

The Gathering

1 - Welcome - [KELVIN]

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

Welcome to St Mary's Cathedral in Glasgow. Today we are keeping the festival of All Saints. A day to remember all our heroes in the faith. We celebrate the saints we see around us in stained glass, the saints whose stories have been remembered by Christians through the ages and those saints who taught us the faith on our own life pilgrimage.

Heaven and earth are not so far apart. Today we join our worship with the saints throughout the ages, praising God and offering our prayers.

3 - Collect for Purity - [BOB]

**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

[OLIVER] 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 - [MAGNUS]

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]

All-holy God, you call your people to holiness. As we keep the festival of your saints, give us their meekness and poverty of spirit,

a thirst for righteousness, and purity of heart. May we share with them the richness of your kingdom and be clothed in the glory you bestow. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Ministry of the Word

11 - GOSPEL: John 11.32-44 – [MICHAEL]

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to Christ our Saviour.

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

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

12 - Sermon [OLIVER]

Today, I'm going to take a leaf from the bishop's book. Whenever I've heard Bishop Kevin preach, he's begun by quoting the passage of Scripture he's going to talk about. It's a good idea. It sets out parameters from the start. More preachers, like me, might benefit from this. It'd help folk wondering halfway through a sermon, 'What is the preacher on about?' So here it is—the phrase that stood out to me this week, an expression I've said myself dozens of times: 'Lord, if you had been here', said Mary. If only you had been here. If only.

If only I'd done something (often something relatively easy), things would be different—drastically so. I could have avoided let-down. I could have stopped a train wreck. I could have spared a lot of anguish. By simply doing something I'd previously sidestepped or postponed, I probably could have found myself in a far better situation. If only.

'If only' isn't just about second-guessing, of course. It is a legitimate complaint. No one can travel back in time, and most things are clearer in hindsight. But knowing what could have been done 'if only' helps us put in place measures for the future. Reflection is an essential tool for change, and we need to hold ourselves and others accountable. For the sake of our world and our relationships, we must do better.

But I must admit that most of the time, when I say, 'If only', it's with deep regret. Because of my or someone else's stupidity or laziness, I'm stuffed. A poor decision or a rash act has ruined it all. If only that hadn't happened, I wouldn't be here—helpless, deserted, and defenceless. Instead, I'm at a dead end.

'If only' has been the regretful mourn of countless people. God has probably heard this prayer a gazillion times. If only the doctor hadn't screwed up that test. If only my partner hadn't been so

stubborn. If only I hadn't left the house late that day. If only I'd taken a vaccine.

Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying? If only God had not dawdled, had realised what was going on and what was at stake, things would be different. But it's too late now. The moment something could've been done to fix this has passed.

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' The situation—as she saw it—was preventable, unnecessary. And that was sad. Four days before, Jesus got word Lazarus was ill, but, oddly, he didn't budge. Perhaps folk (including maybe even a tearful Jesus) wondered if he should have. What if he hadn't been so late? Could this tragic ending have been avoided?

But that wasn't the end. Jesus called Lazarus out of the tomb. And Lazarus, the dead man, came out wrapped from head to toe. It didn't matter that Jesus was late. It didn't matter that things were miserable and jumbled up. It didn't matter that Lazarus was already dead. At the end of the road, another path was uncovered.

The same goes for us, too. This is the Christian faith. No matter what's happened, how dark it seems, it isn't past the limits of what God can do. No one has messed things up so much that God cannot restore them. Nothing scrambled up is unsalvageable. No deed of ours can change God's plans.

God loves you and me so much that nobody can mitigate that power. No one can steer off course the trajectory God has set for humankind. Absolutely nothing can undo the blueprint for our salvation. No decision we make or action we take can cancel it out. Not even death.

Out of the tomb (wherever that is and whatever it looks like), God will call all God's children. God will deliver from the tangled mess, and God will have the last word. Then, God will speak into the dark

with a loud voice: 'Unbind and let go.' In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, everything will be changed.

14 - Intercessions [ROBERT MAWDITT]

As we hear the gospel story of Lazarus we are reminded of the power of God over death and life.

I ask your prayers for peace in the life of the world; for those who suffer oppression and fear;

Pray for God's peace. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who suffer injury, sickness and loss; for those we know and love and name in our hearts; for all God's peoples.

Pray for all who are afflicted. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who wield authority and influence; in this first weekend of COP26, for all who can bring a just solution to the needs of the planet and the world's people.

Pray for all who exercise power. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for all whom we have wronged, for those times we acted in ignorance or neglect.

Pray for all who hate us. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for Bishop Kevin; for The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria; for those who engage with St Mary's Cathedral through its online services; for the cathedrals of St Mungo's, St Andrew's, St Luke's and for all whom Christ has appointed to his service.

Pray for God's people. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the communities of which we are part, in the stories we tell about dying; may our communities tell the truth and live in the reality of the God of death and life.

Pray for our community. *Silence*

Give thanks to God for all in whom Christ has been honoured; this All Saints day for all who have been an inspiration to us; in our

Years Mind for Mary Eddie, Evelyn Jenkins, Jeannie Oliver, Kate Raine, Harry Lawrence

May they Rest in Peace - And Rise in Glory

Holy God we bring you our prayers in the name of Christ who knew the power of life and death and obeyed you in all things.
Amen

Communion

17 - Offertory - [KELVIN]

Making offerings and giving thanks is part of who we are. Most of us can remember who shared their faith with us – prayers and praises, hymns and specially remembered bible verses. And some of us will be able to remember someone teaching us to give money to support the church. If you can remember someone doing that then give thanks for them this week. And however you give, give with a thankful heart.

There's details on the cathedral website of how to give to support the ministry of St Mary's Cathedral. You can find them at thecathedral.org.uk. Just click on the words "donate to St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow"

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
called to attain with all your saints
to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,
we offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven,
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS - [MAGNUS]

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 - [OLIVER]

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 - [BOB]

Lord of hosts, we praise your glory reflected in your saints. May we who share at this table be filled with the joy of your eternal kingdom, where Jesus is Lord, now and for ever.

Amen.

25 - Blessing - [KELVIN]

Thank you for sharing in the worship today.

I hope that you are able to give thanks today for saints who have brought blessings to you. In response to those blessings, my prayer is that you can be a blessing to others.

God give you grace to follow his saints in faith and hope and love; 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]

Placare Christe Servulis by Marcel Dupré