



BELFAST
CATHEDRAL

**MORNING PRAYER:
A SERVICE OF THE WORD
Sunday 25th April 2021
11.00am
The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

*Welcome to the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast.
Please follow the instructions from the Churchwardens.
We ask you to wear a face covering throughout your visit.
Under government guidance for the purposes of keeping
Contact Tracing Records
it is essential that you complete the following information.
Please leave this service sheet **ON YOUR SEAT**
when you leave at the end of the service.
These will be retained for 21 days, after which they will be destroyed.
Thank you.*

Name(s): _____

Telephone contact: _____



Organ Prelude: Priere Jean Langlais (1907-91)

Introduction from the Dean

Please stand for the **OPENING HYMN: ICH 281***



**Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore;
mortals, give thanks and sing,
and triumph evermore:**

***Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
Rejoice! Again I say: Rejoice!***

**Jesus the Saviour reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above:**

**Rejoice in glorious hope;
Jesus the Judge shall come,
and take his servants up
to their eternal home.**

***We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;
the trump of God shall sound: Rejoice!***

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88) based on Philippians 4:4

Tune: GOPSAL G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

The congregation is welcomed by the Dean's Vicar.

THE GREETING

Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. / *Peter 1:3*

PENITENCE

Beloved in Christ, we come together to offer to Almighty God our worship and praise and thanksgiving, to confess our sins and to receive God's forgiveness, to hear his holy word proclaimed, to bring before him our needs and the needs of the world, and to pray that in the power of his Spirit we may serve him and know the greatness of his love.

Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

Please kneel or sit

Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault; by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand

PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD

○ Lord, open our lips
and our mouth will proclaim your praise.

○ God, make speed to save us.
○ Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

Praise the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

Please remain standing to say the **PSALM: 23**

The Lord is my shepherd:

therefore can I lack nothing.

He shall feed me in a green pasture:

and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.

He shall convert my soul:

and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me:

thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Glory to the Father:

and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning:

is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

Please sit for the **FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12**

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

“the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;

it has become the cornerstone.”

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.’

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to say the **EASTERTIDE CANTICLE:** The Easter Anthems (*1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22*)

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us:

therefore let us celebrate the feast,

Not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Christ, once raised from the dead dies no more;

death has no more dominion over him.

In dying, he died to sin once for all;

in living, he lives to God.

See yourselves therefore as dead to sin;

and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Christ has been raised from the dead:

the firstfruits of those who sleep.

For as by man came death,

by man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die,

even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son;

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now,

and shall be for ever. Amen.

Please sit for the **SECOND READING:** John 10:11-18

Jesus said to the Pharisees, 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON by the Reverend Dr Maithrie White

ANTHEM:

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want;
he maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
he leadeth me besides the still waters.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
I will fear no evil:
for you are with me;
you will comfort me.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the House of the Lord forever.

Words: Psalm 23
Music: Howard Goodall

Please stand to say the **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the **Father** almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in **Jesus Christ**, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the **Holy Spirit**, born of the **Virgin Mary**, suffered under **Pontius Pilate**, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the **Father**, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the **Holy Spirit**, the holy catholic **Church**, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Let us pray.

Please kneel or sit

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen
and grant her government wisdom.

Let your ministers be clothed with righteousness
and let your servants shout for joy.

O Lord, save your people
and bless those whom you have chosen.

Give peace in our time, O Lord,
and let your glory be over all the earth.

O God, make clean our hearts within us
and renew us by your Holy Spirit.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

COLLECTS AT MORNING PRAYER

Go before us, Lord, in all our doings, with your most gracious favour, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name, and finally by your mercy attain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray that your Holy Spirit may so guide and govern us that in all the cares and occupations of our daily life, we may never forget your presence but may remember that we are always walking in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray for God to be known and obeyed in the Church and in the world.

We pray for the unity of the Church, that all who hold the faith of Christ may be drawn into the one fold under one Shepherd. Bless all efforts at furthering Church unity and overcoming the divisions of the past through this cathedral and the worldwide church. Keep the ministers of the Gospel faithful to their calling, to be true guardians of the flock and servants of their Master.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have authority over others, that they may act with justice and mercy, caring for those they govern and protecting them from harm. Instill in the leaders of these islands a spirit of understanding and respect where there are differences of viewpoint. May those who have not known the message of salvation hear your voice and come to rest under your protection.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give grace to us, to our families, friends and neighbours, to know our Shepherd, to follow him in faith and find new life in him. We pray for businesses preparing to reopen, and for all who have lost jobs over the past year and who continue to seek new employment. We pray for the Dean, Chapter and Board of this cathedral church, asking that this community be well and wisely led and that all her members may live in harmony.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Have mercy on all who are threatened by the wolves of war and violence, and on those who suffer from the wickedness of false leaders. We pray for victims of hate crime and those discriminated against on account of their nationality, religion or any other reason. Come to all who have been abandoned by those in whom they trusted, and lead them back to live again in confidence.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the faithful departed who have followed their Shepherd even to the death of the body, especially those who hold a special place in our hearts. May we come, with them, to be one with him in the safety of the heavenly fold where nothing can threaten or harm. We continue to pray for the family and parishioners of the late Rev John Anderson, asking that they may know comfort and peace amidst their shock and grief.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A PRAYER DURING THIS TIME OF CORONAVIRUS

O Heavenly Father, who by your Son Jesus Christ has taught us the glory of self-sacrifice and service: bless all who care for the sick, and those suffering from or recovering from Coronavirus. Stand with those who grieve. Give your strength to all who work in hospitals and nursing homes, and those who give care in the community. Guide those who seek to understand the new variants of the infection, and those who are administering the vaccines. Give wisdom to all who have responsibility in church, politics and society for leading a way out of the current Lockdown. This we ask in the name of the one who spent himself in service of others with no thought for himself, even our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father, **accept these our prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Please stand for the **CLOSING HYMN: ICH 528***



**The Church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word:
from heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.**



**'Mid toil, and tribulation,
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great Church victorious
shall be the Church at rest.**

**Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.**

Words: Samuel J. Stone (1839-1900)

Tune: AURELIA S.S. Wesley (1810-76)

THE BLESSING

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, raise you up to walk with him in the newness of his risen life: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Organ Voluntary: Sun Dance *Bob Chilcott (b.1955)*

*Please remain in your place until the Churchwardens direct you to move.
We ask that members of the congregation exit the building straight away
and **do not congregate on the west steps.***

Thank you.

Soloist: India Chapman Webb

Organist: Jack Wilson

**Please remember that you can continue to make your FWO
contribution to the Cathedral via On-line Banking:**

Bank Details for the Cathedral Account which you will need to make an on-line
Banking Transfer are as follows:

Cathedral Bank Branch:

**Bank of Ireland, City Centre Branch, 1 Donegall Square South,
Belfast. BT1 5LR.**

Name of Account: **Parochial No 1 Current Account**

Sort Code: **90-21-27**

Account Number: **10006051**

Please give your own name as the Payment Reference.

Thank you for your continuing financial support for Belfast Cathedral



NOTICES



Sunday 2nd May 2021: The Fifth Sunday of Easter

11.00am A Shortened Service of the Word

Preacher: The Very Reverend Stephen Forde

Followed by the Annual Easter Vestry Meeting for 2021.

We encourage you to join us in person for this service in the cathedral.

For those who cannot do so, there will be a livestream

on the Belfast Cathedral Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/BelfastCathedral/>

In compliance with directions issued by the Connor Diocesan Office,

the **Annual Easter General Vestry Meeting**

will be held at **11.50am on Sunday 2nd May 2021**

in the Nave of Belfast Cathedral,

following a shortened service of Morning Worship on the same day.

Connor Diocesan Regulations 7.4.1

In 2021, for the fifty days between Easter Sunday (4th April 2021) and Pentecost Sunday (23rd May, 2021), we invite members of the cathedral family, and those across the churches to join in partnership with

Corrymeela's #CouragePentecost programme.

Each day we are called, prayerfully and courageously, to make a small change to our daily attitudes or actions, which can lead to a major change in our worldview and the situations of ongoing sectarianism in our land.

There is a separate action or call to change for each day. To follow this programme please connect with Corrymeela's Courage Pentecost Website at

<https://www.couragepentecost.com/actions>

or www.belfastcathedral.org/news

Bible passages in this service are from the New Revised Standard Version.

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