

The Gathering

Welcome - [OLIVER]

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

Welcome to St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow. A lot of people when they come to a place like this seek to reorient themselves. Maybe during the week we've gotten a little turned around, unsettled or preoccupied. Church is a place to put things right, to set our minds (as the Gospel today says) on divine things.

Let this be a time and place where we turn away from distractions, shake off the things that press down on us, and turn towards God—to be restored and invigorated.

Collect for Purity - [JIM]

**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.**

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.

[OLIVER] 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.**

Kyrie- [CHRISTINE]

*Kyrie eleison
Christe eleison
Kyrie eleison*

Collect - [OLIVER]

Ever-faithful God, you accepted the sacrifice of your Son, who gave himself up for the sake of us all. Train us by Christ's teaching and school us in his obedience, that we may walk his way of sacrifice, we may come to share his glory. We ask this through Christ, our deliverance and hope, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Ministry of the Word

GOSPEL: Mark 8.31-38 – [NICHOLAS]

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

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and

began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

ORGAN (FRIKKI)

Fanfare (Improvisation)

Sermon [KELVIN]

Jesus said, "Get behind me, Satan!"

Which is shocking enough.

But he said it to his friend, his disciple, Peter who just a few verses before is the person who first recognises that Jesus is the Messiah.

What's going on?

We don't tend to talk about the devil that much.

Last week we heard about Jesus being tempted in the wilderness.

When I was mixing all the video together for the service I nearly used a picture from a medieval manuscript. In the end I chickened out – it's a great picture and I wanted to use it but it didn't really fit with Oliver's sermon. It was a picture of Jesus in the wilderness

being tempted by a kind of cartoon devil. An ugly figure with little tusks and talons.

This week we hear about the devil again and this week I thought that this talk of the devil couldn't really be ignored.

Jesus in the wilderness seeing the devil is one thing – he's fasting the heat of the desert and, well, it does sound there like a bit of a hallucination.

Was it real? Was it not?

In that story there's no-one else around as a witness. All we've got is a gospel writer who wasn't there telling us a story.

In this week's story though there could have been other people around. And Peter surely told the others that Jesus had snapped at him.

Instead of seeing the devil appear in a haze of desert hunger, Jesus sees the devil in Peter himself.

And that's more frightening really when you think about it.

But what is this talk of the devil or Satan all about?

People have very different views on this – they always have had. You can see some contrasting views of the devil in scripture itself.

Some people believe the devil is a real entity. Others don't.

For me, I'm pretty sure that the devil isn't real in the same way that the love of God is real.

However, I also think that there's some things to be learned from stories about the devil.

The devil is the way evil is characterised. Satan is a given name – though there's other names and descriptions used in the bible for the same thing.

We all know that there is a difference between good and evil. Some people think that's all religion is about.

I don't think that. I think Christianity is about making a response to the love of God known in Jesus.

But the thing is, when we're getting to know him, we find that he does care about right and wrong, and like others who have taught religious paths – about rejecting evil and choosing the good.

Our ancestors in the faith had a pretty exotic visual imagination when it came to thinking about such things.

The idea of the devil – the personification of evil – evil with intelligence if you like, produced extraordinary images.

There's the devil tempting Jesus in the desert, there's the devil and all his demons tempting everyone else and there's one of my favourites, the Blessed Virgin punching the devil on the nose.

Christianity is about conversion. Not simply about going out and converting a wicked world either. It is at least as much about the way we are converted – formed and shaped into people who choose what is good.

In today's gospel, Peter takes Jesus to task when he speaks about the suffering he will undergo and about how he will be rejected, killed and rise again.

Peter clearly wants to put himself in the way of Jesus's mission and put a stop to it.

And Jesus is having none of it.

“Get behind me Satan!” he says.

We tend to prefer gospel readings when Jesus has a clever story rather than a sharp tongue.

But I guess that he wanted Peter to take notice. And I guess that we need to take notice too.

The full quote is "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

It is easy to feel as though we've got the devil on our back at the moment.

Or that we're being attacked by demons.

And demons are not really comic book characters. They have names like Pride, Anger, Hatred and Jealousy.

Jesus's sharp response to Peter is composed of two bits – one that we remember and one that we don't.

Get behind me Satan! – is so memorable. That's the problem.

But the cure is in there too and somehow we find that less memorable.

"Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

The season of Lent is about giving ourselves the time and the space to turn ourselves around and turn back to God.

In keeping Lent, we are on a journey towards Jerusalem. At the moment, I don't know what Easter will be like. Which is a reminder that Peter and the disciples didn't really know, couldn't really understand how the story was to end.

But in keeping Lent, we are called each week to turn back to God. And see where that gets us.

I invite you this week as you make your Lenten pilgrimage to think about that phrase from the gospel – "setting your mind on divine things".

What does that look like in your life this week.

Raising your eyes perhaps from what is around you.

Remember that the demons can be used as reminders of something better.

If you feel the demons – Pride, Anger, Hatred and so on this week, let them be reminders to turn from evil and seek the good, setting your mind on divine things instead.

Look for love, joy, peace.

Do love.

Do joy.

Do peace.

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

Amen.

Intercessions [DEBBIE]

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, 'Lord, have mercy.'

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop, Kevin, and for all the clergy and people, for Christ Church, Lanark and St Paul & St John the Evangelist, Monklands and for the Anglican Church of Central America let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our government, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this City of Glasgow, for schools, colleges, students and staff, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the elderly and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, and for Marnie, who is in hospital, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, for Jane Taylor whose year's mind falls at this time, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of Mary and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

Communion

Offertory - [OLIVER]

Jesus tells his disciples what their priorities should be. Self doesn't come first. Self-sacrifice does. That's why many give a portion of themselves to the worshipping community they're part of. Folk volunteer, lead, offer their talents, and make regular financial contributions. Generous acts like these reveal the way of Christ.

You can learn more about different types of offering on the Cathedral's website at www.thecathedral.org.uk.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made:
it will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands;
it will become the cup of our salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

Eucharistic Prayer - [OLIVER]

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 God thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you,
maker of light and darkness.
Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos,
brings a harvest out of sorrow
and leads the exiles home.

In Christ your Son enemies are reconciled,
debts forgiven
and strangers made welcome
Your Spirit frees us to live as beloved children
in our Father's house.

We who by Christ's power follow the way of the Cross,
sharing the joy of his obedience,
now offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS - [CHRISTINE]

**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 Christ in whom the world is reconciled.
Lifted on the Cross,
his suffering and forgiveness
spanned the gulf our sins had made.
Through that dark struggle
death was swallowed up in victory,
that life and light might reign.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
recalling the night of Israel's release,
the night in which the sons of Egypt died,
your Chosen One, himself the First-Born,
freely offered his life.

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 our brothers and sisters 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.

Breaking of the Bread

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

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.**

Communion - [OLIVER]

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.

Music at Communion - [CHRISTINE]

View me, Lord, a work of thine!
Shall I then lie drown'd in night?
Might thy grace in me but shine,
I should seem made all of light.

Cleanse me, Lord, that I may kneel
At thine altar pure and white;
They at once thy mercies feel,
Gaze no more on earth's delight.

Worldly joys like shadows fade
When the heavenly light appears;
But the cov'nants Thou hast made,
Endless, know nor days nor years.

In thy word, Lord, is my trust,
To thy mercies fast I fly;
Though I am but clay and dust,
Yet thy grace can lift me high.

Thomas Campion

Post Communion Prayer - [JIM]

Creator of heaven and earth, we thank you for these holy mysteries, which bring us now a share in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessing - [OLIVER]

Jesus told the crowd, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.'

My thanks to all who have embarked on a journey within this community to follow Jesus, for sacrifices they've made, and for the gifts they have freely given.

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Voluntary - [Steven]

Prelude and Fugue in A minor (WoO 9) - J Brahms

A hymn and materials for Young Church are available on the online worship page at www.thecathedral.org.uk/worship.

There is an online coffee hour on Sunday at 1 pm. Details in the weekly congregational email. Sign up for emails at www.thecathedral.org.uk

Images used before and in the sermon

Unknown

The Temptation of Christ, about 1400 - 1410, Tempera colors, gold, silver paint, and ink on parchment

Leaf: 33.5 × 23.5 cm (13 3/16 × 9 1/4 in.), Ms. 33 (88.MP.70), fol. 270

The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, Ms. 33, fol. 270

Master of the Ingeborg Psalter (French, active about 1195 - about 1210)

Initial D: The Fool with Two Demons, after 1205, Tempera colors and gold leaf on parchment

Leaf: 31 × 21.9 cm (12 3/16 × 8 5/8 in.), Ms. 66 (99.MK.48), fol. 56

The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, Ms. 66, fol. 56

Unknown

Satan Asks God to Give up his Protection of Job; Job's Cattle Die; The Shepherds before Job, about 1400 - 1410, Tempera colors, gold, silver paint, and ink on parchment

Leaf: 33.5 × 23.5 cm (13 3/16 × 9 1/4 in.), Ms. 33 (88.MP.70), fol. 208

The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, Ms. 33, fol. 208

Initial With The Virgin Mary Striking The Devil, In 'The De Brailes Hours'
British Library