



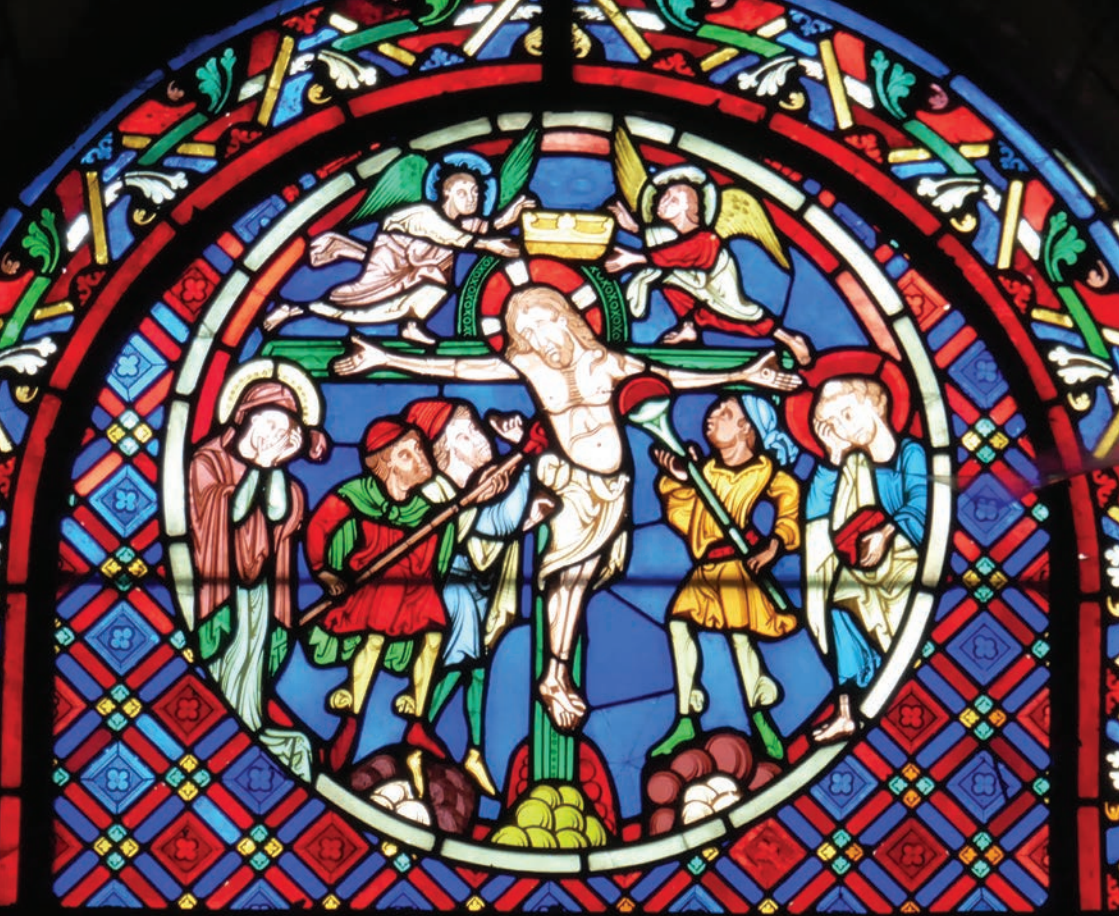
ELY  
CATHEDRAL

# Lent, Holy Week and Easter 2024

Worship, Prayer and Christian Formation at Ely Cathedral

‘Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs’: Deepening our Devotion





## Lent, Holy Week and Easter 2024

### ‘Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs’: Deepening our Devotion

‘Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly’ wrote St Paul to the early Church at Colossae, ‘teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs to God’. As we turn again this year to spiritual reflection and discipline in the Lenten season, we deepen our affections by contemplating our communal practice of worship as it is expressed in hymns and psalmody. These are treasures of devotion we inherit from former generations and rework to God’s glory in our own. In the psalmody our souls speak directly to God, bringing every kind of feeling to be transformed by his attentive presence, and participating in ancient devotional practice, as old as the earliest of our monasteries. In singing hymns we bring ourselves before him in praise and adoration, in remembrance of the gifts of our Lord’s passion, suffering and resurrection, and in intercession for the needs of his children.

## A True Hymn

by George Herbert (1593-1633)

My joy, my life, my crown!  
My heart was meaning all the day,  
Somewhat it fain would say:  
And still it runneth mutt'ring up and down,  
With only this: My joy, my life, my crown.

Yet slight not these few words:  
If truly said, they may take part  
Among the best in art.  
The fineness which a hymn or psalm affords  
Is, when the soul unto the lines accords.

He who craves all the mind,  
And all the soul, and strength, and time,  
If the words only rhyme,  
Justly complains, that somewhat is behind,  
To make his verse, or write his hymn in kind.

Whereas if the heart be moved,  
Although the verse be somewhat scant,  
God doth supply the want.  
As when th'heart says (sighing to be approved)  
O, could I love! and stops: God writeth: *Loved*.

## Worship is offered daily, all are welcome.

### Monday - Saturday

7.30am Morning Prayer (*said service with Bible readings, canticles and prayers*)  
8.00am Holy Communion (*said*)  
5.30pm Choral Evensong or Evening Prayer (*said*)

### Sunday

8.15am Holy Communion (*said service, in traditional language with a short address*)  
10.30am Sung Eucharist with music, hymns and sermon  
4.00pm Choral Evensong with short address

On **Wednesdays** and **Fridays** a short service is offered by our Day Chaplains in St Catherine's Chapel at 12.15pm.

On **Thursdays** and **Saints' Days** there is an additional Eucharist at 12.10pm.

A full list of services can be found on the Cathedral website: [www.elycathedral.org](http://www.elycathedral.org)

\* Incense is used at services in this booklet marked with an asterisk



# Lent Sunday Sermon Series: The Penitential Psalms



Seven of the one hundred and fifty psalms have been known since the early centuries of the Church as the Penitential Psalms – psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130 and 143.

They express human sorrow for sin, and we explore their devotional gifts in a series of sermons at the 10.30am Sunday Eucharist during Lent. There will be opportunities to discuss these themes further in 'Meet the Preacher'.

Sunday 18 February

## **First Sunday of Lent: Supplication**

**Preacher: Canon Jessica Martin**

*Out of the depths have I cried to you, O Lord (Psalm 130)*

10.30am **Sung Eucharist**

Canon Martin preaches on 'supplication', the infinitely vulnerable act of trust that is asking God for his presence and help. Music includes Purcell's 3-part penitential setting of a verse from Psalm 79: *O remember not our old sins, but have mercy upon us, and that soon: for we are come to great misery*. The Mass setting is Palestrina's *Missa Aeterna Christi Munera*. The service is sung by the Lay Clerks.

Sunday 25 February

## **Second Sunday of Lent: Grace**

**Preacher: The Dean**

*Enter not into judgment with your servant; for in your sight shall no one living be justified (Psalm 143)*

10.30am **Sung Eucharist**

The Dean explores the gift of grace, where God extends liberty and healing to the soul that earnestly desires to turn away from sin. Music includes the anthem *Be still, my soul, for God is here*, set by Percy Whitlock, a calm expression of trust in God's redeeming mercy. The Mass setting is Charles Wood's *Mass in the Phrygian Mode* (1923).



Sunday 3 March

### **Third Sunday of Lent: *Purification***

**Preacher: Canon James Reveley**

*Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin (Psalm 51)*

10.30am **Sung Eucharist**

Canon Reveley thinks about that difficult word 'purity', and the images of cleansing and washing that accompany our transformation by God into the people he intends us to become. Music includes William Byrd's famous setting of *Ave Verum Corpus* (Hail, true Body), sung in adoration at the Eucharist and recalling Jesus' crucified body. The Mass setting is Victoria's *Missa Quarti Toni*.

Sunday 17 March

### **Fifth Sunday of Lent: *Intercession***

**Preacher: Canon James Garrard**

*O Lord, hear my prayer; and let my crying come before you (Psalm 102)*

10.30am **Sung Eucharist**

Canon Garrard preaches on the practice of intercession, the prayer that intervenes for the sake of others and brings the needs of the world to God, looking at Jesus' own ministry of intercession for humanity. Music includes Herbert Howells' rich *Collegium Regale* Mass setting, and the anthem is William Walton's sorrowful and haunting *A Litany*, setting Phineas Fletcher's *Drop, Drop, Slow Tears*.

Sundays 18, 25 February; 3 & 17 March, from Noon

### **Meet the Preacher**

*in Powcher's Hall*

**Facilitated by Canon Jessica Martin**

Everyone is invited to discuss the insights and questions the sermons raise, from noon after the 10.30am Eucharist in Lent. Excellent coffee and biscuits.

# Our Worship

Wednesday 14 February, 7.30pm

## **Ash Wednesday Solemn Eucharist with ashing\***

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. It gets its name from the practice of 'ashing': marking the forehead of each worshipper with the sign of the cross in ash, as a remembrance of our mortality, while the priest says to each person, '*Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.*' The preacher at the Solemn Eucharist is the Dean.

The choir will sing William Byrd's *Mass for Four Voices*, and the anthem *Miserere Mei, Deus* (Have mercy on me, O God) which sets the opening words to psalm 51, the psalm of repentance traditionally sung on Ash Wednesday.

Sunday 25 February, 6.30pm

## **Lent Taizé Service**

*at the High Altar*

The Taizé community is an ecumenical monastic order in Taizé, Saône-et-Loire, Burgundy, France. The community search for communion with God through community prayer, song, silence, personal reflection and sharing. The community has become one of the world's most important sites of Christian pilgrimage, with a focus on youth. Over 100,000 young people from around the world make pilgrimages to Taizé each year. The music of Taizé is based on simple sentences from the psalms or from scripture often sung in canon, and in many languages. Services based on this model and using the music of Taizé are held in churches of all denominations around the world.

Sunday 10 March, 10.30am

## **Mothering Sunday**

### **Sung Eucharist with installation of Choristers**

**Preacher: Canon Jessica Martin**

We honour all who have cared for us; the communities which have nurtured us; the Church which is our Mother; the tender love of our God. Music includes Benjamin Britten's *Missa Brevis* and the setting of the *Stabat Mater*, words which imagine Mary's suffering at the crucifixion of Jesus, by Jean-Charles Gandrille. Our probationer Choristers are welcomed into the Foundation this morning.

## **Candlelit Compline**

### **Tuesdays in Lent, 8pm**

20, 27 February; 5, 12, 19, 26 March

*at the High Altar*

The ancient monastic office of Compline derives its name from a Latin word meaning 'completion'. It offers a period of reflective quiet before rest at the end of the day but meditates also upon the end of life. This candlelit service is sung by a gathered choir who lead the responses, psalms and sing two anthems. The service lasts about 30 minutes. On Tuesday 26 March the service will include an address by the Holy Week Preacher, Cally Hammond.



# Music, Worship and Prayer

## Music and Meditation

### Tuesdays in Lent, 1pm

20, 27 February; 5, 12, 19, 26 March

*in the Presbytery*

The musicians of Ely Cathedral contribute music expressing the themes of Lent, Passiontide and Easter. Each piece is preceded by a short meditation from one of the Cathedral clergy exploring the week's musical treatment of these themes, both in the music itself and in the theological and spiritual threads which can be drawn from it. The whole meditation lasts about 20 minutes.

Tuesday 20 February

**Canon James Reveley | Stanley Godfrey (Graduate Organ Scholar)**

Leighton (1929 - 1988) - Fantasy on "Aus der Tiefe (Heinlein)", Op. 72 No. 1  
attr. C.P.E. Bach (1714 - 1788) - Aus der Tiefe rufe ich, BWV 745

Tuesday 27 February

**Canon Jessica Martin | Sarah MacDonald (Director, Ely Cathedral Girl Choristers)**

Miriam Carpinetti (b. 1954) - Erbarme dich mein, O Herre Gott  
Tallis (c1505 - 1585) - Ecce tempus idoneum (Mulliner Book)  
J. S. Bach (1685 - 1750) - Erbarme dich mein, O Herre Gott (BWV 721)

Tuesday 5 March

**The Dean | Andrew Parnell (Assistant Director, Ely Cathedral Octagon Singers)**

Howells (1892 - 1983) - Prelude *De Profundis* (1958)

Tuesday 12 March

**Canon James Garrard | Organist TBA**

Demessieux (1921 - 1968) - Attende Domine  
J.S. Bach (1685-1750) - O Lamm Gottes unschuldig BWV 618

Tuesday 19 March

**Canon Jessica Martin | Edmund Aldhouse (Director of Music)**

Kerensa Briggs (b. 1991) - Prelude on Pange Lingua  
Demessieux (1921 - 1968) - Vexilla Regis

Tuesday 26 March

**Canon Nicholas Thistlethwaite | Edmund Aldhouse (Director of Music)**

J.S. Bach (1685 - 1750) - Da Jesus an dem Kreuze stund BWV 621  
Heiller (1923 - 1979) - Ecce lignum crucis

## Eucharist followed by Lent Charity Lunch

### Fridays in Lent, 12.10pm

16, 23 February; 1, 8, 15, 22 March

*in St Catherine's Chapel, followed by lunch in the Cathedral Centre*

Come to a simple Eucharist on Friday lunchtimes during Lent. The Mothers' Union will offer Lent lunch at 1pm. All donations to **Away From it All (AFIA)**, the Mothers' Union holiday scheme, which funds breaks for those who may be experiencing stress or difficulties in their family life. See [www.mothersunion.org/projects/afia](http://www.mothersunion.org/projects/afia)

## Feasts around the Fast

### Shrove Tuesday

Tuesday 13 February, 6.30pm

#### Pancake Race

The choristers of Ely Cathedral run their annual pancake race in the Cathedral nave.



### Feast of St Joseph

Tuesday 19 March, 5.30pm

#### Festal Evensong\*

*in the Quire*

We celebrate the obedience and faithfulness of Joseph, husband of the blessed Virgin Mary, who trusted the promise of God's messengers and protected Mary and the infant Jesus in times of great danger. Music includes the Director of Music Edmund Aldhouse's setting of *Joseph dearest, Joseph mine*.

### Feast of the Annunciation

Monday 8 April (transferred), 5.30pm

#### Festal Evensong\*

*in the Lady Chapel*

The moment at which the young girl Mary encountered the message of an angel, announcing to her that she was chosen to bear God himself in her body and turn the world of human values and expectations upside-down, has been the focus of intense devotion – in music, in art, in prayer and speech – for millennia. Mary's intercession is sought for our own obedient and attentive service, both in the conduct of our lives and at the hour of death.





# Learning and Discipleship

## Ely Cathedral Confirmation Group

**Thursdays in Lent, 7.30pm - 8.45pm**

*in the Black Hostelry*

During Lent this year a small group of interested adults are exploring faith and working towards confirmation at Easter. We will be meeting on Thursday evenings and discussing matters of faith and belief, worship, prayer and discipleship. The course will be led by Canon James Reveley and Canon Jessica Martin.

15 February

**Jesus - His life and ministry**

22 February

**Jesus - His death and resurrection**

29 February

**The Bible**

7 March

**The Holy Spirit and Prayer**

14 March

**Holy Communion**

Saturday 30 March, 8pm

**Easter Vigil with Baptism and Confirmation\***

## Way of Life Breakfast Meeting

Saturday 24 February, 8.45am - 10am

*in Powcher's Hall*

All are welcome to come to breakfast! Coffee, croissants, fruit and juice, with discussion, prayer, preparation for the next day's worship and *lectio divina*.



# Holy Week at Ely Cathedral



## Holy Week Preacher: The Revd Dr Cally Hammond, Dean of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge

Cally Hammond is the Dean of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. Before that she was Rector of the Benefice of Gamlingay and Everton in the Diocese of Ely. She studied Classics at Oxford and then Cambridge; and has taught Greek and Latin, early Church history and theology. She writes the weekly Sunday readings column in the Church Times. She has also written a number of books about prayer and liturgy, and about Augustine of Hippo.

The overall theme of her Addresses in Holy Week will be *Praying the Life and Death of Jesus*, an exploration of how words and music together sustain the work of scripture in a Christian life.



## Palm Sunday 24 March

10.30am

### Sung Eucharist

We gather on Palace Green to hear the Gospel of the Palms, and to follow our Lord not only in procession but in heart and mind as he enters Jerusalem in royal humility to face his death. The Mass setting is Castagnet's *Messe Brève*, and for the anthem we hear former Director of Music Paul Trepte's *Solus ad Victimam*, setting words by the twelfth century theologian Peter Abelard that imagines Jesus as he sets his face towards Jerusalem. The translation by Helen Waddell reads:

*Alone to sacrifice thou goest, Lord, giving thyself to Death whom thou hast slain. For us thy wretched folk is any word, who know that for our sins this is thy pain? For they are ours, O Lord, our deeds, our deeds. Why must thou suffer torture for our sin? Let our hearts suffer in thy Passion, Lord, that very suffering may thy mercy win.*

4pm

### Palm Sunday Evensong

Dr Hammond will preach her first address. We hear William Byrd's *Second Service*, and John Blow's seventeenth century setting of *Salvator Mundi* (Saviour of the World).





## **Monday in Holy Week** 25 March

7.30pm

### **Via Crucis**

A meditation on the Way of the Cross, with organ music by Philip Moore and prayers by Eric Milner-White. The Stations of the Cross are a series of images depicting Jesus Christ on the day of his crucifixion and accompanying prayers. They originated in a desire to trace the *Via Dolorosa* (sorrowful way) in Jerusalem, the traditional route symbolising the path Jesus walked to Mount Calvary. Their objective is to help worshippers make a spiritual pilgrimage through contemplation of the Passion of Christ. Traditionally, a series of 14 images appears along a path or around the walls of a church around which we move in order, stopping to say prayers and engage in reflections associated with that station. Tonight's service combines music and image to deepen our reflections on the sorrowful way.

## **Tuesday in Holy Week** 26 March

8pm

### **Candlelit Compline and Address**

*In the Presbytery*

The second of the Holy Week Addresses will be given by Dr Hammond.

## **Wednesday in Holy Week** 27 March

7.30pm

### **Devotional Concert and Address**

*Stabat Mater* by Palestrina will be sung as part of a devotional concert at which Dr Hammond will give her third address. *Stabat Mater* is a thirteenth century reflection on Mary's suffering as Jesus hung on the cross. Set to music by many composers, Palestrina's is perhaps the most well-known. It takes its name from the Latin rendering of the opening phrase 'at the cross her station keeping, stood the mournful mother weeping, close to Jesus at the last'. As well as the Palestrina, this service will include music by two former organists of Ely Cathedral centred around the writings of the Prophet Jeremiah: Paul Trepte's *Jeremiae* and Robert Whyte's *Lamentations*.





## **Maundy Thursday** 28 March

10.30am

**Chrism Eucharist** with the Blessing of Oils and Renewing of Ordination Vows.

7.30pm - 11pm

### **Eucharist of the Last Supper**

#### **with Washing of Feet, Stripping of the Altar and Watch of the Passion\***

We commemorate Jesus' institution of the Eucharist, the night before his death, where bread and wine are named as his body broken and his blood shed for humanity, to restore a people impoverished by sin and mortality into the endless life of God. The president washes the feet of the people to remind us that, like our Lord, our calling is to serve others. Dr Hammond will preach the sermon. At the end of the Eucharist we hear the Gospel narrative of Jesus' arrest, and the altar is stripped; its richness and beauty vanishes, to be replaced by darkness, emptiness, and disarray. We maintain a prayer vigil, a Watch in St Dunstan's Chapel, remembering Jesus' agony in the Garden of Gethsemane.

## **Good Friday** 29 March

On Good Friday we watch the death of our Lord over the course of three hours, keeping company with disciples, bystanders, scoffers, those for whom Jesus was much beloved; and we stand with all who have witnessed the pains of death.

Midday until c.1.15pm

### **Preaching of the Cross**

Addresses given by Dr Hammond with hymns and readings.

1.30pm - 3pm

### **The Liturgy of the Day**

With the singing of the Passion Gospel by Victoria and the Veneration of the Cross, in which all are invited to participate.

5.30pm

### **Choral Evensong**

A solemn act of worship for Good Friday, including the passionate and tragic 1993 setting of the *Reproaches* by John Sanders, a liturgy in which Jesus asks humanity why we inflicted on him such suffering.



## **Holy Saturday** 30 March

A day of mourning, emptiness; a day stripped of every adornment.

5.30pm

### **Evensong**

with plainsong.

8pm

### **Easter Vigil with Baptism and Confirmation\***

Out of the darkness and sorrow of human violence emerges the light and life of God's presence: in the risen Jesus; in God's enduring promise to be with his people; in the transforming sacrament of baptism. This is the first celebration of Easter, with the lighting of the New Fire and the Paschal Candle and the bringing of that resurrection light into a darkened church, the admission of new Christians to baptism and communion, and the rising of light, joy, colour and life for the first time since the events of Good Friday. Dr Hammond will preach.

## **Easter Day** 31 March

8.15am

### **Holy Communion**

A said service, in traditional language with a short address.

10.30am

### **Orchestral Eucharist\***

A joyful celebration of the risen life of God's people upon Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Bishop Dagmar presides and preaches. With the Ely Sinfonia, accompanying the choir in Mozart's *Piccolominimesse* and for the exuberant anthem, Handel's *Worthy is the Lamb* and *Amen*.

4pm

### **Festal Evensong and Procession\***

We hear Stanford's rich setting of the Canticles in A major, and for the anthem, Peter Philips' joyful seventeenth-century setting of *Ecce vicit leo*; 'See, has triumphed the Lion of Judah, the Root of David... Alleluia!'

## Children and Families



Tuesday 13 February, 3.45pm - 4.45pm

### **Shrove Tuesday Lego Café**

Come and get creative with Lego and Duplo – with hot chocolate, chocolate milkshake, tea, coffee and ... pancakes!

Thursdays 15, 29 February; 7, 14, 21 March, 10.15am

### **Story and Song Time**

A short service (20 minutes) for parents, carers and toddlers, with a story for the season and songs and refreshments afterwards.

February & March

### **Explore**

Worship and activities on different themes for families, carers and children of primary-school age.

28 February, 4pm

*in the Presbytery*

### **Explore Lent**

Come and **Explore** why Lent is important to the Church and how Christians might use Lent as a time of reflection.

**Good Friday** 29 March, 10am

*in the Presbytery and Cathedral Centre*

### **Explore Easter**

Come and **Explore** the Easter story and discover why Christians hold Easter as the most important festival in the year. Activities will include decorating a cross with ribbons and hearts as part of the service, as well as other themed activities in the Cathedral Centre.



Thursday 28 March - Sunday 14 April

### **Holy Week Trail**

Travel through the events of Holy Week using your senses of sight, smell, hearing and touch, exploring the Cathedral as you go.

**Good Friday** 29 March, 10.15am

### **Christians Together Walk of Witness**

Christians from all over the city gather for prayer in the Market Square to begin a Walk of Witness, carrying a wooden cross. The procession moves to the Cathedral at 11am for a short act of worship, followed by refreshments and hot cross buns in the Lady Chapel.

**Easter Day** 31 March, 10.30am

### **Eucharist with Children's Activities and Easter Egg Hunt**

Children and families are very welcome to the Easter Day Cathedral service and there will be a parallel act of worship for children in the Lady Chapel. The children also help process the decorated cross through the Cathedral and are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt at the end of the service. Join us for beautiful music, joyous hymns and a triumphant celebration that Christ is risen.

### **RENEW: The Cathedral Environment Group**



Sunday 18 February, 10.30am

### **Lifestyle Sunday**

On 18 February after the 10.30am Eucharist, there will be opportunities during coffee to find out more about living a low-carbon lifestyle, led by members of RENEW.

For news, updates and information on our environmental work visit:

[www.elycathedral.org/community/environment-action/renew](http://www.elycathedral.org/community/environment-action/renew)



Ely Cathedral  
Cambridgeshire CB7 4DL  
Tel: 01353 660300  
Email: [receptionist@elycathedral.org](mailto:receptionist@elycathedral.org)

**Box Office:** 01353 660349

[www.elycathedral.org](http://www.elycathedral.org)

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More details about 'Lent, Holy Week and Easter'  
can be found on our website.

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