



# **LANCASTER PRIORY**

## **The Holy Eucharist**

Wednesday in Holy Week  
2024

## 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.

Holy Week and Easter form one of the two central festivals of the Christian year. Where Christmas celebrates Jesus' birth, in Holy Week and Easter we remember Jesus' death and resurrection. The festival is one of the oldest in Christian tradition, and in celebrating we follow in the footsteps of countless Christians before us and stand alongside our brothers and sisters in other churches worldwide. The Week begins with the proclamation of Jesus as Messiah by the crowds on Palm Sunday, and a retelling of the whole Passion Narrative to prepare us for the week to come. We walk alongside Jesus and his disciples in the services during the week, with readings reminding us of the events of Jesus' last days. On Maundy Thursday we remember the events of Jesus' last day of freedom – the teaching of Christian service in the foot-washing, the institution of the Eucharist, and the vigil of prayer at Gethsemane. The Maundy Thursday service ends with the dramatic stripping of the church, as we remember the arrest of Jesus and the scattering of the disciples. On Good Friday we remember Jesus' death on the cross. Traditionally there is no celebration of the Eucharist, with bread and wine consecrated on the Thursday being distributed instead. Saturday, the day when Jesus lay dead in the tomb, has no service of its own, and is a day of silence and reflection, that will lead to the celebration of the Easter Vigil.

President: Revd Leah Vasey-Saunders, *Vicar*.

Preacher: Rt Revd Julie Conalty, *Bishop of Birkenhead and Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Blackburn*.

### Acknowledgements

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## The Gathering

### Processional Hymn

*A Hymn may be sung. Please stand as the server(s) and clergy enter.*

### 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.

*The president introduces the service.*

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### Prayers of Penitence *Please sit or kneel.*

God shows his love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
Let us then show our love for him by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Father eternal, giver of light and grace,  
We have sinned against you and against our neighbour,  
in what we have thought, in what we have said and done,  
through ignorance, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us.  
We are sorry and ashamed, 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 lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light.  
Amen.

## **The Kyrie** *A choir or cantor may sing*

*Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison*

Lord have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.

*The president 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 Collect**

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who in your tender love towards the human race  
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh  
and to suffer death upon the cross:  
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## **The First Reading** *Hebrews 12:1-3 Please sit.*

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart.

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

## **Gospel Acclamation and Reading** John 13:21-32

*Please stand. The acclamation is said or sung*

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him

and given him the name that is above every name.

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

*The deacon says*

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

After saying this Jesus was troubled in spirit, and declared, 'Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me.' The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. One of his disciples—the one whom Jesus loved—was reclining next to him; Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. So while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, 'Lord, who is it?' Jesus answered, 'It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.' So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot. After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, 'Do quickly what you are going to do.' Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. Some thought that, because Judas had the common purse, Jesus was telling him, 'Buy what we need for the festival'; or, that he should give something to the poor. So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** *Please sit. A sermon may be preached.*

## **The Intercessions**

*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.*

Once we were far off but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace.

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.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

## **Offertory Hymn** (NEH 83) *Please stand.*

Glory be to Jesus,  
who, in bitter pains,  
poured for me the life-blood  
from his sacred veins.

2. Grace and life eternal  
in that blood I find;  
blest be his compassion  
infinitely kind.

3. Blest through endless ages  
be the precious stream,  
which from endless torments  
did the world redeem.

4. Abel's blood for vengeance  
pleaded to the skies;  
but the blood of Jesus  
for our pardon cries.

5. Oft as it is sprinkled  
on our guilty hearts,  
Satan in confusion  
terror-struck departs.

6. Oft as earth exulting  
wafts its praise on high,  
angel-hosts rejoicing  
make their glad reply.

7. Lift ye then your voices;  
swell the mighty flood;  
louder still and louder  
praise the precious blood.

Tr. Edward Caswall (1814-1878)

## **Offertory Prayer**

With this bread that we bring  
**We shall remember Jesus.**

With this wine that we bring  
**We shall remember Jesus.**

Bread for his body, wine for his blood, gifts from God to his table we bring.  
**We shall remember Jesus.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

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 just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near  
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.

The power of the life-giving cross  
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world  
and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more, the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,  
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,  
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels, for ever praising you and  
*saying:*

*A choir/cantor may sing or we say the words in bold:*

*Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus*

*Dominus Deus Sabaoth.*

*Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.*

*Hosanna in excelsis.*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your**

**glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one, enthroned in splendour and light,  
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ  
you reveal the power of your love made perfect in our human weakness.

**Amen. Lord, we believe.**

Embracing our humanity, Jesus showed us the way of salvation;  
loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us;  
dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin,  
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

**Amen. Lord, we believe.**

On the night he gave up himself for us all he 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.

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross,  
we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb,  
we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high  
and we long for his coming in glory.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption,  
Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation  
be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
form us into the likeness of Christ and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Look with favour on your people and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.  
Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free  
and fill your Church with power from on high.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Gather your people from the ends of the earth  
to feast with Mary the mother of our Lord, and all your saints  
at the table in your kingdom,  
where the new creation is brought to perfection in 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.**

*Please sit. Silence is kept.*



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

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

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.

## **Breaking of the Bread** *The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

## **Giving of Communion**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies.

We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.

But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.

Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,

so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood,

that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body

and our souls washed through his most precious blood,

and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.

Amen.

*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.*

**Agnus Dei** *A choir/cantor may sing or we say the words in bold*

*Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.*

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

**Lamb of God  
you take away the sins of the  
world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God  
you take away the sins of the  
world, have mercy upon us.**

**Lamb of God  
you take away the sins of the  
world, grant us your peace.**

**Music during Communion** *Anthems and Hymns may be sung.*

**Prayer after Communion** *Silence is kept.*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,  
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:  
give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

**Recessional Hymn** (NEH 76) *Please stand.*

Take up thy cross, the Saviour said,  
If thou wouldst my disciple be;  
Deny thyself, the world forsake,  
And humbly follow after me.

2. Take up thy cross; let not its weight  
Fill thy weak spirit with alarm;  
His strength shall bear thy spirit up,  
And brace thy heart, and nerve thine arm.

3. Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,  
Nor let thy foolish pride rebel;  
The Lord for thee the Cross endured,  
To save thy soul from death and hell.

4. Take up thy cross then in his strength,  
And calmly every danger brave;  
'Twill guide thee to a better home,  
And lead to victory o'er the grave.

5. Take up thy cross, and follow Christ,  
Nor think till death to lay it down;  
For only he who bears the cross  
May hope to wear the glorious crown.

6. To thee, great Lord, the One in Three,  
All praise for evermore ascend;  
O grant us in our home to see  
The heavenly life that knows no end.

Words: Charles Everest 1814-77

### **The Blessing and Dismissal** *Please stand. The priest says*

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

Christ crucified draw you to himself,  
to find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope,  
and the assurance of sins forgiven;  
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*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

### **Organ Voluntary** Ubi Caritas (Ainscough)

*We remain standing as the clergy and choir depart.*