



A welcoming, inclusive, Christian community

**Solemn Eucharist
Corpus Christi**

**8th June 2023
7.30pm**

Welcome to Lancaster Priory

We are really pleased that you are worshipping with us today. Wherever you have come from, this is your church and you are unconditionally welcome.

The Feast of Corpus Christi, or the Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of Holy Communion, goes back to the 13th century, but it celebrates something far older: the institution of the Sacrament of Holy Communion at the Last Supper. While Maundy Thursday is also a celebration of this mystery, the solemn nature of Holy Week, and the focus on Christ's Passion on Good Friday, overshadows that aspect of Maundy Thursday.

For centuries after the celebration was extended to the universal Church, the feast was also celebrated with a Eucharistic procession, in which the Sacred Host was carried throughout the town, accompanied by hymns and litanies. The faithful would venerate the Body of Christ as the procession passed by. In recent years, this practice has almost disappeared, though some parishes still hold a brief procession in and/or around the outside of the church. Whilst we do not do this at Lancaster Priory, on the nearest Sunday to Corpus Christi (this next weekend) we do include the traditional Benediction (the Blessing) with the Sacred Host.



CONTACTLESS CARD DONATIONS STATION—you can donate to the Priory using the contact-less card reader which stands beside the door.

Today's service (Corpus Christi):

President and Preacher: The Revd John Rodwell

Deacon: The Revd Leah Vasey-Saunders

The Reader: Rosemary Rodwell Intercessor: Lois Kirtley

Organist: Ian Pattinson FRCO, Priory Organist

Choir: Full Choir Setting: The Little Organ Mass (Haydn)

Acknowledgements

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Hymn (NEH 271) *Please stand as the choir, servers and clergy enter and we sing the hymn and the altar is censed.*

1. Alleluia, sing to Jesus,
his the sceptre, his the throne;
Alleluia, his the triumph,
his the victory alone:
hark the songs of peaceful Sion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus, out of every nation,
hath redeemed us by his blood.

2. Alleluia, not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia, he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how;
though the cloud from sight received
him
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?

3. Alleluia, Bread of Angels,
thou on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia, here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day;
intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

4. Alleluia, King eternal,
thee the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluia, born of Mary,
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the Eucharistic Feast.

*Words W Chatterton Dix 1837-98
Tune HYFRYDOL Melody by
R H Pritchard 1811-87*

The Greeting *The president says*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Prayers of Penitence and Forgiveness *The deacon says*

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

As the deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me:

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

May we come to your altar, O God, the God of our salvation:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

The Absolution *The priest says*

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 life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The Gloria *The Choir sings*

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te, Benedicimus te, Adoramus te, Glorificamus te. Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam, Domine Deus, Rex coelestis Deus Pater omnipotens.	<i>Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, goodwill towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty.</i>
Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe. Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,	<i>O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.</i>
Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.	<i>Thou that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.</i>
Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram.	<i>Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.</i>
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.	
Quoniam tu solus sanctus. Tu solus Dominus.	<i>For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;</i>

Tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe. *thou only, O Christ,*
Cum Sancto Spiritu, *with the Holy Ghost, art most high*
in gloria Dei Patris. *in the glory of God the Father.*
Amen. *Amen.*

The Collect *The priest says 'let us pray' and silence is kept.*

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament you have given us the memorial of your passion: grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your body and blood that we may know within ourselves and show forth in our lives the fruits of your redemption; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Please sit.

The Reading 1 Corinthians 11.23-26

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Corinthians

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

For the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Hymn (NEH 305)

**Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast,
body of Christ, be thou my saving guest,
blood of my Saviour, bathe me in thy tide,
wash me with water flowing from thy side.**

**Strength and protection may thy passion be,
O blesséd Jesu, hear and answer me;
deep in thy wounds, Lord, hide and shelter me,**

so shall I never, never part from thee.

Guard and defend me from the foe malign,
in death's dread moments make me only thine;
call me and bid me come to thee on high
where I may praise thee with thy saints for ay.

Words *Latin, 14th century*
Tr Anonymous

Tune ANIMA CHRISTI
W Maher 1823-77

The Gospel Reading John 6.51-58

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation, the cantor sings

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord.
Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

The deacon says The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John **Glory to you, O Lord**

Jesus said, 'I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.' The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' So Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.'

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon *Please sit.*

The Creed *Please stand.*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession *Please sit.*

This response is used Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

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

The Peace *Please stand.*

We are the Body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you**

The deacon says Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We acknowledge one another with a sign of peace.

The Offertory Hymn (302) *During this hymn a collection will be taken.*

O, thou who at thy eucharist didst pray
that all thy church might be for ever one,
grant us at every Eucharist to say
with longing heart and soul 'Thy will be done':
O may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.

2. For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;
make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;
draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,
by drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace:
thus may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.

3. We pray thee too for wanderers from thy fold;
O bring them back, good Shepherd of the sheep,
back to the faith which saints believed of old,
back to the church which still that faith doth keep:
soon may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.

4. So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,
may we be one with all thy church above,
one with thy saints in one unbroken peace,
one with thy saints in one unbounded love:
more blessed still, in peace and love to be
one with the Trinity in Unity.

William Turton 1856-1938

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise**

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our great high priest. He offered himself to you as the Lamb without blemish, the acceptable gift that gives you perfect praise.

At the Last Supper, seated with his apostles, he left this memorial of his passion to bring us its saving power until the end of time. In this great sacrament you feed your people and strengthen them in holiness, so that throughout the world the human family may be enlightened by one faith and drawn together in one communion of love. We come to this foretaste of your heavenly banquet to be transformed by your Grace and restored in the image and likeness of the risen Christ. Therefore earth unites with heaven to sing a new song of praise; we too join with angels and archangels as they proclaim your glory without end:

The choir sings

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis. [Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.]	Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. [Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.]
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The priest continues

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

The deacon says Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer *We pray together in our preferred version or language.*

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us:

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

The Giving of Communion *The congregation are invited to receive communion.*

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Agnus Dei *Please sit. The choir sings*

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

O Lamb of God
that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

O Lamb of God
that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

O Lamb of God
that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us thy peace.

The priest and people receive communion. We welcome communicant members of all Christian denominations to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please carry this booklet with you. Gluten-free hosts are available, please indicate this to the president, green cards are available from the sidespeople for this purpose.

Communion Anthem *O Salutaris Hostia* Tallis

*O salutaris Hostia,
Quae caeli pandis ostium:
Bella premunt hostilia,
Da robur, fer auxilium.
Uni trinoque Domino
Sit sempiterna gloria,
Qui vitam sine termino
Nobis donet in patria.
Amen.*

O saving Victim,
Who expandest the door of heaven,
Hostile armies press,
Give strength; bear aid.
To the One and Triune Lord,
May there be everlasting glory;
who life without end
gives us in the homeland.
Amen.

Communion Hymn (NEH 268 T.202) *We remain seated*

Of the glorious body telling,
O my tongue, its mysteries sing,
And the blood, all price excelling,
Which the world's eternal King,
In a noble womb once dwelling,
Shed for this world's ransoming.

2 Given for us, for us descending,
Of a virgin to proceed,
Man with man in converse blending,
Scattered he the gospel seed,
Till his sojourn drew to ending,
Which he closed in wondrous deed.

3 At the last great supper lying
Circled by his chosen band,
Duly with the law complying,
First he finished its command,
Then, immortal food supplying,
Gave himself by his own hand.

4 Word-made-flesh, by word he maketh
Bread his very flesh to be;
Man in wine Christ's blood partaketh:
And if senses fail to see,
Faith alone the true heart waketh
To behold the mystery.

Part 2 Tantum ergo

5 Therefore we, before him bending,
This great sacrament revere:
Types and shadows have their ending,
For the newer rite is here;
Faith, our outward sense befriending,
Makes the inward vision clear.

6 Glory let us give and blessing
To the Father and the Son,
Honour, might and praise addressing,
While eternal ages run;
Ever too his love confessing,
Who, from both, with both is one.
Amen.

Tr JM Neale 1818-66 and others

Prayer After Communion *The president prays*

All praise to you, our God and Father, for you have fed us with the bread of Heaven and quenched our thirst from the true vine: hear our prayer that, being grafted into Christ, we may grow together in unity and feast with him in his kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Blessing and Dismissal *The priest prays*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Christ, who has nourished us with himself the living bread, make you one in praise and love, and raise you up at the last day; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The deacon says

Glory to God, whose power, at work among us, can do infinitely more than all we can ask or conceive; to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. **Amen**

Organ Voluntary *Impromptu on a French church* Campbell

Please remain standing while the servers, choir and clergy depart.