

The Chapter Letter



SUNDAY 12 MAY – SUNDAY 26 MAY

BIBLE READINGS

This Sunday sits between two major church festivals: Ascension and Pentecost. Ascension being the day we remember Jesus' return to the Father after his resurrection, and Pentecost is when we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Jesus' disciples - often known as the 'birthday of the Church'. The nine days between these two key celebrations, traditionally known as a Novena, offer us an opportunity for prayer and reflection as we pray for the renewed gift of the Holy Spirit for ourselves and our communities.

The global initiative "Thy Kingdom Come" invites us to join with Christians around the world in this journey of prayer. Daily reflection and prayer booklets are available to download at: <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/prayer-resources>

Pentecost is the festival of the Holy Spirit - that aspect of God that dwells within us and works for the transformation of all creation. In Scripture the word for Spirit is also the word for breath. In this way each breath becomes a prayer for God's presence.

Christians throughout the centuries have used breathing as part of a more conscious prayer practice, using phrases of Scripture or prayer with each in and out breath - a practice which has now also been shown to have good physical and emotional benefits as well as spiritual ones!

You may like to use this season to explore one of the traditional Christian breath prayers, such as the Jesus prayer, or to try a contemporary one, such as the one below, written by Amy Lovings and based on Romans 8:22-27:

The Apostle Paul tells us that the Spirit of God prays for us "with sighs too deep for words". Through the Life-Giving Breath of God, we are given all that we need.

Let us breathe deeply— inhaling the good gifts that God provides, and exhaling all of the things that we need to release.

Let us breathe in strength... And, let us exhale our exhaustion...

Let us breathe in freedom... And, let us exhale all that holds us back...

Let us breathe in a new sense of direction... And, let us exhale the paths we no longer want to use...

Let us breathe in hope... And, let us exhale self-doubt...

Let us breathe in unconditional love... And, let us exhale distrust and hate...

Holy Spirit, let us feel the mighty rush of your presence in this place. Blow away our fears and worries, and help us to breathe in your gifts of new life. Amen.

ROWENA KING, CANON MISSIONER

Sunday 12 May
Seventh Sunday of Easter

Eucharist
Acts 1.15-17, 21-end
I John 5.9-13
John 17.6-19

Evening Prayer
Isaiah 61
Luke 4.14-21

Sunday 19 May
Pentecost

Eucharist
Acts 2.1-21
Romans 8.22-27
John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15

Evening Prayer
Ezekiel 36.22-28
Acts 2.22-38

Sunday 26 May
Trinity Sunday

Eucharist
Isaiah 6.1-8
Romans 8.12-17
John 3.1-17

Evening Prayer
Ezekiel 1.4-10, 22-28a
Revelation 4

Worship & Mission

Weekly service schedule

Details of services and music can be viewed on the Cathedral's website. [Click here for more information](#) or visit: www.lincolncathedral.com/orders-of-service/

Special Services

Tue 14 May, 5.30pm

Festal Evensong for Matthias the Apostle

Sun 19 May, Pentecost

10.30am - Festal Eucharist for Pentecost (Whitsun)
3.45pm - Festal Evensong for Pentecost (Whitsun) and LCCA Tea

Choral Mattins during the Summer Term

The remaining dates for our Choral Mattins services are: **19 May** and **23 June**.

After hours: Reflective Worship

6.45pm, once a month on a Sunday

19 May - Sacred Space

16 June - Completing the day: midsummer reflections

These occasions provide a gentle and reflective space with time to wonder, and the chance to experience the unique atmosphere of the Cathedral as the day draws to a close.

'Tea at 4' Bible study and reflection group

Monday 20 May

The next meeting will take place in the Wickham Reading Room at 4pm on Monday 20 May when we will finish the group of sessions on the Lord's Prayer that we used during Lent.

Stillpoint

This is a time of guided silent prayer to be still and aware of the presence of God. We meet in the Ringers Chapel from 8.45am to 9.15am on the following Mondays: **3 June**, **1 July**, and **9 September**

Eucharist in thanksgiving for Alec Knight

There will be a Sung Eucharist, at which the Bishop of Lincoln will preside, to give thanks for the life and ministry of the Very Rev'd Alec Knight as Dean of Lincoln at 12.30pm on Monday 17 June. All who knew Alec during his time as dean are invited to join to give thanks for all he gave to the life of the cathedral.

Community

LCCA Pentecost Sunday - Cake in the Cloisters

The Lincoln Cathedral Community Association invites all to celebrate Pentecost Sunday with Cake in the Cloisters after Evensong on Sunday 19 May. You can reserve your place at £5 per head by either adding your name to our guest list during refreshments after the Sunday morning Eucharist or by emailing Andrea, LCCA secretary at lcca@lincolncathedral.com

All proceeds will go to one of our nominated charities. If you would like to donate a cake to maximise proceeds, please talk to one of the committee or email as above.

Peace Doves

The beautiful installation is made up of 12,000 paper doves which will be suspended above the Cathedral's Nave and is accompanied by music composed by David Harper.

The artwork will be on display from 5 September to 14 November 2024. But first, we need your help to write messages of peace, love and hope on the doves.

The doves will be available to make in the Cathedral from Wednesday 1 May and visitors, schools and local community groups are being invited to add messages of peace, hope and love to the paper birds.

Table for the Nation

The Table for the Nation is finally at Lincoln Cathedral!

Created from a section of the nation's most significant tree, a gigantic 5000-year-old Fenland Black Oak, the table is a masterpiece of craftsmanship.

During its stay, we'll have some exciting events hosted at the table, but did you know you can sponsor one of seats at the table? [Click here to learn more about sponsoring a seat](#) or visit: www.lincolncathedral.com/table/

Friends' visit to the Welbeck Estate

A reminder that the Friends have arranged a day visit to the Welbeck Estate on Wednesday, 15 May. There are still tickets available for coach transport, priced at £12.50 for members and £17.50 for non-members, available from the Friends' office, which is open on Wednesday mornings. There is no admission charge to the estate, which is home to the Harley Gallery, the historic Portland Collection and a high-quality farm shop and café. There are numerous picturesque walks, leisurely or otherwise, on the estate. The coach will leave from by the Lincoln Hotel at 10 am, returning at approximately 4pm. As this is the first visit to be taking place since before Covid we're looking forward to an enjoyable and hopefully sunny day out.

Events

Festival of Music - A concert by the Band of the Royal Air Force College

Saturday 11 May, 7.30pm

Join us for a special concert performed by the band of the Royal Air Force College to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the RAF Music Charitable Trust.

With music from throughout the years including well-known tunes, you're sure to have a night like no other!

Time Team - The return of a ground-breaking TV legend

Tuesday 28 May, 7pm

Join Carena Lewis, star of Time Team for 13 years, and now a professor at the University of Lincoln as she revisits some iconic moments.

For more details of forthcoming events and to book your tickets, go to our website at www.lincolncathedral.com/events