.



Happy Easter!

A very warm welcome to Ripon Cathedral as, with Christians all around the world, we join in celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

This service of Choral Evensong is a form of worship which is several hundred years old but draws on even older traditions. The who worshipped here when the Cathedral was founded will have sung and prayed an evening service which is intimately related to the service you experience today.

Easter is the foundation of our faith, the feast that tells again the story of the empty tomb and the disciples' early encounters with their risen Lord. Easter asserts that once and for all, Jesus overcame the powers of sin and death and so gives hope and the promise of life to people in every generation.

It is remarkable to think that people have celebrated Christ's resurrection on this site for over thirteen-hundred years. It is clear to see that we come into a Cathedral that has been decorated for this celebration in the most wonderful way. I am extremely grateful to everyone who has helped to prepare this ancient church for Easter, not least the flower arrangers but also those who have prepared the spectacular Easter Garden.

If you are visiting Ripon for Easter, having travelled from another part of the country or world, then please do take our best wishes back to your home community with you. We pray that you have a safe return journey. If, on the other hand, you live locally and don't normally worship with us regularly, please can I encourage you to come back and join us again? The Cathedral has a growing congregation (including online) and details of our Sunday and daily services can be found on the monthly Newsletter and on the website. Children's church takes place during the Sunday 10.30am service. You would be very welcome at any of our services.

I hope that you enjoy celebrating Easter with us in this service. You will note that the new Paschal Candle (Easter Candle) for 2024 is already burning. We are fortunate that it has been especially prepared for us during Lent, and it is well worth admiring for its artistry. It was lit for the first time at our service yesterday evening. It now burns brightly, as it will in baptisms and funerals throughout the year, to remind us of the hope we have been given, thanks to the undying faithfulness and love of God.

Once again, I wish you a very happy Easter!

Dean John

About This Service

The service is sung by the cathedral choir to the *Evening Service in C* by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924).

The responses are sung to the setting by Humphrey Clucas (*b. 1941*).

Please stand as the clergy and choir enter.

Processional Hymn

The Lamb's high banquet we await
In snow-white robes of royal state,
And now, the Red Sea's channel past,
To Christ our Prince we sing at last.

Upon the altar of the Cross
His Body has redeemed our loss,
And tasting of his precious Blood,
Our life is hid with Christ in God.

That Paschal eve God's arm was bared,
The devastating angel spared;
By strength of hand our hosts went free
From Pharaoh's ruthless tyranny.

Now Christ our Passover is slain,
The Lamb of God that knows no stain,
And he, the true unleavened Bread,
Is truly our oblation made.

Maker of all, to thee we pray,
Fulfil in us thy joy today;
When death assails, grant, Lord, that we
May share thy Paschal victory.

To thee who, dead, again dost live,
All glory, Lord, thy people give,
All glory to the Father be
And Spirit blest, eternally.

NEH 101

Words: Latin 7th century tr. J. M. Neale (1818-1866)

Music: DEUS TUORUM MILITUM Grenoble Church Melody

Please remain standing.

Preces

The Preces are sung by cantor and choir.

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.

Words of welcome from the Dean after which please sit for the Psalm.

Psalm

Choir O praise God in his holiness :
praise him in the firmament of his power.
Praise him in his noble acts :
praise him according to his excellent greatness.
Praise him in the sound of the trumpet :
praise him upon the lute and harp.
Praise him in the cymbals and dances :
praise him upon the strings and pipe.
Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals :
praise him upon the loud cymbals.
Let every thing that hath breath :
praise the Lord.

Psalm 150

Please stand.

Choir 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.

Old Testament Reading

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord GOD, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.'

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.'

Ezekiel 37.1-14

After a short silence, please stand with the choir.

The altar is censed during the singing of the Magnificat.

Magnificat

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

For he hath regarded
the lowliness of his handmaiden.

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.

New Testament Reading

A reading from the Gospel of Luke

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and

crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Luke 24.13-35

After a short silence please stand with the choir.

Nunc dimittis

Lord, now lettest thou 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.

Please remain standing.

The Apostles' Creed

The Dean
All

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.

Prayers

The cantor and choir sing:

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

Please sit.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come;
thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that 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 King.
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.

The Collect for Easter Day

Cantor Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of thy Son
hast overcome the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to thee in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with thee and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity.
Amen.

The Collect for Peace

Cantor 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.

The Collect for Aid against all Perils

Cantor

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.

Anthem

Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion
and turneth the shadow of death into the morning.
Alleluia! Yea, the darkness shineth as the day,
the night is light about me.
Amen.

*Words: Amos 5.8, Ps 139.11a
Music: Jonathan Dove (b. 1959)*

Prayers

The prayers finish with the Grace.

All

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.**

Offertory Hymn

The collection is taken during this hymn.

**The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad;
the passover of gladness,
the passover of God!
From death to life eternal,
from earth unto the sky,
our Christ hath brought us over
with hymns of victory.**

Our hearts be pure from evil,
that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection-light;
and, listening to his accents,
may hear so calm and plain
his own 'All hail,' and, hearing,
may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful,
and earth her song begin,
the round world keep high triumph,
and all that is therein;
let all things seen and unseen
their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord hath risen,
our joy that hath no end.

NEH 117

Words: John of Damascus (c. 676–749) tr. John Mason Neale (1816-1866)

Music: ELLACOMBE Gesangbuch Mainz, 1833

Blessing

The Dean

God the Father,
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life;
and the blessing of God Almighty
the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit
be with you now and always.

All

Amen.

Organ Voluntary

Choral-Improvisation sur le 'Victimae paschali'

Charles Tournemire (1870-1939) tr. Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)