



DURHAM
CATHEDRAL

Evensong

on

The Sunday after Ascension Day

Sunday 17 May 2026

3.30 p.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.*

*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 Lay Clerks and Choral Scholars

Voluntary

Please stand at the entry of the Choir and ministers

Hymn All my hope on God is founded;
 He doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth,
 Only good and only true.
 God unknown
 He alone
 Calls my heart to be his own.

Pride of man and earthly glory,
 Sword and crown betray his trust;
What with care and toil he buildeth,
 Tower and temple, fall to dust.
 But God's power,
 Hour by hour,
 Is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,
 Deep his wisdom, passing thought:
Splendour, light and life attend him,
 Beauty springeth out of naught.
 Evermore
 From his store
 New-born worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth th'Almighty giver
 Bounteous gifts on us bestow;
His desire our soul delighteth,
 Pleasure leads us where we go.
 Love doth stand
 At his hand;
 Joy doth wait on his command.

Still from man to God eternal
Sacrifice of praise be done,
High above all praises praising
For the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call
One and all:
Ye who follow shall not fall.

*Robert Bridges,
based on the German of J Neander*

MICHAEL, Herbert Howells

Welcome and Introduction

The Reverend Canon Jane Maycock

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 The almighty and merciful Lord
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

Robert Sharpe

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

Psalm 47

sung by the Choir

Clap your hands together, all ye people :
 O sing unto God with the voice of melody.
For the Lord is high, and to be feared :
 he is the great King upon all the earth.
He shall subdue the people under us :
 and the nations under our feet.
He shall choose out an heritage for us :
 even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.
God is gone up with a merry noise :
 and the Lord with the sound of the trump.
O sing praises, sing praises unto our God :
 O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.
For God is the King of all the earth :
 sing ye praises with understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen :
 God sitteth upon his holy seat.
The princes of the people
 are joined unto the people of the God of Abraham :
 for God, which is very high exalted,
 doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.

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

Now these are the last words of David:

The oracle of David, son of Jesse,
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,
the anointed of the God of Jacob,
the favourite of the Strong One of Israel:

The spirit of the LORD speaks through me,
his word is upon my tongue.
The God of Israel has spoken,
the Rock of Israel has said to me:
One who rules over people justly,
ruling in the fear of God,
is like the light of morning,
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,
gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.

Is not my house like this with God?
For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,
ordered in all things and secure.
Will he not cause to prosper
all my help and my desire?

After a short silence, all stand with the Choir

My soul doth magnify the Lord :
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded :
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth :
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me :
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him :
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm :
he hath scattered the proud
in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat :
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things :
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy
hath holpen his servant Israel :
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

Please sit

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

After a short silence, all stand with the Choir

Nunc dimittis

Robert Quinney: Nunc dimittis primi toni

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :
according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation :
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people.
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

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.
 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

Robert Sharpe

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 Sunday after Ascension Day

O God the King of glory,
who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven:
We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless;
but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us,
and exalt us unto the same place
whither our Saviour Christ is gone before,
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost,
one God, world without end.
Amen.

The Collect for peace

O God, from whom all holy desires,
all good counsels, and all just works do proceed:
give unto thy servants that peace
which the world cannot give;
that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments,
and also that by thee
we being defended from the fear of our enemies
may pass our time in rest and quietness;
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.

The Collect for aid against all perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee O Lord;
and by thy great mercy
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night;
for the love of thy only Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Please sit

Anthem

sung by the Choir

View me, Lord, a work of thine!
Shall I then lie drown'd in night?
Might thy grace in me but shine,
I should seem made all of light.

Cleanse me, Lord, that I may kneel
At thine altar pure and white;
They that once thy mercies feel,
Gaze no more on earth's delight.

Worldly joys, like shadows, fade
When the heav'nly light appears;
But the cov'nants thou hast made,
Endless, know nor days, nor years.

In thy word, Lord, is my trust,
To thy mercies fast I fly;
Though I am but clay and dust,
Yet thy grace can lift me high.

Thomas Campion

Charles Wood

Prayers and the Grace

The Reverend Canon Jane Maycock

The prayers conclude with 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

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
And publish abroad his wonderful name:
The name all-victorious of Jesus extol:
His kingdom is glorious, and rules over all.

God ruleth on high, almighty to save;
And still he is nigh, his presence we have:
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

Salvation to God who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud, and honour the Son:
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
Fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore, and give him his right:
All glory and power, all wisdom and might,
All honour and blessing, with angels above,
And thanks never-ceasing, and infinite love.

Charles Wesley

PADERBORN, Paderborn Gesangbuch 1765

The Blessing

Minister The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth,
 give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
 and strengthen you
 to proclaim the word and works of God
 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

*The Cathedral Choir sings Evensong in St Helen's Church, Low Fell, this afternoon
for the Gateshead Deanery.*

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.

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 goes to regular worshippers who have joined the community roll as well as other constituencies closely associated with the Cathedral. Alternatively, you can sign up to the newsletter by scanning the QR code below. If you are a regular worshipper here and you would like to be on the community roll, you are welcome to join it by sending an email to community@durhamcathedral.co.uk, for the application form.



Services and other events this week:

(L) = live-streamed (NL) = not live-streamed

Monday 18 May	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 19 May	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretary) (L)
	11.15 a.m.	Mothers' Union Prayer Time (Gregory Chapel) (NL)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong: Student Tuesday (Quire) (L)
Wednesday 20 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 21 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)
Friday 22 May	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer and Litany (Feretary) (L)
	9.30 a.m.	DCSF Assembly (Nave) (NL)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong (Quire) (L)
	7.30 p.m.	DCSF Speech Day
Saturday 23 May	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretary) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong (Quire) (NL)
	7.30 p.m.	Radiohead Concert (Nave) (NL)
Sunday 24 May		<i>The Day of Pentecost</i>
	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP) (High Altar) (NL)
	10.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist (CW1) (Nave) (L)
	11.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer with Address (Quire) (NL)
	3.30 p.m.	Evening Prayer (Galilee Chapel) (NL)
	6.30 p.m.	Pentecost Praise (Nave) (NL)

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 Alec Ryrie, FBA, Professor of the History of Christianity, Durham University, and a Licensed Lay Minister in the Diocese of Newcastle. 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.

The Annual Jarrow Lecture

On Friday 22 May at 7.30 p.m., Dr Tom Pickles, Associate Professor of Early Medieval History at the University of Chester, will give the annual Jarrow Lecture at St Paul's Church, Jarrow. The event, started in 1958, honours Bede's life as a scholar, and this year's talk is on the subject 'Bede, Providence and Early Medieval Kingship'. All are welcome to attend, with free entry and refreshments afterwards.

Sung Eucharist and Procession in Celebration of *Corpus Christi*:

Thursday 4 June 2026 at 5.30 p.m.

We will celebrate the Eucharist in thanksgiving for Christ's institution of Holy Communion, the sacrament of his body and blood, and the service will conclude with a procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Galilee Chapel. The service is sung by the Cathedral Choir, and will last about one hour. All are welcome!

Friends' Festival Evensong: Saturday 6 June 2026 at 4.00 p.m.

The Friends hold their annual gathering on Saturday 6 June and a special service of Evensong takes place at the earlier time of 4.00 p.m. This service is followed by the traditional 'singing from the tower' by the Cathedral Choir at approximately 5.15 p.m. The best vantage point for the latter is on Palace Green. You don't have to be a Friend to attend either of these events.

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 are available at durhamcathedral.co.uk, from the Visitor Desk, or on the door.

Installation of Rick Simpson as Bishop of Durham

Sunday 7 June at 3.00 p.m.

If you would like to attend the service, go to Durham Cathedral's website. Go to the 'Visit' page and then 'Concerts and evening events', and scroll down to 7 June. Use the code **RICK2026** to apply for a maximum of two tickets. Or use this QR code:



Tickets are available on a first come, first served basis until they run out. If there are no tickets left, try again on Tuesday 26 May in case we find that we are able to add more tickets. The service will also be available to watch on the Cathedral's YouTube channel (either live or later the same day).

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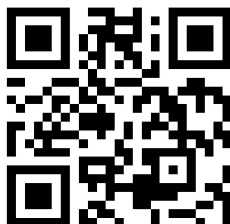
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- Contact development@durhamcathedral.co.uk

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