



DURHAM
CATHEDRAL

Matins

on

The Sunday after Ascension Day

Sunday 17 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.*

*We are very grateful to Hargreaves Services plc
for their support of our provision of flowers at Durham Cathedral
www.hsgplc.co.uk*

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Voluntary

Please stand at the entrance of the Choir and ministers

Hymn

Love of the Father, love of God the Son,
From whom all came, in whom was all begun;
Who formest heavenly beauty out of strife,
Creation's whole desire and breath of life.

Spirit all-holy, thou supreme in might,
Thou dost give peace, thy presence maketh right;
Thou with thy favour all things dost enfold,
With thine all-kindness free from harm wilt hold.

Hope of all comfort, splendour of all aid,
That dost not fail nor leave the heart afraid:
To all that cry thou dost all help accord,
The angels' armour, and the saints' reward.

Purest and highest, wisest and most just,
There is no truth save only in thy trust;
Thou dost the mind from earthly dreams recall,
And bring through Christ to him for whom are all.

Eternal glory, all men thee adore,
Who art and shalt be worshipped evermore:
Us whom thou madest, comfort with thy might,
And lead us to enjoy thy heavenly light.

Robert Bridges

SONG 22. *Orlando Gibbons*

Welcome and Introduction

The Reverend Canon Michael Hampel

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

William Smith

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.

Please sit

O Lord, how manifold are thy works :
 in wisdom hast thou made them all;
 the earth is full of thy riches.
So is the great and wide sea also :
 wherein are things creeping innumerable,
 both small and great beasts.
There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan :
 whom thou hast made to take his pastime therein.
These wait all upon thee :
 that thou mayest give them meat in due season.
When thou givest it them they gather it :
 and when thou openest thy hand
 they are filled with good.
When thou hidest thy face they are troubled :
 when thou takest away their breath they die,
 and are turned again to their dust.
When thou lettest thy breath go forth they shall be made :
 and thou shalt renew the face of the earth.
The glorious Majesty of the Lord shall endure for ever :
 the Lord shall rejoice in his works.
The earth shall tremble at the look of him :
 if he do but touch the hills, they shall smoke.
I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live :
 I will praise my God while I have my being.

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

For I am about to create new heavens
and a new earth;
the former things shall not be remembered
or come to mind.
But be glad and rejoice for ever
in what I am creating;
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy,
and its people as a delight.
I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
and delight in my people;
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,
or the cry of distress.
No more shall there be in it
an infant that lives but a few days,
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.
They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
They shall not labour in vain,
or bear children for calamity;
for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD—
and their descendants as well.
Before they call I will answer,
while they are yet speaking I will hear.
The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,
the lion shall eat straw like the ox;
but the serpent—its food shall be dust!
They shall not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.

After a short silence, please stand with the Choir

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.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

‘See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.’

And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children. But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the polluted, the murderers, the fornicators, the sorcerers, the idolaters, and all liars, their place will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulphur, which is the second death.’

After a short silence, please stand with the Choir

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.
 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

William Smith

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,
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

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying,

Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men,
and he will dwell with them,
and they shall be his people:
and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.
And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes;
and there shall be no more death,
neither sorrow, nor crying,
neither shall there be any more pain:
for the former things are passed away.

And he that sat upon the throne said: 'Behold, I make all things new.'

Revelation 21: 1-5a

Matthew Martin

Sermon

The Reverend Canon Michael Hampel

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 Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly Dove,
With light and comfort from above;
Be thou our guardian, thou our guide,
O'er every thought and step preside.

The light of truth to us display,
And make us know and choose thy way;
Plant faith and love in every heart,
That we from God may ne'er depart.

Lead us to Christ, the living Way,
Nor let us from our shepherd stray;
Lead us to holiness, the road
That brings us to our home in God.

Lead us to heaven, that we may share
Fulness of joy for ever there;
Lead us to God, the heart's true rest,
To dwell with him, for ever blest.

*Simon Browne
and others*

HAWKHURST, H J Gauntlett

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

Choral Evensong is sung by the Lay Clerks and Choral Scholars in the Quire at 3.30 p.m.

The Cathedral Choir sings Evensong in St Helen's Church, Low Fell, this afternoon at 3.30 p.m. 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 (Feretory) (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 (Feretory) (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 (Feretory) (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 (Feretory) (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 (Feretory) (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 (Feretory) (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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If you already support the Cathedral, thank you!

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advancing our mission as a place of prayer, pilgrimage and proclamation, conserving heritage, and providing welcome.

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- Contact development@durhamcathedral.co.uk

Thank you!



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