



GUILDFORD
CATHEDRAL

Diocesan Festival Eucharist



Tuesday 25 March 2025, 11am

The Annunciation of our Lord
to the Blessed Virgin Mary

WELCOME TO GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL FOR THE ANNUAL MOTHERS' UNION SERVICE TO CELEBRATE LADY DAY

The Principal Feast Day on 25 March - *The Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary* – has traditionally been of great significance to the Mothers' Union. It is the day on which the Church celebrates the visit of the Angel Gabriel to Mary, sent by God to give her the news that she had found favour with God, and was to bear a son. Mary's son was to be named Jesus, and would be called the 'Son of the Most High'.

As we celebrate the Annunciation we remember our members throughout the world and give thanks for the work of the Mothers' Union worldwide. We send our special thanks and love to our indoor members for their support and prayers.

We are very grateful to the Right Reverend Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford, who is presiding and preaching at the service today.

You may wish to pray in a few moments of silence before our service begins: Our theme is "Join in, join up".

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

All who are communicants are welcome to receive the bread and wine. There is no obligation to drink from the common cup. However, please do not dip your wafer in the wine. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please keep your hands at your sides. Gluten-free bread is available **at the front of the Nave**; if you would like to receive this, please mention this to one of the stewards before the service, if possible.

PARTICIPATION IN THE SERVICE

We sing the hymns and say together the words in **bold** type. Although posture is suggested please do whatever is most comfortable for you.

COLLECTION

There will be a retiring collection. Your support makes a real difference to the ministry and mission of Guildford Cathedral. If you would like to support this work on a regular basis it's very simple to set up a direct debit via the Parish Giving Scheme. The phone number is 0333 002 1271, and the Cathedral reference code is 170617001. One-off donations can be made using the Gift Aid envelopes or a contactless donation by using the contactless collection plates on your way out, or the contactless box (by the west doors of the Cathedral) or our QR code. If you use the contactless plates or box and you are a taxpayer, please complete a green gift aid envelope and write 'contactless donation' on the front; please put the envelope in the plate or the cash box at the west end. On behalf of all at Guildford Cathedral, thank you.



MUSICIAN

The organ is played by George Baldwin, Organ Scholar

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Sanctus and Benedictus

Text: 'Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New' (972)

Michael Forster (b.1946) based on 'Sanctus' and 'Benedictus'

Music: CP 507

Slane, Irish traditional melody harmonised

by Erick Routley (1917-1982)

Agnus Dei

Text: 'Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New' (978)

Michael Forster (b.1946) based on 'Agnus Dei'

Music: CP 411 Repton, arranged from the oratorio 'Judith'

by C. H. H. Parry (1848-1918)

ORGAN MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

Eclogue Gerald Finzi (1901-1956)

Allegretto Percy Whitlock (1903-1946)

The Gathering

WELCOME Canon Rachel Young

All stand and turn to face the back of the Nave.

ENTRANCE AND PROCESSION OF BANNERS

Intrada Grayston Ives (b. 1948)

As the organist plays, the clergy and bishop process up the aisle, followed by the procession of MU banners. All turn to face the front once the banners have all passed.

The diocesan banner is presented at the High Altar; the hymn follows.

HYMN

O worship the King, all glorious above;
O gratefully sing his power and his love;
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendour and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
his chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

O measureless might, ineffable love,
while angels delight to hymn thee above,
thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall sing to thy praise.

*Words: CP 546 (omit v.3) Robert Grant (1779-1838) from
Psalm 104*

Music: Hanover, a supplement to the New Version (1708)

THE GREETING

We gather in the name of the living God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All and also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God;

All to the God who gives us love, light and truth.

Sit **PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

**All 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.**

Sit **PRAYERS OF PENITENCE**

The deacon invites people to make their confession

The grace of God has dawned upon the world
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.
Let us confess our sins.

**All Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The bishop says 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. Amen.

Stand **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

All Glory be to God in heaven,
Peace to those who love you well;
On the earth let all your people
Speak your grace, your wonders tell.
Lord, we praise you for your glory,
Mighty Father, heaven's King;
Hear our joyful adoration
And accept the thanks we bring.

Only Son of God the Father,
Lamb who takes our sin away,
Now with God in triumph seated –
For your mercy, Lord we pray;
Jesus Christ, most high and holy,
Saviour, you are God alone
In the glory of the Father,
With the Spirit: Three-in-One!

Text: After 'Gloria in Excelsis', Michael Perry (1942-1996)

Music: Anglican Hymns Old and New (603); Ode to Joy by Ludwig von Beethoven (1770-1827), arranged by Christopher Tambling (1964-2015)

COLLECT

We beseech you, O Lord,
pour your grace into our hearts,
that as we have known the incarnation
of your Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel,
so by his cross and passion
we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection;
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

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 43.18-21

Read by Kim Darby, Vice President

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honour me,
the jackals and the ostriches;

for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Stand **HYMN**

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord;
unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name;
make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age to same;
his holy Name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might;
powers and dominions lay their glory by;
proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word,
firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

Words: CP 362 Luke 1.46-55; Timothy Dudley-Smith (b.1926)
Music: Woodlands, Walter Greatorex (1877-1949)

GOSPEL READING Luke 1. 26-38

Read by Jeremy Taylor

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

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit **TESTIMONIES**

Representatives of the Prison Service, the Refuges and 'Away from it All' (AFIA) bring testimonies:

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Prison Service | <i>Reverend Betty Hayes, MU Chaplain</i> |
| Refuges | <i>Rachel Wilkinson</i> |
| AFIA | <i>Edd Catt, Vice President</i> |

THE ADDRESS

The Right Reverend Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford

Stand **THE CREED**

**All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from
heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Sit **THE COMMISSIONING**

Those being commissioned stand before Bishop Andrew who says

We have come together here to worship God, to commission the President of the Mothers Union in Guildford Diocese and to commission the members of the Trustee board. This is a joyful and important occasion. Each office carries great responsibility, for the Mothers Union is a worldwide Society within the Church.

Bishop Andrew addresses those before him, who respond together with the words in bold italic font

Do you all accept office in the Mothers Union?

I do, the Lord being my helper.

Will you all serve God in this way, in the firm belief that the power of the Holy Spirit will guide and direct all who call upon him?

By putting my trust in him, I will.

Taking the President, Sylvia, by the hand, Bishop Andrew says

I commission you as Diocesan President in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Bishop Andrew addresses the congregation

I ask you all to pray that God will bless his servant Sylvia with such gifts and powers as she may need in her work ahead.

The president then presents the Board of Trustees to Bishop Andrew who takes each officer by the right hand then says

I admit you all to take office on the Board of Trustees for Guildford Diocese, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Bishop then invites all Diocesan Office Holders, Diocesan Representatives and Speakers to stand in their places, and addresses them. They respond together with the words in bold italic font

Do you accept office in the Mothers Union?

We do, the Lord being our helper.

Will you serve God in this way, in the firm belief that the power of the Holy Spirit will guide and direct all who call upon him?

We will, putting our trust in him.

I admit you as Officers, Diocesan Representatives and Speakers in the Mothers Union in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The newly commissioned Trustees return to their seats; Bishop Andrew addresses the congregation

People of Guildford Diocese, I ask you all to pray that God will bless these his servants and give them gifts and powers needed for their work ahead. Be still and aware of God's presence in and around us on this day.

Silence is kept

We commit ourselves to the work of Jesus Christ through our membership, saying together the Mothers' Union Prayer.

**All Loving Lord,
we thank you for your love so freely given to us all.
We pray for families around the world.
Bless the work of the Mothers' Union
as we seek to share your love
through the encouragement, strengthening
and support of marriage and family life.
Empowered by your spirit,
may we be united in prayer and worship
and, in love and service
reach out as your hands across the world,
in Jesus' name.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The following response is used

All Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Prayers for prisons

Shirley Martin

Prayers for refuges

Kate Pearman

Prayers for AFIA

Liz Newhouse

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

Stand **THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**

THE PEACE

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

The deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may share a sign of peace with one another.

HYMN and PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

I, The Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am Lord, is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

I, The Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Words and music: CP 470 Dan Shutte (b. 1947)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

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

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

It is indeed right and good,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
We give you thanks and praise
that the Virgin Mary heard with faith the message of the angel,
and by the power of your Holy Spirit
conceived and bore the Word made flesh.
From the warmth of her womb
to the stillness of the grave
he shared our life in human form.
In him new light has dawned upon the world
and you have become one with us
that we might become one with you
in your glorious kingdom.
Therefore earth unites with heaven
to sing a new song of praise;
we too join with angels and archangels
as they proclaim your glory without end:

**All Holy, most holy, all holy the Lord,
in power and wisdom for ever adored!
The earth and the heavens are full of your love;
our joyful hosannas re-echo above!**

**Blessèd, most blessèd, all blessèd is He
whose life makes us whole
and whose death sets us free;
who comes in the name of the Father of light,
let endless hosannas resound in the height.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.
So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

The deacon says

Great is the mystery of faith:
All Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with Mary and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

Sit **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray

**All 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 forever.
Amen.**

THE 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.**

AGNUS DEI

All **O Lamb of God, come cleanse our hearts
and take our sin away.**

**O Lamb of God, your grace impart,
and let our guilty fear depart,
have mercy, Lord, we pray,
have mercy, Lord, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, our lives restore,
our guilty souls release.**

**Into our lives your Spirit pour,
and let us live for evermore
in perfect heav'nly peace,
in perfect heav'nly peace.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

All who are communicants are welcome to receive the bread and wine. There is no obligation to drink from the common cup. However, please do not dip your wafer in the wine. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please keep your hands at your sides. Gluten-free bread is available from the bishop at the front of the Nave.

During the administration of Communion, we sing the following songs and the organist plays.

SONGS

My Jesus, my Saviour,
Lord there is none like You.
All of my days, I want to praise
the wonders of Your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter,
tower of refuge and strength,
let every breath, all that I am
never cease to worship You.

*Shout to the Lord all the earth, let us sing,
power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
at the sound of Your name
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands.
Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.*

My Jesus, my Saviour...

Words and Music: Darlene Zschech (b. 1965) SP 295

There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God's own Son,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
holy One.

*Thank you, O my Father,
for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit
till the work on earth is done.*

Jesus my Redeemer,
name above all names,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
O for sinners slain:

When I stand in glory
I will see his face,
and there I'll serve my King for ever
in that holy place:

Words: Keith Green (1963-1982) and Melody Green

Music: SP 315 Melody Green arranged by Peter Moger (b. 1964)

Stand **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God most high,
whose handmaid bore the Word made flesh:
we thank you that in this sacrament of our redemption
you visit us with your Holy Spirit
and overshadow us by your power;
strengthen us to walk with Mary the joyful path of obedience
and so to bring forth the fruits of holiness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

THE PERSONAL PRAYER OF MARY SUMNER

We pray together

**All All this day, O Lord,
let me touch as many lives as possible for thee;
and every life I touch, do thou by thy spirit quicken,
whether through the word I speak,
the prayer I breathe, or the life I live.
Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

HYMN

During the hymn the diocesan banner is retrieved, and banner-bearers move to stand by their banners

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be:

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love:

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Words: Thomas O. Chisholm (1866-1960)

Music: CP 453 Great is thy faithfulness, W. M. Runyan (1870-1957)

BLESSING

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you, and remain with you always.

All Amen.

The deacon dismisses the people

Go in the peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Pièce d'Orgue BWV 572 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

During the Organ Voluntary, the diocesan banner leads the Branch Banners down the central aisle. The clergy and bishop follow.

Everyone is invited to refreshments at the back of the Cathedral after the service.

As you move towards the reception, a collection will be taken for the work of the Cathedral and the Mothers' Union.

This service is held at Guildford Cathedral by kind permission of the Chapter of Guildford Cathedral.

MOTHERS' UNION IN THE GUILDFORD DIOCESE

Mothers' Union Diocesan Chaplain Revd Betty Hayes

The Diocesan Trustees

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
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