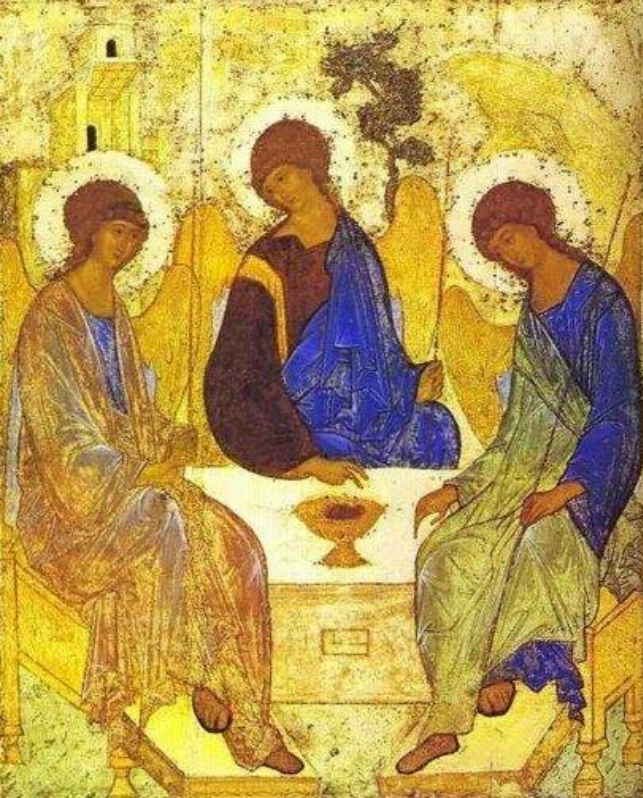


Chelmsford Cathedral



Diocesan Eucharist

*with the Renewal of Commitment to
Ministry and the Blessing of the Oils*

*Maundy Thursday 29 March 2018
at 11.00 am*



Welcome to this Chrism Eucharist.

We gather as ministers of the gospel to express our unity in Christ and to rededicate ourselves in the service of the gospel. Although it is good to welcome everybody this morning, this is actually the one service of the year where those who minister in word and sacrament Sunday by Sunday come to receive and be affirmed and re-commissioned for their own share in Christ's ministry. I want to put on record my thanks and the assurance of my prayers for all the clergy of this diocese, for our Readers and for all our licensed and authorised lay ministers. As St Paul said to the church in Thessalonica: *'It is the breath of life to us to know that you stand firm in the Lord.'* (1 Thess. 3. 8)

This is also the service where the Holy Oils are blessed so that the whole people of God may know and receive Christ's healing, his protection and deliverance and be consecrated in his service. The Hebrew word *Messiah* and its Greek translation from which we derive the name *Christ* means 'the anointed one'. At the start of his ministry, in the synagogue at Nazareth, Jesus attributed the words of Isaiah to himself: *'The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me ...'* (Luke 4:18). St Peter expresses his faith that Jesus is the Messiah in the words: *'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God'* (Matthew 16:16). May we know and receive this truth about Christ as we journey with him to the cross and to the joy of Easter.

The Right Reverend Stephen Cottrell

We welcome this morning the 'Dry Bones' band, led by the Ven Elwin Cockett. The organist is Laurence Lyndon-Jones, Assistant Organist & Director of the Girls' Choir. Music copyright information: permission to copy words and music covered by CCL Licence No. 193318 and Calamus Licence No. 0635.

Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off. There is a loop system installed throughout the church. If you are a hearing aid user, please turn it to T. There are toilet facilities with full disabled access in the Cathedral. Please ask a steward to direct you. If you require a gluten-free wafer at communion, please speak to one of the stewards.

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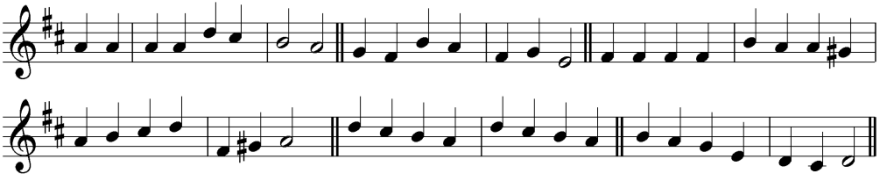
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If you would like to know more about the Christian faith and the life of the Christian community in this place please speak to one of our priests, ring 01245 294492 or visit us at chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk

The Gathering

Before the celebration begins, the robed clergy and other ministers take their place in the Cathedral. The Dean welcomes the congregation informally and introduces the celebration.



**Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him, praise him!
Praise the everlasting King.**

**Praise him for his grace and favour
to our fathers in distress;
praise him still the same for ever,
slow to chide and swift to bless.
Praise him, praise him!
Glorious in his faithfulness.**

**Father-like, he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him, praise him!
Widely as his mercy flows.**

**Angels, help us to adore him;
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him;
dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him, praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace.**

Words: H F Lyte (1793-1847)

4/4

Chorus:

Last time to Coda //to verse 2

2.....D.S. (to chorus)

Coda

Fine

**Over all the earth you reign on high;
 every mountain stream, every sunset sky;
 but my one request Lord, my only aim,
 is that you'd reign in me again.**

***Lord reign in me, reign in Your power
 over all my dreams in my darkest hour.
 You are the Lord of all I am,
 so won't you reign in me again.***

**Over every thought, over every word,
 may my life reflect the beauty of my Lord,
 'cause you mean more to me than any earthly thing;
 so won't you reign in me again**

Words and Music by Brenton Brown



**There is a green hill far away,
without a city wall,
where the dear Lord was crucified
who died to save us all.**

**We may not know, we cannot tell,
what pains he had to bear,
but we believe it was for us
he hung and suffered there.**

**He died that we might be forgiven,
he died to make us good;
that we might go at last to heaven,
saved by his precious blood.**

**There was no other good enough
to pay the price of sin;
he only could unlock the gate
of heaven, and let us in.**

**O dearly, dearly has he loved,
and we must love him too,
and trust in his redeeming blood,
and try his works to do.**

Words: C F Alexander (1818-1895)

The Greeting

The Bishop says:

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

All **Amen.**

The Bishop greets the people, saying:

Jesus Christ has made us a kingdom of priests
to serve his God and Father.

All **Glory and kingship be his for ever and ever. Amen.**

Peace be with you.

All **And also with you.**

The Bishop may add further words of welcome, and introduces the liturgy

Prayers of Penitence

The Deacon introduces the Prayers of Penitence saying:

All Come, let us return to the Lord and say
**Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord. *cf Hosea 6*
Amen.**

The Bishop says these words of absolution

The Lord enrich you with his grace,
and nourish you with his blessing;
the Lord defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil;
the Lord accept your prayers,
and absolve you from your offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

All **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

We sing together

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The second staff has a first ending marked '1st time...' and a second ending marked '2nd time...'. The third staff has a first ending marked '1st time...' and a second ending marked '2nd time...'. The fourth staff continues the melody with a first ending marked '1st time...' and a second ending marked '2nd time...'. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and repeat signs.

**My Jesus, my Saviour,
Lord, there is none like you.
All of my days I want to praise
the wonders of your mighty love.**

**My comfort, my shelter,
tower of refuge and strength,
let every breath, all that I am,
never cease to worship you.**

***Shout to the Lord all the earth, let us sing,
power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
at the sound of your name.***

***I sing for joy at the work of your hands,
for ever I'll love you, for ever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise
I have in you.***

Words and music: Darlene Zschech

The Collect

The Bishop introduces the Collect saying:

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father,
you anointed your Son Jesus Christ
with the Holy Spirit and with power
to bring us the blessings of your kingdom.
Anoint your Church with the same Holy Spirit,
that we who share in his sufferings and his victory
may bear witness to the gospel of salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Please sit

¶ **The Liturgy of the Word**

Please sit

First Reading

2 Corinthians 3.17–4.12

Read by Eileen Rose

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.

In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

All To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul:
O my God, in you I trust.

All stand for the hymn which heralds the Gospel reading



**Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.**

**Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.**

Words: Richard Gillard (bn 1953)

Gospel Reading *John 15.9-17*

Read by the Deacon

1. Cantor/Choir 2. Repeat: Full Ian Forrester



Praise to you O Christ, king of e - ter - nal glo - ry. ___

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Cantor: Praise to you O Christ...

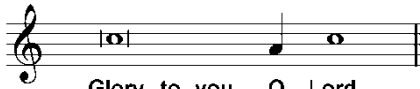
All: **Praise to you O Christ...**

Cantor: The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed.

All: **Praise to you O Christ...**

When the Gospel is announced all turn to face the reader, who says:

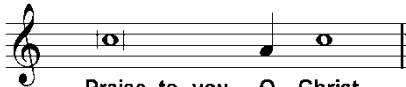
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.



Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

This is the Gospel of the Lord



All

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Rt Revd Stephen Cottrell, Bishop of Chelmsford.

The Renewal of Commitment to Ministry

The Bishop says

My brothers and sisters, at his Last Supper our Lord Jesus Christ gave his disciples a new commandment, that they should love one another, and he prayed that they might be one. He gave them an everlasting sign of his own love, in the sacrament of bread and wine. He consecrated himself to his Father's service, to be the high priest of the New Covenant. I invite you now to dedicate yourselves afresh to his service, as stewards of the mysteries of God and ministers of his grace.

The Bishop addresses the Readers and Lay Ministers who are invited to stand

When you were commissioned, you undertook to be faithful in prayer, and by word and example to minister to those for whom Christ died. Will you do all that is in your power to witness to God's love for his people?

Lay Ministers: **By the help of God, I will.**

The Bishop addresses the Deacons who are invited to stand

At your ordination as a Deacon, you received the yoke of Christ, who came not to be served but to serve. Will you continue faithfully in this ministry, to build up God's people in his truth and serve them in his name?

Deacons: **By the help of God, I will.**

The Bishop addresses the Priests who are invited to stand

At your ordination to the priesthood, you took authority to watch over and care for God's people, to absolve and bless them in his name, to proclaim the gospel of salvation, and to minister the sacraments of his New Covenant. Will you continue as faithful stewards of the mysteries of God, preaching the gospel of Christ and ministering his holy sacraments?

Priests: **By the help of God, I will.**

All stand. A young person addresses the Bishops

At your ordination as bishops you received the gift of the Spirit, that you might lead the Church in mission, and send out ministers in Christ's name: that you might promote its unity, uphold its discipline, and guard its faith; and that you might teach and govern the people committed to your charge. Will you continue faithfully in this ministry, watching over Christ's own flock, and building them up in the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace?

Bishops: **By the help of God, I will.**

The young person addresses all the ministers:

May the God of peace sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, and he will accomplish it.

All **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

The Bishop says

My brothers and sisters, Christ has many services to be done. Some are easy, others are difficult; some bring honour, others bring reproach; some conform to our natural inclinations and material interests, others are contrary to both. In some, we may please Christ and please ourselves, in others we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves. Yet the power to do all these things is given in Christ who strengthens us.

Let us pray.

God our Father, in our baptism you made us witnesses to the death and resurrection of your Son. Send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, as we take upon us the yoke of your obedience. Make us instruments of your peace, and doers of your perfect will.

All **God our Father,**
in the name of Christ and in the power of your Spirit,
we commit ourselves to you and one another,
to live, work, and pray as one body in Christ,
to trust each other as fellow workers in your Church,
and to give ourselves with body, mind, and spirit
to the ministries to which you have called us.
Give us vision, give us courage, and give us joy,
that the world may believe that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to your eternal glory. Amen.

The Bishop says

May God, who has moved us to make this commitment,
give us grace to keep it to the end;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

¶ *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

The Peace

The Bishop introduces the peace, saying:

God has made us one in Christ.
He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come,
Has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

The Deacon invites us all to share in the peace, saying

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Blessing of the Oils

Please remain standing to sing the following hymn, during which the Bishop moves to the centre of the Cathedral to bless the oils.

GONFALON ROYAL

Percy Buck 1871-1947

A - men.

**Blest by the sun, the olive tree
brought clusters of fair fruit to birth,
whose ripeness now we bring with prayer,
Lord Christ, redeemer of the earth.**

**Eternal King, look down and bless
the oil your servants offer here,
and may it be a lively sign
which all the powers of darkness fear.**

**From those washed in the sacred font
let Satan's influence depart,
and when this oil the brow shall seal,
transforming grace invade the heart.**

**Our wounded nature thus be healed
by your anointing grace, O Lord;
in men and women so renewed
shall God's own image be restored.**

**Lord Christ, the Father's only Son,
who took our flesh in Mary's womb,
give light to your anointed ones,
and break the power of death's dark tomb.**

**So may this joyous paschal feast,
the time when saving grace is given,
fill every Christian soul with praise,
and raise our minds from earth to heaven.
Amen.**

*Words, early Latin, translated by Richard Rutt (b. 1925)
Tune: Gonfalon Royal*

The Bishop says the Prayer over the Oils

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
All **Who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.**

The Oil for the Sick

The Bishop prays, saying

Blessed are you, sovereign God, gentle and merciful,
creator of heaven and earth.
your Word brought light out of darkness,
and daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth.
Your anointed Son brought healing
to those in weakness and distress.
He broke the power of evil and set us free from sin and death
that we might praise your name for ever.
By the power of your Spirit + bless this oil and may your blessing
rest on those who are anointed with this oil in your name;
may they be made whole in body, mind and spirit,
restored in your image, renewed in your love,
and serve you as sons and daughters in your kingdom.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Oil of Catechumens

The Bishop prays, saying

Blessed are you, sovereign God,
the protector of all who believe in you,
your anointed Son overcame the powers of evil
when he was lifted high upon the cross.
By the power of your Spirit +bless this oil and may your blessing
rest on those who are anointed with this oil in your name;
as they come to the waters of baptism,
may it be for them a sign of your defence in their fight
against sin, the world and the devil,
and bring them to share in Christ's victory.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Oil of Chrism

The Bishop prays, saying

Blessed are you, sovereign God and eternal Father,
upholding by your grace all who hear your call.
Under your Old Covenant
priests and kings were anointed to serve you
and in the fullness of time you anointed your Son by the Holy
Spirit to be the Christ, the Saviour and Servant of all.
By the power of your Spirit +bless this oil and may your blessing
rest on those who are anointed with this Chrism in your name;
let it be for them a sign of joy and gladness
as they share in the royal priesthood of the New Covenant
and make known the kingdom of Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
we lift our voices of thanks and praise.

All **Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Preparing the Altar

We sing the following hymn. The Deacon prepares the altar, during which the bread and wine are brought forward and presented.

SLANE

Traditional Irish Melody



**Lord of all power, I give you my will,
in joyful obedience your tasks to fulfil.
Your bondage is freedom, your service is song,
and, held in your keeping, my weakness is strong.**

**Lord of all wisdom, I give you my mind,
rich truth that surpasses man's knowledge to find.
What eye has not seen and what ear has not heard
is taught by your Spirit and shines from your word.**

**Lord of all bounty, I give you my heart;
I praise and adore you for all you impart;
your love to inspire me, your counsel to guide,
your presence to cheer me, whatever betide.**

**Lord of all being, I give you my all;
if e'er I disown you I stumble and fall;
but, sworn in glad service your word to obey,
I walk in your freedom to the end of the way.**

Words by Jack C Winslow (1882-1974)

Prayer at the Preparation of the Altar

Bishop Pour upon the poverty of our love
and the weakness of our praise
the transforming fire of your presence.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The President sings

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All sing:

and al - so with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good
always and everywhere to give you thanks
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
By the outpouring of your Holy Spirit
you anointed him to be the servant of all
and ordained that he should enter into your kingdom
through suffering.
And now he stands by us and pours out for our healing
the oil of consolation and the wine of renewed hope.
In your wisdom and love you anoint your holy people
to be a royal priesthood,
to share in Christ's suffering
and to reveal his glory to the world.
Therefore earth unites with heaven to sing a new song of praise;
we too join with angels and archangels
as they proclaim your glory without end.

We all sing the Sanctus and Benedictus

(Organ) Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry

Ho - san - na in the high - est. (Organ)

Bles - sed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

The Deacon says

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

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 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 remain standing to pray

The Lord's Prayer

The Bishop invites the congregation to say together the Lord's Prayer.

O Christ, remember us in your kingdom
and teach us to pray:

All **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 Bishop breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Please sit to sing the Agnus Dei as the bread is broken for all to share.

(Organ) Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on
 us. (repeat) Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world: grant_ us peace, grant_ us peace.

Giving of Communion

The Bishop invites us to receive communion, saying:

Jesus is the Lamb of God
 who takes away the sin of the world.
 Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
 but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

During communion there will be an opportunity to receive prayer with laying on of hands and anointing in the St Peter's Chapel and the St Cedd's Chapel at the west end of the Cathedral. If you wish to receive this ministry, please simply move to one of the chapels either before or after receiving communion.

Hymns and Songs during communion

Some or all of the following hymns may be sung during communion



**From heaven you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled;
not to be served but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.**

***This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.***

**There in the garden of tears,
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.**

**Come see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.**

**So let us learn how to serve,
and in our lives enthrone him;
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.**

Words and music: Graham Kendrick (b 1950)



**As the deer pants for the water
so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.**

***You alone are my strength, my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.***

**I want you more than gold or silver,
only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy giver
and the apple of my eye.**

**You're my friend and you are my brother
even though you are a king.
I love you more than any other,
so much more than anything.**

Words & music: Martin Nystrom

So here I am to wor-ship, here I am to bow down, here I am to
 say that you're my God, and you're al-to-ge-ther love-ly, al-to-ge-ther
 wor-thy, al-to-ge-ther won-der-ful to me.

Light of the world
you stepped down into darkness.
Opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made
this heart adore you
hope of a life spent with you.
So here I am to worship,
here I am to bow down,
here I am to say that you're my God.
You're altogether lovely,
altogether worthy,
altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days
oh so highly exalted.
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly you came
to the earth you created
all for love's sake became poor.
So here I am ...

**And I'll never know how much to cost
to see my sin upon that cross. (repeat)
So here I am ...**

Words & Music: Tim Hughes

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept, then the Bishop says:

Good Shepherd,
you have welcomed us at your table
and anointed us with the oil of gladness:
may your goodness and mercy follow us
all the days of our life
that we may dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

All **Amen.**

All **You have opened to us the scriptures, O Christ,
and you have made yourself known
in the breaking of bread.
Abide with us, we pray,
that, blessed by your royal presence,
we may walk with you all the days of our life,
and at its end behold you
in the glory of the eternal Trinity,
one God for ever and ever.
Amen.**

¶ **The Sending Out**

Please stand

The Blessing

The Bishop gives the blessing

All Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who has made heaven and earth.

All Blessed be the name of the Lord,
now and for ever.

All The Father, whose glory fills the heavens,
cleanse you by his holiness
and send you out to proclaim his word.
Amen.

All The Son, who has ascended to the heights,
pour upon you the riches of his grace.
Amen.

All The Holy Spirit, the Comforter,
equip and strengthen you in your ministry.
Amen.

All And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Deacon says:

All Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

The procession departs as we sing



**I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark or sin
my hand will save.**

**I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?**

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

**I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them,
they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?**

Here I am, Lord ...

**I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
my hand will save.**

**Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?
 *Here I am, Lord ...***

Words: Daniel Schutte (bn 1947)

The oils are available immediately after this celebration at the east end of the Cathedral. Please connect the prefilled phials from the baskets which are coded clearly to distinguish the three oils.

The large oil stocks are kept at the Cathedral throughout the year and you are warmly welcome to come and replenish parish oil stocks from here throughout the year.

Historical Note on the Chrism Eucharist

from Common Worship

When Peter acknowledged Jesus as ‘the Christ’ (Mark 8.29), he was recognizing him as the ‘Anointed One’ of God: *Christos* in Greek, *Messiah* in Hebrew. The title that had once belonged to the anointed kings of Israel is now conferred on Jesus, who was anointed by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at his baptism in the river Jordan (cf Acts 10.38). As Jesus received baptism at John’s hands, his true identity was revealed:

Manifest at Jordan’s stream,
prophet, priest and king supreme.

(Christopher Wordsworth)

Our own baptism is the sacramental sign of our union with Christ, and of God’s gift to us of his Holy Spirit, to make us God’s children by adoption and grace, and to equip us for the share that all Christians have in Christ’s own ministry. The New Testament speaks of this gift of the Holy Spirit as an anointing (1 John 2.20-27; 2 Corinthians 1.21-22). From an early date, it became customary to trace the sign of the cross in oil on the heads of candidates for baptism, and to anoint them again after baptism with the perfumed oil of chrism – a sign of incorporation into the prophetic, priestly and royal life of Jesus Christ. At the same time, the Letter of James urges its recipients to anoint the sick with oil (James 5.15), as a sign of the healing and forgiveness that are also given through the Holy Spirit (cf Mark 6.13). These are the biblical roots of the ancient custom of using oils in the life of the Church, and of the three particular oils – of catechumens, of the sick, and of chrism – that are prepared in the Chrism Eucharist. In the course of Christian history, they have come to be used in many ways – especially, as in the Old Testament, for the setting apart of people and things for a special place in the life of the Church, for bishops and priests at their ordination, for kings and queens at their crowning, and for churches and altars at their consecration. There is a more recent custom, introduced first into the Roman Catholic Church by Pope Paul VI in the middle of the twentieth century, that the Chrism Eucharist is also an occasion for the renewal of commitment to ministry. As the priests gathered around their bishop on Maundy Thursday, to receive the oils to take back to their parishes, he suggested that they should renew their commitment to serve Christ. This is appropriate on this day, when we remember that Christ consecrated himself to his Father’s service and expressed his obedient self-gift in the institution of the Eucharist and in the agony of Gethsemane, and prayed for the unity of his disciples. It is now a widespread Anglican practice for deacons, Readers and authorized lay ministers to be associated with the bishop and priests in the renewal of

commitment to ministry. It is important to distinguish this renewal, which has to do with the commitment of authorized ministers (lay or ordained) to particular and defined ministries in the life of the Church, from the renewal of the commitment of all God's people to the royal and priestly ministry they have received in baptism. This second renewal, which is theologically prior to the first, properly takes place in the reaffirmation of baptismal promises at the Easter Liturgy.



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