

The Gathering

1 - Welcome - [KELVIN]

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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Welcome to St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow

My name is Kelvin Holdsworth and I'm the Provost here.

Today is a day for celebration. And today we celebrate this place. We mark this as Dedication Sunday – a day when we give thanks for the congregation that we are part of, remembering the pilgrimage of faith which brought us to this building.

At every service we give thanks – but especially today we give thanks for St Mary's. I thank God for everyone participating in this service online. And I ask you as you watch and pray to give thanks for all that takes place in and from this glorious cathedral church.

3 - Collect for Purity - [TONY]

**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.**

5 - Confession

[KELVIN] God is love and we are God's children.
There is no room for fear in love.
We love because God loved us first.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

[Silence]

God our Father, we confess to you and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry. Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil, for the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

[KELVIN] God, who is both power and love, forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Holy Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

7 - Gloria - [SHAE]

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 sin 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.

8 - Collect - [KELVIN]

O God, from living and chosen stones you prepare an everlasting dwelling place for your majesty. Grant that in the power of the Holy Spirit those who serve you here may always be kept within your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Ministry of the Word

11 - GOSPEL: John 10.22-29 – [FRANNY]

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to Christ our Saviour.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious gospel
Praise to Christ our Lord.

12 - Sermon [KELVIN]

There was a moment in the middle of last year.

For the first months of the first lockdown the instruction had been to the whole country to stay at home.

And we did.

As a congregation, we've been pretty cautious throughout the whole of this pandemic and at that time we did exactly what we were told.

I'm not sure that comes naturally to me. But in a national crisis, needs must.

We stayed at home and celebrated the Eucharist from home. And we shared them in the very first of these online services.

And we kept out of this building. Except for weekly security checks, the building was as quiet as it has ever been. The doors were locked for longer, I think, than they have ever been.

God was with us at home we proclaimed. And that was true. It was just as true as it has ever been.

But then there was a moment. The moment when we were allowed in to celebrate services again – not the whole congregation but just one person at a time. And the moment that I remember vividly was the online service for Pentecost 2020.

Oliver was the celebrant and he came into the building to record himself. And he recorded himself spinning around in red vestments. As he talked you could see all the parts of the building coming into view.

That moment was one of the iconic moments of the pandemic for me.

Because it became so important so quickly that there was a very strong feeling in the congregation that it was good to see someone back in the building celebrating the holy mysteries.

People needed to know that even if they couldn't come and sing the Lord's song in person, well, at least someone was in here keeping the faith alive. And there was tangible hope that we would return.

And return we did. And we closed again. And we returned again.

Our path back to worshipping together hasn't been smooth and still isn't smooth. But God is here and here we are with God together.

There was a moment, some time in your life when you first heard about the place I'm standing in today. There was something that prompted you to watch online worship, or come into the building, or sneak in on an open day or join the choir because you liked singing or came to a concert or just wandered in because the door was open and you wanted to know what was inside.

Today I want to ask you to give thanks for that moment.

God has a way of stringing together significant moments and making things of them.

- Making a movement out of the whole people of God who glimpsed in uncertain moments after the devastation of the crucifixion that resurrection was real.
- Making the modern Scottish Episcopal Church out of the moments of despair as the dreams of the Scottish Jacobite cause faulted and failed.
- Making this congregation out of a ragbag congregation that got booted out of the Medieval Cathedral in the high street by force in a moment of barely suppressed violence.

And God will have a way of making something significant out of the spiritual moments of your own life.

Out of those moments – unexpected promptings, hunches, sudden insights are whole life pilgrimages made.

As it happens, I did not grow up a Scottish Episcopalian. I grew up in a very different religious environment.

Like many people here, I had to choose this kind of worship. And if I'm honest, it is a bit of a surprise to be here.

I couldn't have ever expected to find myself finding God amongst the brocade and tassels of this kind of religious offering.

But somehow in the warp and weft of the kind of worship we have in this place I've found that I've had moments when I've glimpsed God. And I've every confidence that there will be many such moments more.

We are just days away from the 150th anniversary of the opening of this building.

A moment that we've not been able to plan much for because of the sheer effort of keeping each week's worship going that is part of the life of the church in covid time.

But a moment that matters to us all because of the moments that have mattered to us all – some for many years, some for a much shorter time.

When this building was opened, there was a great lunch at which important bigwigs had things to say.

One of them was the then Earl of Glasgow spoke. He's the one who laid the foundation stone that we can't find. (My suspicion is that I might be standing right in front of it now and that the pulpit was built in front of it).

He who asked people to remember a moment when the congregation gathered a hundred years before. He described them a a few faithful lay people gathered in an obscure ally to receive the ministrations of their pastor, arrayed in black serge.

And he contrasted that with the moment when the doors of this place flew open. Now he said, now in the providence of God all this was changed and the garments of black serge had given place

to white surplices. The garments of Gladness were worn in this place.

God has done much in this place.

God has done much in gathering us here.

God has done much in prompting you to be part of a bigger story.

And God's love has been proclaimed by the people of God of this congregation, in obscure alleys, in borrowed meeting places and schoolroom, in Old St Mary's in Renfield Street, on the streets, in this building and online on the internet.

Many moments. One God.

Many people. One congregation.

Many sorrows. Many more joys.

Much love.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

14 - Intercessions [PAT]

Communion

17 - Offertory - [KELVIN]

Today, I'm offering thanks at the altar for everyone who has ever given time, talents and money to this congregation. Countless benefactors through the years have built up this ministry and made it possible for us all to know more about God through what happens here.

If you would like to give money today and thus become a supporter of what we do now and a benefactor for the future then please do so. You can find out how to give on the website -

thecathedral.org.uk. Just click on the words Donate to St Mary's Cathedral.

And thank you for your gift.

Let us present our offerings to the Lord.

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory,
the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in
heaven and on earth is yours.**

All things come from you, and of your own we give you.

18 - Eucharistic Prayer

[KELVIN] The Lord be with you.

[OLIVER] **And also with you.**

[KELVIN] Lift up your hearts.

[OLIVER] **We lift them to the Lord.**

[KELVIN] Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

[OLIVER] **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Worship and praise belong to you, Father,
in every place and at all times.

All power is yours.

You created the heavens and established the earth;
you sustain in being all that is.

In Christ your Son our life and yours
are brought together in a wonderful exchange.

He made his home among us
that we might for ever dwell in you.

Through your Holy Spirit
you call us to new birth
in a creation restored by love.

As children of your redeeming purpose
your household, founded upon apostles and prophets
with Christ Jesus himself the chief cornerstone,

we offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven,
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS - [SHAE]

**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.**

Glory and thanksgiving be to you,
most loving Father,
for the gift of your Son born in human flesh
He is the Word existing beyond time,
both source and final purpose,
bringing to wholeness all that is made.
Obedient to your will he died upon the Cross.
By your power you raised him from the dead.
He broke the bonds of evil
and set your people free
to be his Body in the world.

On the night when he was given up to death,
knowing that his hour had come,
having loved his own,
he loved them to the end.
At supper with his disciples
he took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread,
and gave it to them, saying:
"Take, eat.
This is my Body: it is broken for you."
After supper, he took the cup,
he offered you thanks,
and gave it to them saying:

“Drink this, all of you.
This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all,
that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

**We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves,
a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful Father,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by his life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

**Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage
in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles, and prophets,
and of all God's children living and departed.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages,
world without end.

Amen.

19 - Breaking of the Bread - [KELVIN]

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.
Lord, unite us in this sign.

20 - Lord's Prayer - [KELVIN]

As our Saviour has 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.
Do not bring us
to the time of trial
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

21 - Communion - [KELVIN]

God is with us wherever we are.

As we gaze in adoration we feed on God in our hearts and minds
that we may in turn feed the world.

O God, even as this broken bread was scattered over the hills, and
was gathered together and became one, so let Your Church be
gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom; for
yours is the glory and the power through Jesus Christ for ever.
Amen.

24 - Post Communion Prayer - [STEWART]

God our guide, you have fed us with bread from heaven as you fed the people of Israel. May we who have been inwardly nourished be ready to follow you all our days. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

25 - Blessing - [KELVIN]

This cathedral church has been a blessing to me. The congregation that meets here in this place has is, I hope, a blessing for the city. And I hope that these services that we share online are a blessing to you.

So, God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Voluntary - [Frikki]

Marche Triomphale (Nun Danket) - Karg-Elert