

# **Christmas Day Eucharist**



**Friday 25 December, 2020  
10.30 am**

**President: The Bishop of Bolton**

**Preacher: The Dean**

*Missa Brevis in D, KV 194 (W A Mozart)*

## **Welcome to Manchester Cathedral for this celebration of Holy Communion**

Welcome to the Cathedral and Collegiate Church of St Mary, St Denys and St George in the heart of the City of Manchester. The building is the old mediaeval Parish Church of Manchester. King Henry V first granted it Collegiate status in 1421 and it became Manchester's Cathedral on the creation of the Diocese of Manchester in 1847. It is believed that there has been a church on or near this site for over a thousand years.

### **Celebrating 600 years**

2021 is a special year for Manchester Cathedral as it marks the 600th anniversary of the granting of our first Royal charter establishing a Collegiate Church. Even in these uncertain times, an exciting programme of events for the whole family is planned and we hope to be able to share more details in due course.

### **Safeguarding**

Manchester Cathedral works hard to create safe environments where children and young people are protected and where all people, especially those who may be vulnerable for any reason, are able to worship and pursue their faith journey with encouragement and in safety. We follow the policies and procedures detailed within the Cathedral Safeguarding Handbook. We act promptly on any complaints made, and work in partnership with Manchester Diocese, the police and social care services whenever appropriate to do so. Details of our policy and how to voice a concern can be found on a dedicated page of our website and on the noticeboard at the south porch.



### **Hearing-loop**

The Cathedral has a hearing-loop.  
Please set your hearing aid to setting T.

### **Have you turned off your mobile phone?**

Please make sure that you have turned off your mobile phone and any other electronic equipment that might interrupt the service.

### **Photography**

Please do not use cameras, photo-imaging devices or recording equipment during the service.

## **Welcome to the Cathedral**

We offer a very warm welcome to any who are visiting us today. If you would normally receive communion in your own church you are very welcome to do so here. If you do not receive communion please feel free to come up for a blessing instead. Just bow your head when you come up so the Eucharistic Minister will know.

## **Gluten Free Wafer**

If you require a gluten free communion wafer please indicate this by pointing to the Altar table as you come up to receive.

## **Today's Service**

### **President**

The Right Reverend Mark Ashcroft,  
Bishop of Bolton

### **Preacher**

The Very Reverend Rogers Govender,  
Dean of Manchester

### **Musicians**

The Cathedral Choir is conducted by Christopher Stokes,  
Organist and Master of the Choristers.

The organ is played by Geoffrey Woollatt, Sub-Organist.

## **Music before the service**

Chorale Prelude on 'In dulci jubilo', BWV 729      *J S Bach (1685-1750)*

# The Gathering

## Christmas Acclamation

sung by the Choir

Gloria in excelsis Deo. *Glory be to God on high.*  
Behold, I bring you good tidings  
of great joy which shall be to  
all people: for unto you is  
born in the city of David, a  
Saviour, which is Christ the  
Lord.  
Alleluia.

*Christopher Stokes*

*Luke 2. 10, 11*

## The Greeting

*The President may say*

President In the name of the Father and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

President I bring you good news of great joy:  
a Saviour has been born to you. Alleluia!

All **Unto us a child is born, a son is given. Alleluia!**

President He is Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

All **We worship and adore him. Alleluia!**

President Grace, peace and joy from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All **and also with you.**

*The final candle is lit on the Advent wreath.*

President People of God: shout and sing!  
Tell the good news of peace on earth.  
Lord, bring us today into Christ's peace.  
All God's people say:

All **Amen!**

President    Angels dance and the bright star shines.  
              All creation bows to the Lord of all.  
              Lord, bring us today into Christ's light.  
              All God's people say:

All            **Amen!**

              One with us,  
              yet born to save,  
              he will show us the way to God.  
              Lord, bring us today into Christ's love.  
              All God's people say:

All            **Amen!**

              People of God: shout and sing:

All            **Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.**

### **Prayers of Penitence**

Deacon      The sun of righteousness has dawned  
              with healing in his wings.  
              Let us come to the light of Christ,  
              confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*Silence is kept.*

Deacon      You were born for our salvation:  
              Lord, have mercy.

All            **Lord have mercy.**

Deacon      You came as Saviour to bring wholeness and peace:  
              Christ, have mercy.

All            **Christ, have mercy.**

Deacon      You come to bring light into the darkness of our lives:  
              Lord, have mercy.

All            **Lord, have mercy.**

President    May the God who loved the world so much  
              that he sent his Son to be our Saviour  
              forgive us our sins  
              and make us holy to serve him in the world,  
              through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All            **Amen.**

## **Gloria in excelsis**

Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Et in terra pax hominibus  
bonae voluntatis.  
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,  
adoramus te, glorificamus te.

Gratias agimus tibi  
propter magnam gloriam tuam.  
Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,  
Deus Pater omnipotens.

Domine Fili unigenite,  
Jesu Christe. Domine Deus,  
Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.  
Qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.  
Qui tollis peccata mundi,  
suscipe deprecationem nostram.

Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,  
miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus sanctus,  
tu solus Dominus,  
tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe,  
cum Sancto Spiritu  
in gloria Dei Patris.

Amen.

*Glory be to God on high,  
and in earth peace,  
good will towards men.  
We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee, we glorify thee,*

*we give thanks to thee  
for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King,  
God the Father Almighty.*

*O Lord, the only-begotten Son  
Jesu Christ; O Lord God,  
Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away  
the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.*

*Thou that sittest at the right hand  
of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.*

*For thou only art holy;  
thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ,  
with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory  
of God the Father.*

*Amen.*

## The Collect

President Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration  
that our joy in the birth of Christ will last forever.

*Silence is kept*

President Almighty God,  
you have given us your only-begotten Son  
to take our nature upon him  
and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:  
grant that we, who have been born again  
and made your children by adoption and grace,  
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## Liturgy of the Word

### Reading

Isaiah 52.7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'  
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see  
the return of the Lord to Zion.  
Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.  
The Lord has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand, if you are able*

## **Gospel Reading**

John 1.1-14

*All turn to face the Gospel book. An acclamation (Alleluia) heralds the Gospel reading*

Choir



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Cantor The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
and we have seen his glory.

Choir Alleluia, alleluia.

Deacon Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.  
All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

*At the end of the reading*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

**Sermon** The Very Rev'd Rogers Govender  
Dean of Manchester

*The sermon is followed by silence, for reflection.*

*Please stand, if you are able*

### **The Creed**

All **We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten not made,  
of one Being with the Father,  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic  
and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

*Please be seated*

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Leader      Let us pray to Jesus our Saviour.

Christ, born in a stable,  
give courage to all who are homeless.

All            Jesus, Saviour,  
**hear our prayer.**

Christ, for whom the angels sang,  
give the song of the kingdom to all who weep.

All            Jesus, Saviour,  
**hear our prayer.**

Christ, worshipped by the shepherds,  
give peace on earth to all who are oppressed.

All            Jesus, Saviour,  
**hear our prayer.**

Christ, before whom the wise men knelt,  
give humility and wisdom to all who govern.

All            Jesus, Saviour,  
**hear our prayer.**

Christ, whose radiance filled a lowly manger,  
Give the glory of your resurrection to all who rest in you.  
Jesus, Saviour,

All **hear our prayer.**

All **Jesus, Saviour, child of Mary,  
you know us and love us,  
you share our lives  
and hear our prayer.  
Glory to you for ever. Amen.**

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

*Please stand, if you are able*

### **The Peace**

President Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,  
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

## **The Preparation of the Table and Taking of the Bread and Wine**

President Blessed be God, by whose grace creation is renewed,  
by whose love heaven is opened, by whose mercy  
we offer our sacrifice of praise.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

*All remain standing*

President The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

President Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

President All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God.  
We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,  
and was born of the Virgin Mary  
by the power of your Spirit,  
and lived as one of us.  
In this mystery of the Word made flesh,  
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,  
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In him we see our God made visible,  
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.  
Therefore, with all the angels of heaven,  
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name,  
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

Choir	Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Osanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Osanna in excelsis.	<i>Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.</i>
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President Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
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.

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.

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

President And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once  
for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
St Denys and St George and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through 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.

All **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## The Lord's Prayer

President As our Saviour taught us, so we pray  
**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

President We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.  
All **God is here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

## The Giving of Communion

President Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.  
All **Lord, give us this bread always.**

*If you would normally receive communion in your own church you are very welcome to do so here. If you do not wish to receive communion, please feel free to come up for a blessing instead, just bow your head and keep your hands down so the Eucharistic*

*Minister will know.*

*Please follow the directions of the vergers.*

**Online worshippers may donate via this link  
[www.manchestercathedral.org/get-involved/donate](http://www.manchestercathedral.org/get-involved/donate)  
Thank you for your kindness and generosity.**

*During the administration of communion, the Choir sings the Agnus Dei and Christmas anthems.*

## **Agnus Dei**

Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.                      *O Lamb of God  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.*

Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.                      *O Lamb of God  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.*

Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona nobis pacem.                      *O Lamb of God  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
grant us thy peace.*

*After communion all stand when the president approaches the altar.*

## **Prayer after Communion**

President    God our Father,  
              whose Word has come among us  
              in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:  
              may the light of faith illuminate our hearts  
              and shine in our words and deeds;  
              through him who is Christ the Lord.

All            **Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

Bishop      The people who walked in darkness,  
              **have seen a great light.**

              For to us a child is born,  
              **to us a Son is given.**

              His name will be called  
              Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
              **the Everlasting Father,**  
              **the Prince of Peace.**

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

Bishop      May the eagerness of the shepherds,  
                 the joy of the angels,  
                 the perseverance of the wise men,  
                 the obedience of Joseph and Mary,  
                 and the peace of the Christ-Child  
                 be yours this Christmas;  
                 and the blessing of God almighty,  
                 the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
                 be among you, and remain with you always.

All            **Amen.**

### **The Dismissal**

Deacon      Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.  
All            **Glory, thanks and praise to God.**

*The ministers and people depart.*

### **Music after the service**

Carillon de Westminster, Op 54 No 6                      *Louis Vierne (1870-1937)*

*Please take this order of service away with you to reflect upon the music,  
readings and prayers, and as a reminder of your visit today.*

*The Dean & Chapter would like to take this  
opportunity in wishing you a very Peaceful and Joyous  
Christmas  
and a Happy New Year.*

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