



DURHAM  
CATHEDRAL

## **Matins**

*on*

**The Fourth Sunday after Easter**

Sunday 3 May 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.*

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*This service is sung by the Cathedral Choirs of Durham and Guildford*

**Voluntary**      Ad regias agni dapes (Le Tombeau de Titelouze)

*Marcel Dupré*

*Please stand at the entrance of the choirs and ministers*

**Hymn**            O praise our great and glorious Lord,  
                         And call upon his name,  
To strains of joy tune every chord,  
                         His mighty acts proclaim:  
Tell how he freed his chosen race  
                         From Pharoah's heavy hand,  
And led them by his sovereign grace  
                         To seek the promised land.

He gave the shadowing cloud by day,  
                         The moving fire by night,  
To guide his people on their way,  
                         And make their darkness light:  
To us, the light of Christ our Lord  
                         Illumines all our way;  
He leads us by his gospel word,  
                         And turns our sight to praise.

We too have manna from on high,  
                         The bread that came from heaven,  
And he who brought salvation nigh  
                         Has living water given:  
A rock is ours, from whence the spring  
                         In rich abundance flows,  
And Christ that rock, our priest and king,  
                         Both life and health bestows.

Come, let us prize this heavenly food,  
And trust our heavenly guide,  
So shall we find death's fearful flood  
Serene as Jordan's tide;  
So safely reach th'eternal shore  
No more by ills opprest;  
Where saints their Lord and God adore,  
And in his glory rest.

*Based upon verses by Harriet Auber*

ST MATTHEW, William Croft

**Welcome and Introduction**

*The Reverend Canon Charlie Allen*

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*

I will magnify thee, O Lord, for thou hast set me up :  
and not made my foes to triumph over me.  
O Lord my God, I cried unto thee :  
and thou hast healed me.  
Thou, Lord, hast brought my soul out of hell :  
thou hast kept my life from them that go down to the pit.  
Sing praises unto the Lord, O ye saints of his :  
and give thanks unto him  
for a remembrance of his holiness.  
For his wrath endureth but the twinkling of an eye,  
and in his pleasure is life :  
heaviness may endure for a night,  
but joy cometh in the morning.  
And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be removed :  
thou, Lord, of thy goodness hast made my hill so strong.  
Thou didst turn thy face from me :  
and I was troubled.  
Then cried I unto thee, O Lord :  
and gat me to my Lord right humbly.  
What profit is there in my blood :  
when I go down to the pit?  
Shall the dust give thanks unto thee :  
or shall it declare thy truth?  
Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me :  
Lord, be thou my helper.  
Thou hast turned my heaviness into joy :  
thou hast put off my sackcloth,  
and girded me with gladness.  
Therefore shall every good man  
sing of thy praise without ceasing :  
O my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.

*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**

**Ezekiel 37: 1-12**

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, prophecy, 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 prophecy, 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.

*After a short silence, please stand with the choirs*

We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.  
All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.  
To thee all angels cry aloud,  
the heavens and all the powers therein.  
To thee cherubin and seraphin continually do cry,  
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.  
The glorious company of the apostles praise thee.  
The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise thee.  
The noble army of martyrs praise thee.  
The holy Church throughout all the world  
doth acknowledge thee:  
the Father of an infinite majesty;  
thine honourable, true and only Son;  
also the Holy Ghost the Comforter.  
Thou art the King of glory, O Christ.  
Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.  
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man,  
thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.  
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,  
thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.  
We believe that thou shalt come to be our judge.  
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,  
whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.  
Make them to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting.  
O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage.  
Govern them and lift them up for ever.  
Day by day we magnify thee;  
and we worship thy name, ever world without end.  
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.  
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.  
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us, as our trust is in thee.  
O Lord, in thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded.

Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise. The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing; and he will show him greater works than these, so that you will be astonished. Indeed, just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whomsoever he wishes. The Father judges no one but has given all judgement to the Son, so that all may honour the Son just as they honour the Father. Anyone who does not honour the Son does not honour the Father who sent him. Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgement, but has passed from death to life.

'Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgement, because he is the Son of Man. Do not be astonished at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and will come out—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.'

*After a short silence, please stand with the choirs*

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands :  
    serve the Lord with gladness,  
    and come before his presence with a song.  
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God :  
    it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;  
    we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.  
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,  
    and into his courts with praise :  
    be thankful unto him, and speak good of his name.  
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting :  
    and his truth endureth from generation to generation.  
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**

|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>All</b> | <b>I believe in God the Father almighty,<br/>maker of heaven and earth:<br/>and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,<br/>who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,<br/>born of the Virgin Mary,<br/>suffered under Pontius Pilate,<br/>was crucified, dead, and buried:<br/>he descended into hell;<br/>the third day he rose again from the dead;<br/>he ascended into heaven,<br/>and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;<br/>from thence he shall come<br/>to judge the quick and the dead.</b> |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**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 after Easter*

O Almighty God, who alone canst order  
the unruly wills and affections of sinful men;  
Grant unto thy people,  
that they may love the thing which thou commandest,  
and desire that which thou dost promise; that so,  
among the sundry and manifold changes of the world,  
our hearts may surely there be fixed,  
where true joys are to be found;  
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 choirs*

Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more :  
death hath no more dominion over him.  
O sing unto the Lord a new song :  
for the Lord hath done marvellous things.  
In the sight of the nations  
hath he show'd his righteous judgements.  
With his own right hand and with his holy arm  
hath he gotten himself the victory. Alleluia.

*Romans 6.9; Psalm 98.1*

*Philip Moore*

## **Sermon**

*The Reverend Canon Charlie Allen*

*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*

*Please stand to sing the hymn*

**Hymn**                **The Lord is risen indeed:  
Now is his work performed;  
Now is the mighty captive freed,  
And death's strong castle stormed.**

**The Lord is risen indeed:  
Then hell has lost his prey;  
With him is risen the ransomed seed  
To reign in endless day.**

**The Lord is risen indeed:  
He lives, to die no more;  
He lives, the sinner's cause to plead,  
Whose curse and shame he bore.**

*T Kelly*

NARENZA

*Melody from Leisentritt's Catholicum Hymnologium  
Cologne 1584*

## **The Blessing**

|          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Minister | The God of peace,<br>who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,<br>that great shepherd of the sheep:<br>through the blood of the eternal covenant,<br>make you perfect in every good work to do his will,<br>working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;<br>and the blessing of God Almighty,<br>the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,<br>be amongst you and remain with you always. |
| Choirs   | Amen.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

|                  |                          |                       |
|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Voluntary</b> | Fantasy on 'Easter Hymn' | <i>William Harris</i> |
|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|

*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](mailto:daniel.parkinson@durhamcathedral.co.uk).*

## **Installation of Jane Maycock as Canon Missioner: Sunday 3 May at 3.30 p.m.**

Our new Canon Missioner and member of Chapter, the Reverend Canon Jane Maycock, will be installed at Evensong this afternoon at 3.30 p.m. and everyone is warmly invited to come along and support Jane as we welcome her into the cathedral community. At this service, we will also be giving thanks for the 40th anniversary of the special link between the Diocese of Durham and the Diocese of Lesotho in Southern Africa.

### **Community Newsletter**

Many of you will have received the May edition of the Cathedral's new community newsletter. It is issued once a month and includes 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](mailto:community@durhamcathedral.co.uk). Alternatively, you can sign up to the newsletter by scanning this QR code:



### **Community Gathering**

The next Community Gathering will take place on Thursday 14 May immediately following the Liturgy of Ascension Day. The Sung Eucharist begins at 5.30 p.m., and should last approximately one hour, and we will then gather in the Deanery garden for drinks from approximately 6.45 p.m. All are welcome to both the service and the gathering which follows.

### **Ascension Day: Thursday 14 May**

We celebrate Christ's ascension into heaven forty days after his resurrection with special services all day. In addition to our usual services, Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer is celebrated at 7.30 a.m. in the Feretory. At 5.30 p.m., the Eucharist will be sung by the Cathedral Choir for this principal feast day. Please celebrate this holy day with us.

**Services and other events this week:**  
**(L) = live-streamed (NL) = not live-streamed**

|                 |                                                                      |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday 4 May    | <i>English Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation Era</i>             |
|                 | 8.30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Feretary) (L)                              |
|                 | 12.30 p.m. Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)                      |
|                 | 5.30 p.m. Evening Prayer (Quire) (L)                                 |
|                 | 8.45 p.m. Compline (online only) (L)                                 |
| Tuesday 5 May   | 8.30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Feretary) (L)                              |
|                 | 12.30 p.m. Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)                      |
|                 | 5.30 p.m. Evensong: Student Tuesday (Quire) (L)                      |
| Wednesday 6 May | 8.30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Feretary) (L)                              |
|                 | 12.30 p.m. Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)                      |
|                 | 5.30 p.m. Evensong (Quire) (L)                                       |
| Thursday 7 May  | <i>John of Beverley, Bishop, Healer, Founder of Beverley Minster</i> |
|                 | 8.30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Feretary) (L)                              |
|                 | 12.30 p.m. Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)                      |
|                 | 5.30 p.m. Evensong (Quire) (L)                                       |
|                 | 7.30 p.m. Ed Sheeran by Candlelight                                  |
| Friday 8 May    | <i>Julian of Norwich, Spiritual Writer</i>                           |
|                 | 8.30 a.m. Morning Prayer and Litany (Feretary) (L)                   |
|                 | 12.30 p.m. Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)                      |
|                 | 5.30 p.m. Evensong (Quire) (L)                                       |
|                 | 7.30 p.m. Ed Sheeran by Candlelight                                  |
| Saturday 9 May  | <i>Online Quiet Day</i>                                              |
|                 | 8.30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Feretary) (L)                              |
|                 | 12.30 p.m. Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)                      |
|                 | 5.30 p.m. Evensong (Quire) (L)                                       |
|                 | 8.45 p.m. Compline (online only) (L)                                 |
| Sunday 10 May   | <i>The Sixth Sunday of Easter</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. Evensong (Quire) (NL)                                      |

**Henry Purcell's King Arthur: Thursday 7 May at 8.30 p.m.**

**The Great Hall, Durham Castle**

The Dunelm Consort and Players, including Cathedral musicians, will perform a newly created performance edition of Henry Purcell's King Arthur with Michael Hampel as the Narrator. Tickets are available via [durhamstudentmusic.org](http://durhamstudentmusic.org)

**Pentecost Praise at Durham Cathedral: Sunday 24 May at 6.30 p.m.**

Pentecost Praise is a celebration service being hosted for the second time by Durham Cathedral in partnership with local churches. It offers an opportunity for Christians to gather together to give thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church, and to celebrate and pray for God's work in the world today. Music will be led by a band drawn from churches across the region, and the service will include anointing and prayer ministry. Pentecost Praise will be led by Philip Plyming, Dean of Durham, and Hannah Wilkinson, Senior Leader and Youth Lead at St Nic's Durham. The preacher will be Sam Ward, UK CEO of The Message Trust. Do plan to come, and bring friends from your church or youth group.

**Celebrating our Saints: The Venerable Bede**

We invite you to join us for our celebrations of our other great saint, The Venerable Bede, whose feast day falls on Monday 25 May 2026. There will be a simple celebration of Holy Communion at Bede's tomb according to the Book of Common Prayer at 7.30 a.m. There will be another celebration of the Eucharist at Bede's tomb at 12.30 p.m., and we conclude the day with a special Festal Evensong at 5.30 p.m., which will be sung by the Chapel Choir of Hild Bede College, Durham University. At this service our guest preacher will be Professor Anna Rowlands, St Hilda Professor of Catholic Social Thought and Practice, Durham University, and Ecumenical Canon at Durham University. Those attending Evensong are invited to join us for refreshments after the service. We are also excited to announce that, on the following evening (Tuesday 26 May) at 7.30 p.m. in the nave our new 'Bede Librarian', the historian, novelist, and podcaster, Tom Holland will give a Durham Cathedral Institute lecture entitled: 'Cuthbert, Bede, and the renewal of culture'. Sadly this event is now fully subscribed but a recording of the lecture will be made available subsequently.

## Organ Recitals 2026

Our organ recitals follow last year's revised and successful format. Once a month, there will be an hour long recital starting at 7.00 p.m. We're keen to encourage people who don't normally come to our organ recitals to join us, alongside those familiar with these special recitals, and enjoy the magnificent sound of one of the country's greatest cathedral organs played by some of Britain's greatest organists.

Wednesday 22 April: Katherine Dienes-Williams, Guildford Cathedral

Wednesday 27 May: Joseph Beech, Durham Cathedral

Wednesday 24 June: Robert Quinney, New College, Oxford

Wednesday 22 July: Imogen Morgan, St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh

Wednesday 26 August: Benjamin Mills, Durham Cathedral

Wednesday 23 September: Daniel Cook, Durham Cathedral

Tickets will soon be available at [durhamcathedral.co.uk](http://durhamcathedral.co.uk), from the Visitor Desk, or on the door.

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- Drop cash into the collecting boxes or baskets
- Contact [development@durhamcathedral.co.uk](mailto:development@durhamcathedral.co.uk)

Thank you!



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