

The Chapter Letter



SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER – SUNDAY 29 OCTOBER

‘God is not a God of disorder, but a God of peace’

It is hard to escape the far from good news that comes from the Holy Land at the present time.

It is clearly abhorrent that any group should slaughter innocent lives in the way that has been taking place in the areas of Southern Israel over the past few days, and we must clearly be worried about the conduct of a war that will, with certainty, lead to much pain and suffering for innocent lives.

There is also an element of the stories that are in the news that directly connected to how different people read the scriptures. Within the Judeo-Christian tradition there is a particular challenge in how we reconcile different readings of the accounts of Israel that are contained in the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. The present-day story of the conflict between the nation of Israel and those who lived in those places before their arrival has direct parallels with the accounts we hear of Israel occupying its promised land after the Exodus from Egypt. However, there are different ways of understanding these accounts within our scriptures. We can read the accounts of the Histories as a following of God’s commands – but they can equally be read as accounts of the human impetuses of God’s people. There are indications that this second reading is the more attendant to God’s will, given the tension that exists between the calls to violence that undoubtedly occur in the Histories, and the vision provided in some of the prophetic books of a land of peace, where ‘the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them’. It is at least possible (if not probable) that the accounts of the Old Testament Histories include those occasions when the people of Israel had misunderstood God’s will, needing correction from the voices of the prophets. Given the teaching of Christ, we should clearly be longing for justice and peace – however far they appear to be from present reality and however far they appear to be from the minds of either of the groups of people prosecuting the present conflict in the Holy Land.

There is a justifiable anger at the way innocent lives have been taken in these last days – but there also needs to be an understanding of the many innocent people who are caught between two groups who think that the other should not exist. My own experience of the people of Palestine is of a people who have lost much, and who long for peace – whilst others, on the basis of their readings of their respective scriptures seek the destruction of each other. For me, this cannot be a true reflection of the will of God. A God who calls us to ‘do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with Him’ and of whom we understand that if we ‘live in peace’ God’s ‘love and peace will be with us’ cannot be a God who calls us to hatred, violence and destruction.

If you are able, I would commend that you read the recent statement from the Christian leaders of Churches in the Holy Land: <https://www.cypgulf.org/statement-from-jerusalem/>

As they say, quoting from the scriptures, ‘God is not a God of disorder, but a God of peace’.

NICK BROWN, PRECENTOR

BIBLE READINGS

Sunday 15 October
Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity

Eucharist
Isaiah 25.1-9
Philippians 4.1-9
Matthew 22.1-14

Evening Prayer
Proverbs 3.1-18
1 John 3.1-15

Sunday 22 October
Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

Eucharist
Isaiah 45.1-7
1 Thessalonians 1.1-10
Matthew 22.15-22

Evening Prayer
Proverbs 4.1-18
1 John 3.16-4.6

Sunday 29 October
Last Sunday After Trinity

Eucharist
Leviticus 19.1-2, 15-18
1 Thessalonians 2.1-8
Matthew 22.34-end

Evening Prayer
Ecclesiastes 11, 12
2 Timothy 2.1-7

Worship & Mission

Weekly service schedule

The service sheet for the coming fortnight can be [viewed on the cathedral website](#) (click link to visit)

An experiment with morning service times

Please note that for a trial period Sung Eucharist on a Sunday will begin at 10.30am

'After hours': Reflective worship

7pm, once a month on a Sunday

15 October 'After Hours': Meditative Eucharist with Prayers for Healing

19 November 'After Hours': Sacred Space, exploring The darkness of waiting

Each of these occasions seeks to provide a gentle and reflective space with time to wonder, and the chance to experience the unique and serene atmosphere of the Cathedral as the day draws to a close. Each evening begins with simple refreshments from 6.45pm, with worship beginning at 7pm.

Jazz Eucharist

15 October, 10.30am

The next Jazz Eucharist is drawing near and will feature The Alex Clarke Quartet (Alex, Dave Newton, Clark Tracey and Dave Green). Alex was a finalist of the BBC Young Jazz Musician of the Year award 2020 and is sufficiently highly regarded to be able to attract such formidable musicians to her Quartet.

'Tea at 4' Discussion & Reflection Group

Monday 16 October, 4pm

The next meeting takes place at 4pm on Monday 16 October in the Wickham Reading Room (which is located where the old Refectory was located, and is accessed via the Cloisters). This is a time for reflection and discussion on reading the Gospel Reading for the previous day (Matthew 18.21-35). There is no need for preparation – and all are welcome!

Country Harvest Festival

22 October, 3pm

A special service in celebration of Lincolnshire's wonderful farming and horticultural industries and the variety and quality of produce grown and reared in the county.

All Souls' Day

2 November

All Souls' Day is a time when, having remembered the example of the saints in glory, we pray for those whom we have 'loved, but see no longer'. During the day the cathedral is open for anyone to come and remember a loved one – lighting a candle, writing a prayer, or just simply being still in the holy space of the cathedral. The day concludes at 7.30pm with a Sung Requiem Eucharist, which this year will include a performance by the Cathedral Consort of Fauré's Requiem.

Remembrance Sunday

12 November

Join us at 10.40am for our annual remembrance service for those who gave their lives or suffered in the course of human conflict.

St Hugh's Day

Friday 17 November

All are welcome to join us in celebrating St Hugh's Day at Lincoln Cathedral. The events for the day are:

- **12noon Sung Eucharist** (St Hugh's Choir) President & Preacher: The Bishop of Lincoln
- **3.15pm Lecture by Marcus Roberts** (Chapter House) 'The Jewish Heritage of Lincoln and its Cathedral – lessons from the past for the present'. Marcus Roberts is the founder/director of JTrails, creating Jewish Heritage and Holocaust trails. This lecture will be followed by tea.
- **5.30pm Festal Evensong** with Installation of Canons (St Hugh's Choir)

Community

Luxmuralis returns in 2024!

We're very happy to announce that after the sell-out shows in February 2023, Luxmuralis will make its return to Lincoln Cathedral with 'Science'!

Science is an immersive show which is designed to enable you to explore and contemplate the contributions of science and human understanding of the physical world around us.

Next year's performance will run from Tuesday 12 to Saturday 16 March 2024, with several performances per evening. Tickets will go on sale on Monday 23 October 2023.

Enthronement of The Bishop of Lincoln

All members of the Cathedral community are invited to attend the enthronement of the Rt Revd Stephen Conway as Bishop of Lincoln at 2.30pm on Saturday 11 November. To help with the planning, [you can register your attendance here](#).

If you're not able to book, don't worry: you're still welcome to join us for this significant event in the life of the Cathedral and Diocese.

LCCA Annual General Meeting

Monday 13 November

The LCCA AGM will be held on Monday 13 November at 7pm in the Chapter House with hot drinks available after Evensong. If you require further details, please contact Andrea at lcca@lincolncathedral.com.

Latest edition of InHouse

The latest edition of InHouse is here and packed with fascinating information about the Cathedral and its history. The Coronation edition prompted memories from several congregation members, and we are pleased to feature these. We give a warm welcome to our new Chief Operating Officer and Chapter Clerk, Tracy Buckby, and hear from our interim Dean about the extraordinary Ordinary Time in which we find ourselves through the long summer months.

[Download the latest edition of InHouse here](#)

A joyous day

Sunday 1 October saw a joyous occasion when Rebecca Lin Song was both baptised and confirmed by Bishop Nigel at the 10.30am Eucharist. Rebecca has been a regular member of the congregation for some time now. She is a post doc at Lincoln University and recently completed a PhD in environmental journalism. Originally from China she has been living and studying in the UK for more than a decade. Our prayers are with her as she takes the next steps on her Christian journey.



Events

Half-term fun: Meet the Teach Rex Dragons

25 October

Meet the dragons as Teach Rex introduce children to a unique and innovative approach to storytelling in which the team will bring a mythical story to life

Half Term fun: Rhubarb Theatre Storytelling

27 October

Join us for half-term fun as we explore theatre and stories all about monsters and dragons.

Young children will love playing the parts, making the sounds and using props and costumes with the much-loved 'The Gruffalo' story by Julia Donaldson and the very funny 'The Kiss that Missed' by David Melling.

Handel's Messiah

25 November, 7pm

This year, Lincoln Cathedral Choir return with their performance of Handel's Messiah, a spectacular piece of music which is to be accompanied by Lincolnshire Chamber Orchestra.

Messiah features one of the most famous pieces of choral music, the Hallelujah Chorus, however this piece has so much more to offer.

Christmas by Candlelight

5 December, 7.30pm

An incredible West End Cast and live band perform classic Christmas Hits as you have never heard them before!

'It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas', so join us for this magical evening of best loved festive hits performed live by Candlelight.

Carols by Candlelight

12-13 December, 7pm

Join us in Lincoln Cathedral for a magical evening of popular carols performed by Lincoln Cathedral Choir in the atmospheric surrounding of the candle-lit nave of the Cathedral.

A true winter treat, Carols by Candlelight is in aid of the Association of the Friends of Lincoln Cathedral. The choir is conducted by Aric Prentice with Jeffrey Makinson playing the Cathedral's renowned Father Willis organ.

The Snowman with Live Orchestra

16-17 December

Join us on a magical journey with The Snowman, accompanied by live orchestra and cathedral chorister.

The heart-warming story will be accompanied by a live orchestra who will bring the score to life and make the most of the incredible acoustics of the Cathedral. The nave will be lit to create a magical atmosphere ensuring an unforgettable experience for adults and children alike.

Messiaen's La Nativité du Seigneur

6 January, 7pm

Join us as Jeffrey Makinson plays Olivier Messiaen's La Nativite du Seigneur.

Described as one of the greatest Organ works of our time, our Cathedral Organist, Jeffrey Makinson, will be playing on the spectacular Father Willis Organ in this unmissable concert.

For more details of forthcoming events and to book your tickets, go to our website at

www.lincolncathedral.com/forthcoming-events

