



CHRIST CHURCH
CATHEDRAL
A CATHEDRAL FOR THE CITY

Sunday, September 14, 2025 — Holy Cross Day, Year C

Choral Evensong
4.00 p.m.

Book of Common Prayer (BCP), p. 20

Officiant: The Reverend Ross Bliss

Music for the Responses: Philip Moore (b. 1943)

Setting for the Canticles: Service in F — George Dyson (d. 1964)

This service is being broadcast live on the Internet. By attending, you acknowledge and consent to the fact that video images of you may appear there.

Prelude: Choral Prelude on 'Rockingham'

Alec Rowley (d. 1958)

All stand as able when the chancel party enters.

Preces & Responses

remain standing

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

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

Officiant Praise ye the Lord.

Choir The Lord's name be praised.

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the cross of Christ, my God:
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748).

*Music: Melody Psalmody in Miniature, Second Supplement, 1780?;
harm. Edward Miller (1731-1807); desc. David R. Riley (1947-2017) ©.*

Psalm 124

all are now seated

If the Lord himself had not been on our side now may Israel say :
if the Lord himself had not been on our side when enemies rose up
against us;
They had swallowed us up quick :
when they were so wrathfully displeased at us.
Yea the waters had drowned us :
and the stream had gone over our soul.
The deep waters of the proud had gone even over our soul.
But praised be the Lord :
who hath not given us over to be a prey unto their teeth.
Our soul is escaped even as a bird out of the snare of the fowler :
the snare is broken and we are delivered.
Our help standeth in the Name of the Lord :
who hath made heaven and earth.

Psalm 125

They that put their trust in the Lord shall be even as the mount Sion :
which may not be removed but standeth fast for ever.
The hills stand about Jerusalem :
even so standeth the Lord round about his people
from this time forth for evermore.
For the rod of the ungodly cometh not into the lot of the righteous :
lest the righteous put their hand unto wickedness.
Do well O Lord unto those that are good and true of heart.
As for such as turn back unto their own wickedness :
the Lord shall lead them forth with the evildoers
but peace shall be upon 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.

First Reading

Isaiah 60

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: Magnificat

sung by the choir, all standing

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 showed 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.

Second Reading

John 6.51-59 / *all seated*

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: Nunc dimittis

all standing

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.

The Apostles' Creed

remain standing

Officiant I believe in God
All say **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.**

Lesser Litany & the Lord's Prayer

Officiant The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

All kneel.

Officiant Lord, have mercy upon us.

Choir Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Choir 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 them that trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Suffrages

the congregation remains kneeling

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Officiant O Lord, save the King.

Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Officiant Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.

Officiant O Lord, save thy people.

Choir And bless thine inheritance.

Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Officiant O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Officiant O God, forasmuch as without thee we are not able to please thee, mercifully grant that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever.

Choir Amen.

Fixed Collects

Officiant 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 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.

Choir Amen.

Officiant 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.

Choir Amen.

Anthem

Crux fidelis (Faithful cross)
Eclipse—at Midnight—
It was dark—before—
Sunset—at Easter—
Blindness—on the Dawn—
Faint Star of Bethlehem—
Gone down!

His harmelesse hands unto the Crosse they nailde,
Betweene two theeves, unpitied, unbewailde,
With sharpest pangs and terrors thus appailde,

To know just how He suffered — would be dear —To know if any Human
eyes were nearTo whom He could entrust His wavering gaze —Until it settle
broad — on Paradise.

A guest in Paradise.

Text: Emily Dickinson (1830-86) and Emilia Lanier (1569-1645)
Music: Sarah MacDonald (b. 1968)

Hymn for the Offering

Tune: Mozart (Common Praise #435)

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 purposeful for thee.

Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee;
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.

*Text: Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879).
Music: composer unknown.*

Prayers of the Community

all kneel with the officiant

Prayer of John Chrysostom

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Officiant Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt hear their requests: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting.

People **Amen.**

The Grace

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

Voluntary: Fugue in C minor, BWV 546ii

J. S. Bach (d. 1750)



Assisting with Today's Service

Sidespeople Jen Purkis, Anthony Danda

Verger Bob Fearnley

Musicians The Cathedral Schola
Mark McDonald, *Assistant Director of Music*
Donald Hunt, *Director of Music*

Readers Jen Purkis, Anthony Danda

Camera and Tech Team The Cathedral Technical Team



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