



PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL

Opening the Doors



Said Eucharist for the feast of St Benedict

***to mark the reopening of the Cathedral
for public worship***

Sunday July 12th

10.30am

For everyone's safety, please follow the instructions on the back page of this service booklet

Opening Prayer

The Dean stands at the West Door and says:

Saving God,
open the gates of righteousness,
that your pilgrim people may enter
and be built into a living temple
on the cornerstone of our salvation,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

How awesome is this place.

**All: This is none other than the house of God,
and this is the gate of heaven.**

I saw a ladder which rested on the ground
with its top reaching to heaven,
and the angels of God were going up and down it.

**All: This is none other than the house of God,
and this is the gate of heaven.**

You will see greater things than this.
You will see heaven wide open,
and God's angels ascending and descending
upon the Son of Man.

**All: This is none other than the house of God,
and this is the gate of heaven.**

You are the temple of the living God,
and the Spirit of God dwells in you.
The temple of God is holy, and you are that temple.

**All: This is none other than the house of God,
and this is the gate of heaven.**

Lighting of the Easter Candle

The Dean goes to the Easter candle stand next to the font

This candle was blessed and lit, as is our custom on Easter Eve, in a ceremony which takes place outside the building. Normally we would bring it in during that service, which takes place in the dark, and use it to spread the light of Christ from person to person until the whole cathedral is full of the joy of the resurrection.

This year, our buildings were shut during Holy Week and Easter, so the light and hope symbolised by the Easter candle could not be brought inside the cathedral. Instead, it has featured in some of our online worship. Broken and repaired, the candle remains for us a powerful symbol of our journey through this year.

Mindful of the fact that we are an Easter People, as we prepare to worship together once more, we will relight the candle, and place the broken part at its foot, as a sign of all that we have been through in these months of lockdown.

And so we pray:

All: Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end,

Alpha and Omega,
all time belongs to him,
and all ages;
**All: to him be glory and power,
through every age and for ever. Amen.**

The Easter Candle is lit.

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.
Alleluia. Christ is risen.
All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Dean says

Everlasting God, we give you thanks
that our Lord Jesus Christ was raised gloriously from the dead,
crushing the power of sin and destroying the sting of death.
May we, and all Christ's people, shine as lights in the world
to the glory of God the Father.
All: Amen.

The minister holding the Candle says

The light of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

*The Easter candle is placed in its stand, and the broken piece at its foot.
A candle is lit from the Easter Candle and carried to the Nave Altar as Psalm 126 is said:*

- 1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, ♦
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter ♦
and our tongue with songs of joy.
- 3 Then said they among the nations, ♦
'The Lord has done great things for them.'
- 4 The Lord has indeed done great things for us, ♦
and therefore we rejoiced.
- 5 Restore again our fortunes, O Lord, ♦
as the river beds of the desert.

- 6 Those who sow in tears ♦
shall reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed, ♦
will come back with shouts of joy,
bearing their sheaves with them.

Prayers of Penitence

Remain standing as the president introduces the liturgy and invites the people to confession

Zeal for your house has eaten me up
and the taunts of those who taunt you have fallen upon me.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than dwell in the tents of ungodliness.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

The Lord will defend your coming out and your coming in
from this time forward for evermore.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

*The president pronounces the **Absolution**:*

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.

All: Amen.

All remain standing to say

Gloria in Excelsis

**All: Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

Collect for the feast of St Benedict

Let us pray.

Eternal God,
who made Benedict a wise master
in the school of your service
and a guide to many called into community
to follow the rule of Christ:
grant that we may put your love before all else
and seek with joy the way of your commandments;
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.

All: Amen.

Sit

First Reading

A reading from the first book of Kings

Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, 'O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand.

'But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Have regard to your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, "My name shall be there", that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays towards this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.

1 Kings 8: 22–24, 27-30

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem (on CD)

Locus iste a Deo factus est, inaestimabile sacramentum: irreprehensibilis est.

This place was made by God: a priceless and unblemished sign of his presence.

Gradual verse from Mass for the dedication of a church

Music: Anton Bruckner (1824–96)

*From the CD Love bade me welcome by Peterborough Cathedral Choir,
directed by Andrew Reid*

Gospel Reading

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

A certain ruler asked Jesus, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honour your father and mother.'" He replied, "I have kept all these since my youth." When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "There is still one thing lacking. Sell all that you own and distribute the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."

Luke 18. 18-22

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**All We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Kneel or sit

Prayers

One of these responses, or some other, may be used:

All: Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer. or Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

and at the end

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

Offertory

Organ music is played as the altar is prepared.

There is no offertory procession. The collection will be taken at the back of the cathedral as you leave the service.

When the altar is prepared, the president prays:

The Preparation of the Table

Lord, teach us how to repay you for your goodness towards us.
We will lift up the cup of salvation
and call upon your name.

The Eucharistic Prayer

All: The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All: Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
enthroned upon the praises of your people.
We thank you for this house of prayer,
in which you bless your family
as we come to you in pilgrimage.
Here you reveal your presence in sacramental signs
and make us one with you through the unseen bond of grace.
Here you build your temple of living stones
and bring the Church to its full stature

as the body of Christ throughout the world,
to reach its perfection at last
in the heavenly city of Jerusalem,
which is the vision of your peace.
Therefore, in union with the heavenly Jerusalem,
with angels in joyful assembly,
with all whose names are written in heaven
and with the spirits of the righteous made perfect,
we lift up our voices to join in the triumphal song of praise:

All:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory**

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 Benedict, Peter, Paul, Andrew, the Blessed Virgin
Mary and 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.

Kneel or sit

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

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

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

**All: 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:
have mercy upon us.**

Lamb of God,

**you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink
in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

*Communion is administered in one kind only. The President receives the wine on behalf of all present.
Please observe safe distancing when you come up for Communion.*

If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are welcome to come up for a prayer of blessing, which will be given without physical contact.

Organ music is played.

Stand

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful God,
who gave such grace to your servant Benedict
that he served you with singleness of heart
and loved you above all things:
help us, whose communion with you
has been renewed in this sacrament,
to forsake all that holds us back from following Christ
and to grow into his likeness from glory to glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

**Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Closing Prayers of Dedication

Almighty God,
we praise you for the many blessings
you have given to those who worship you
in this house of prayer:
and we pray that all who seek you in this place
may find you,
and, being filled with the Holy Spirit,
may become a living temple acceptable to you;
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.

All: Amen.

Loving God,
thank you for this house of prayer
where we praise and thank you
for all you have given us.
Help us to go out into the world,
refreshed by your Spirit,
to do what you have called us to do
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Blessing

Christ, whose glory is in the heavens,
fill this house and illuminate your hearts;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

Organ Voluntary

For everyone's safety:

- Please maintain a 2m distance from anyone not in your family or "bubble".
- Please use hand sanitiser as you enter the Cathedral.
- If you did not register beforehand, please fill in your details on the slip on your seat, to assist with Test and Trace. Place the slip in the box at the back as you leave.
- When going up to Communion, please go row by row, and maintain distances when waiting for Communion.
- We will receive Communion in one kind only. The president will receive from the chalice on our behalf.
- There will be no refreshments after the service.
- Please leave row by row maintaining distances, and place your service booklet in the box at the door so that only you touch it.
- The collection will be taken as you leave. Please consider giving by contactless card donation. Envelopes are available if you don't have a card.