



DURHAM
CATHEDRAL

Matins

on

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday 15 March 2026

11.30 a.m.



Welcome to Durham Cathedral

*Inspired by our saints, Cuthbert and Bede,
the mission of Durham Cathedral
is to offer everyone the opportunity
to encounter God and know God's love in Jesus Christ.*

Worshippers at Matins are invited to arrive early and take refreshments in the Galilee Chapel from 11.00 a.m. before taking their seats in the Quire for the service.

*Flowers are an important part of our adorning of the Cathedral Church
for divine service on many occasions during the year.
We are very grateful to Hargreaves Services plc
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Please stand at the entrance of the Choir and ministers

Hymn **The God of love my Shepherd is,
 And he that doth me feed;
While he is mine and I am his,
 What can I want or need?**

**He leads me to the tender grass,
 Where I both feed and rest;
Then to the streams that gently pass:
 In both I have the best.**

**Or if I stray, he doth convert,
 And bring my mind in frame,
And all this not for my desert,
 But for his holy name.**

**Yea, in death's shady black abode
 Well may I walk, not fear;
For thou art with me, and thy rod
 To guide, thy staff to bear.**

**Surely thy sweet and wondrous love
 Shall measure all my days;
And as it never shall remove
 So neither shall my praise.**

George Herbert

UNIVERSITY, *From John Randall's*
Psalms & Hymn Tunes

Welcome and Introduction

The Reverend Daniel Parkinson

Minister Let us humbly confess our sins to almighty God.

Please kneel

All **Almighty and most merciful Father;
We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much
the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against thy holy laws.
We have left undone those things
which we ought to have done;
And we have done those things
which we ought not to have done;
And there is no health in us.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.
Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.
Restore thou them that are penitent;
According to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesu our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake;
That we may hereafter
live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
To the glory of thy holy Name.
Amen.**

Minister May the almighty and merciful God
grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins,
time for amendment of life,
and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

All

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:
for thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Please stand

Preces

Kenneth Leighton

Cantor

O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir

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.

Please sit

The heavens declare the glory of God :
 and the firmament sheweth his handywork.
One day telleth another :
 and one night certifieth another.
There is neither speech nor language :
 but their voices are heard among them.
Their sound is gone out into all lands :
 and their words into the ends of the world.
In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun :
 which cometh forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber,
 and rejoiceth as a giant to run his course.
It goeth forth from the uttermost part of the heaven,
 and runneth about unto the end of it again :
 and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.
The law of the Lord is an undefiled law, converting the soul :
 the testimony of the Lord is sure,
 and giveth wisdom unto the simple.
The statutes of the Lord are right, and rejoice the heart :
 the commandment of the Lord is pure,
 and giveth light unto the eyes.
The fear of the Lord is clean, and endureth for ever :
 the judgements of the Lord are true,
 and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold,
 yea, than much fine gold :
 sweeter also than honey, and the honey-comb.
Moreover, by them is thy servant taught :
 and in keeping of them there is great reward.
Who can tell how oft he offendeth :
 O cleanse thou me from my secret faults.
Keep thy servant also from presumptuous sins,
 lest they get the dominion over me :
 so shall I be undefiled,
 and innocent from the great offence.
Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart :
 be alway acceptable in thy sight,
 O Lord : my strength, and my redeemer.

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

First Lesson

Isaiah 43: 1-7

But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,
and honoured, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, 'Give them up',
and to the south, 'Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth —
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.'

After a short silence, please stand with the Choir

O all ye Works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Heavens, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Waters that be above the Firmament,
 bless ye the Lord : praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O all ye Powers of the Lord, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Sun and Moon, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Stars of Heaven, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Showers and Dew, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Winds of God, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Fire and Heat, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Winter and Summer, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Dews and Frosts, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Frost and Cold, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Ice and Snow, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Nights and Days, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Light and Darkness, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O ye Lightnings and Clouds, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
O let the Earth bless the Lord :
 yea, let it praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O ye Mountains and hills, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
 O all ye Green Things upon the Earth, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
 O ye Wells, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
 O ye Seas and Floods, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
 O ye Whales, and all that move in the Waters,
 bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
 O all ye Fowls of the Air, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
 O all ye Beasts and Cattle, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
 O ye Children of Men, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
 O let Israel bless the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
 O ye Priests of the Lord, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
 O ye Servants of the Lord, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
 O ye Spirits and Souls of the Righteous, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him and magnify him for ever.
 O ye holy and humble Men of heart, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him for ever.
 O Ananias, Azarias, and Misael, bless ye the Lord :
 praise him, and magnify him 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

Second Lesson

Ephesians 2: 8-14

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called ‘the uncircumcision’ by those who are called ‘the circumcision’—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.

After a short silence, please stand with the Choir

Benedictus

Charles Villiers Stanford in B flat

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel :
 for he hath visited and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us :
 in the house of his servant David.
As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets :
 which have been since the world began;
That we should be saved from our enemies :
 and from the hands of all that hate us;
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers :
 and to remember his holy covenant;
To perform the oath
 which he sware to our forefather Abraham :
 that he would give us;
That we being delivered out of the hands of our enemies :
 might serve him without fear;
In holiness and righteousness before him :
 all the days of our life.

And thou, Child,
 shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest :
 for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord
 to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people :
 for the remission of their sins,
Through the tender mercy of our God :
 whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness,
 and in the shadow of death :
 and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
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 face east

The Apostles' Creed

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.
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**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 Lesser Litany, Responses and Collects

Kenneth Leighton

Cantor The Lord be with you.
Choir And with thy spirit.

Please kneel

Cantor Let us pray.

Choir 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 the Fourth Sunday in Lent

Grant we beseech thee, Almighty God,
that we, who for our evil deeds
do worthily deserve to be punished,
by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Collect for the First Day of Lent (commonly called Ash Wednesday)

Almighty and everlasting God,
who hatest nothing that thou hast made,
and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent:
Create and make in us new and contrite hearts,
that we worthily lamenting our sins,
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Collect for Peace

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord,
in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life,
whose service is perfect freedom:

Defend us thy humble servants
in all assaults of our enemies;
that we, surely trusting in thy defence,
may not fear the power of any adversaries;
through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Collect for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father,
Almighty and everlasting God,
who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day:
Defend us in the same with thy mighty power;
and grant that this day we fall into no sin,
neither run into any kind of danger;
but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance,
to do always that is righteous in thy sight;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please sit

Anthem

sung by the Choir

Drop, drop, slow tears,
And bathe those beauteous feet,
Which brought from heaven
The news and Prince of Peace

Cease not, wet eyes,
His mercies to entreat;
To cry for vengeance
Sin doth never cease.

In your deep flood
Drown all my faults and fears;
Nor let his eye
See sin, but though my tears.

Phineas Fletcher

William Walton

The sermon is followed by a prayer and 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.**

The minister offers words of farewell and announces the final hymn

Hymn **Let saints on earth in concert sing
With those whose work is done;
For all the servants of our King
In heaven and earth are one.**

**One family, we dwell in him,
One Church, above, beneath;
Though now divided by the stream,
The narrow stream of death.**

**One army of the living God,
To his command we bow:
Part of the host have crossed the flood,
And part are crossing now.**

**E'en now to their eternal home
There pass some spirits blest;
While others to the margin come,
Waiting their call to rest.**

**Jesus, be thou our constant guide;
Then, when the word is given,
Bid Jordan's narrow stream divide,
And bring us safe to heaven.**

The Blessing

Minister The peace of God, which passeth all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:
And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,
be amongst you and remain with you always.

Choir Amen.

Voluntary Fantasia in D minor *Charles Villiers Stanford*

A special service of 'Songs of Praise' is celebrated in the Nave at 3.30 p.m., followed at 4.30 p.m. by the fourth in our series of Lent Talks with Peter Taylor, LVO, Head of Operations at BBC Studios (see overleaf for more details).

For all enquiries concerning the provision of pastoral care for members of the cathedral community, please contact The Reverend Daniel Parkinson: daniel.parkinson@durhamcathedral.co.uk.

Songs of Praise: Today at 3.30 p.m.

We're staging 'Songs of Praise' **TODAY** at 3.30 p.m. – an unashamed replica of the famous BBC programme (but not the BBC programme itself!) – to bring Cathedral and Diocese together to sing their favourite hymns and worship songs. You don't need to book. Just turn up.

Durham University Chamber Choir: Monday 16 March at 7.30 p.m.

DUCC which includes most of our Choral Scholars is performing a programme entitled *I Heard A Voice from Heaven* which features Howells' *Requiem* and Łukaszewski's *Lamentationes*. Tickets are available from durhamcathedral.ticketsolve.com or on the door

Community Newsletter

Many of you will have received the March edition of the Cathedral's new community newsletter. It will be issued once a month and will include pastoral words from different members of the cathedral clergy and news about things that might interest the cathedral community—especially about worship, music, talks, and other events that build up our worship and fellowship. It will go to regular worshippers who have joined the community roll as well as other constituencies closely associated with the Cathedral. If you are a regular worshipper here but not on the community roll, you are welcome to join it by sending an email to community@durhamcathedral.co.uk. Alternatively, you can sign up to the newsletter by scanning this QR code:



Student Tuesday

Students are welcome to attend Evensong any time but we extend a particular welcome to students at Evensong on Tuesdays. The next gathering is Tuesday 17 March and, after the service, we will offer food and drink with a chance to engage with each other and with the cathedral clergy in a variety of locations and occasionally with other activities too. We hope to build up a good community of students who worship regularly with us. Evensong on Tuesday starts at 5.30 p.m. and lasts about 40 minutes. Food will be served at 6.15 p.m. and people will be free to go any time.

ENCOUNTER!

Encountering God through the Creative Arts

A series of discussions for Lent 2026 at Durham Cathedral with leading figures in the world of the creative arts in conversation with Michael Hampel, Vice-Dean and Precentor of Durham Cathedral. Sundays at 4.30 p.m. for approximately half an hour:

Sunday 22 February—Jolyon Mitchell on film

The Reverend Professor Jolyon Mitchell is Principal of St John's College, Durham University, former producer and journalist with BBC World Service, who has served on international film juries at Venice, Cannes and Berlin

Sunday 1 March—Catherine Fox on literature

Catherine Fox is an author, and senior lecturer in Creative Writing at Manchester Metropolitan University

Sunday 8 March—Greg Doran on theatre

Sir Gregory Doran is former Artistic Director of the Royal Shakespeare Company

Sunday 15 March—Peter Taylor on television

Peter Taylor, LVO, is Head of Operations at BBC Studios and oversees the broadcasts of major national events such as Elizabeth II's funeral service and Charles III's Coronation

Sunday 22 March—Mel Howse on art

Mel Howse is an award-winning artist and architectural enameller who created the Illumination Window in the North Quire Aisle at Durham Cathedral

Sunday 29 March—James MacMillan on music

Sir James MacMillan, CBE, is a conductor and composer of sacred choral and orchestral music

Celebrating St Cuthbert 2026

We are looking forward to celebrating St Cuthbert at a special service of Evensong with a Procession to the Shrine on **Friday 20 March at 6.00 p.m.** The service is sung by Durham Cathedral Consort of Singers with the Lay Clerks and Choral Scholars and Junior Consort and the preacher is Rhidian Brook—novelist, screen writer and broadcaster. We very much hope you will be with us on this special day. Please bring guests with you too. All congregational seating is unreserved. The service will last about one hour and drinks will be served in church afterwards.

On Saturday 21 March there is a Pilgrimage Walk from Chester-le-Street to Durham, via Finchale Priory. Pilgrims are invited to gather at St Mary and St Cuthbert Church Parish Centre for refreshments from 9.00 a.m., ahead of a short service of Morning Prayer at 9.30 a.m., prior to departing at 10.00 a.m. Walking pilgrims are also welcome to join later at Finchale Priory, during the lunch break from 12.30 p.m., before the group departs for Durham at 1.00 p.m. Arrival at the Cathedral will be in good time for the Eucharist at 4.00 p.m. Travel: You can get to Chester-le-Street by train (a 15-minute journey from Durham) or bus. A bus transporting people to Finchale Priory will leave Durham County Hall at 12.15 p.m. (with free car parking that day). The bus to Finchale costs £7 per person. You can book the bus to Finchale Priory or sign up for the walk from Chester-le-Street at www.durhamcathedral.co.uk/events/st-cuthberts-day

At 4.00 p.m., the Right Reverend Sarah Clark, Bishop of Jarrow, will preside at the Eucharist and the Very Reverend Dr Philip Plyming, Dean of Durham, will preach. The service is sung by Durham Cathedral Choir and Newcastle Cathedral Choir. There is no need to book for the service: just turn up and sit in the congregation. This service will also be our chance to give thanks to God for Bishop Sarah's ministry. There will be speeches and a presentation to Bishop Sarah at the conclusion of the service. To contribute to a leaving gift from the Diocese, please donate at:

Bank	NatWest, Durham
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Services and other events this week:
(L) = live-streamed (NL) = not live-streamed

Monday 16 March	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretory) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evening Prayer (Quire) (L)
	7.30 p.m.	Durham University Chamber Choir Concert (Chapter House) (NL)
Tuesday 17 March	8.45 p.m.	Compline (online only) (L)
	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretory) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong: Student Tuesday (Quire) (L)
Wednesday 18 March	7.30 p.m.	St John's College Service (Nave) (NL)
	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretory) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong (Quire) (L)
Thursday 19 March	7.30 p.m.	Durham University Palatinate Orchestra Concert (Nave) (NL)
		<i>Feast Day of St Joseph of Nazareth</i>
	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretory) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
Friday 20 March	5.30 p.m.	Evensong (Quire) (L)
		<i>Feast Day of St Cuthbert of Lindisfarne</i>
	7.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP) (Feretory) (NL)
	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer and Litany (Feretory) (L)
Saturday 21 March	12.15 p.m.	Prayers at the Pietá
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	<u>6.00 p.m.</u>	Evensong and Procession (Nave) (L)
		<i>Cuthbert Saturday</i>
Sunday 22 March	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretory) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	<u>4.00 p.m.</u>	Sung Eucharist (Nave) (L)
		<i>The Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday)</i>
	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP) (High Altar) (NL)
	10.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist (CW1) (Nave) (L)
	11.30 a.m.	Matins (Quire) (NL)
	3.30 p.m.	Choral Evensong (Quire) (NL)
	4.30 p.m.	Lent Talk: Mel Howse (L)

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