



NEWCASTLE
CATHEDRAL



Sung Eucharist

The Conversion of St Paul

Sunday 25th January 2026, 10.00am
President: The Rev'd Canon Zoe Heming
Preacher: The Venerable Rachel Wood

Welcome

A warm welcome to worship at Newcastle Cathedral. If you are new, or a visitor today, please make yourself known to one of the clergy after the service – it is a joy to have you with us today.

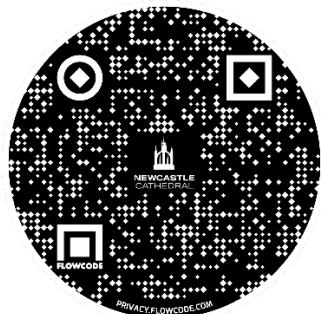
A large print copy of this service sheet is available; please ask one of our welcome team at the door.

Please refrain from taking photographs during the service. Toilets are available at the far end of the Cathedral; please ask one of our welcomers if you need directions, and take care to move quietly when passing the organ loft.

During worship we are invited to sit or stand. This is only an invitation. Please move or stay seated as works best for you as we worship God together.

Giving to Newcastle Cathedral

The Cathedral needs and appreciates your financial support. A collection plate will be passed around during the service into which you can give cash or pay by card. Please give as generously as you are able. Gift Aid envelopes are available from the welcomers by the door. If you prefer, you can make a one-off donation or give regularly by scanning this QR code.



Music

Director of Music:

Ian Roberts

Assistant Director of Music:

Kris Thomsett

Organ Scholar:

James Watson

Before the service, the organist plays:

Chanson de Matin

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

The Mass Setting is:

Missa Secunda

Hans Leo Hassler (1564 – 1612)

Saint Paul is one of the most influential figures in the history of the Church. His writings are amongst some of the earliest Christian documents that we have. In scripture, 13 of the 27 books of the New Testament are attributed to him.

Converted on the road to Damascus, Paul (known before his conversion as Saul) travelled tens of thousands of miles around the Mediterranean world, telling others of the person of Jesus.

It was Paul's influence which helped turn Christianity from small beginnings into a worldwide faith that was open to all. However, the pre-conversion Saul took much time to become the Paul we associate with our Christian faith. It took him time to understand that his call, to teach the good news of Christ, was to be a whole life's journey for him.

Today's celebration dates back to the sixth century as Christians recognised Paul's life and work, and of our call too to see our faith as a life-long journey of discovery and witness.

Order of Service

The Gathering

Please stand, as you are comfortable, to sing the Opening Hymn during which the procession enters



**In Christ there is no East or West,
in him no South or North,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.**

**In him shall true hearts ev'rywhere
their high communion find.
His service is the golden cord
close binding humankind**

**Join hands, companions of the faith,
whate'er your race may be;
who serves my Father as his child
is surely kin to me.**

**In Christ now meet both East and West,
in him meet South and North,
all Christlike souls are one in him,
throughout the whole wide earth.**

John Oxenham (1852–1941)

NEH 317 William Jones (1726–1800)

The president says

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

All Amen.

The Greeting

The president greets the people.

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Please sit as words of welcome or introduction are said.

The Junior Church members are prayed for before they leave for their group. New members are always welcome! Please speak to a welcomer, or member of clergy, to find out more.

Prayer of Preparation

This prayer is said.

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.

Prayers of Penitence

The deacon says:

We were once dead through the trespasses and sins in which we lived, but now we are alive together with Christ. Through him we have access in one Spirit to the Father, to whom we humbly confess our sins.

Lord Jesus, in your love you invite us to be your friends:
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, in your joy you choose us to go out and bear fruit:
Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, in your power you send us to be your faithful witnesses:
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

The president says this form of 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.

All Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

The Gloria is sung by the Choir.

Gloria in excelsis Deo
et in terra pax hominibus
bonae voluntatis.

Laudamus te, benedicimus
te, adoramus te, glorificamus
te, gratias agimus tibi
propter magnam gloriam tuam:

Domine Deus, Rex caelstis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite,
Jesu Christe: Domine Deus,
Agnus Dei, Filius Patris:
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis;

qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem
nostram,
qui sedes ad dexteram
Patris, miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus sanctus,
tu solus Dominus,
tu solus altissimus,
Jesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu,
in gloria Dei Patris.
Amen.

*Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace to people
of good will.*

*We praise you, we bless you,
we worship you, we glorify you,
we give thanks to you
for your great glory:*

*Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son,
Jesu Christ: Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Father:
you take away the sins of the
world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the
world,
receive our prayer;
you who sit at the right hand
of the Father, have mercy on us.*

*For you alone are holy,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are most high,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.*

The Collect

The president introduces the Collect.

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth; 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.

Please sit.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, ‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.’

Then I said, ‘Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.’ But the Lord said to me, ‘Do not say, “I am only a boy”; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.’

Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, ‘Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.’

Jeremiah 1: 4-10

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?’ He asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ The reply came, ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.’ The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, ‘Ananias.’ He answered, ‘Here I am, Lord.’ The Lord said to him, ‘Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.’

But Ananias answered, ‘Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.’ But the Lord said to him, ‘Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.’ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, ‘Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.’ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptised, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, ‘He is the Son of God.’ All who heard him were amazed and said, ‘Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?’ Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

Acts 9: 1-22

This is the word of the Lord.

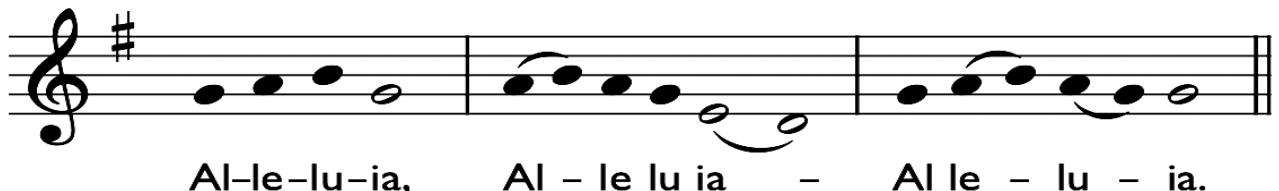
All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Please stand, as you are comfortable, to face the Gospel.

This acclamation is sung.

First time: Choir; Second time: All; After sentence: All.



*Many who are first will be last, and the last will be first. **R***

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

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



Then Peter said in reply, ‘Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name’s sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

Matthew 19: 27-end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



A sermon is preached.

The sermon may be followed by a time of silence.

The Creed

Please stand, as comfortable, to say The Nicene 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.

Prayers of Intercession

The president introduces the prayers.

Kneel or sit to pray.

One of these responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy (or) Lord hear us.

All hear our prayer. **All Lord graciously hear us.**

The prayers may end with

Merciful Father,

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Please stand, as you are comfortable. The president introduces the Peace.

Let the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

The deacon invites all to exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table

*The Offertory hymn is sung as the altar is prepared.
During the hymn a collection is taken.*



**And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain?
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me? (repeat)**

**'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies:
who can explore his strange design?
In vain the first-born seraph tries
to sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! let earth adore,
let angel minds enquire no more. (repeat)**

**He left his Father's throne above -
so free, so infinite his grace.
Emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
for, O my God, it found out me! (repeat)**

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night.
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray.
I woke - the dungeon flamed with light,
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee. (repeat)

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own. (repeat)

Charles Wesley (1707–88)

The president says this offertory prayer.

Almighty Father, as we celebrate this holy sacrament of our redemption may your Spirit fill us with the light of faith; by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For on this day he called to his service the blasphemer and persecutor of your Church. Saul, who had resisted your grace, became Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles.

Because he was faithful and true in his ministry, you made him an example of patient service, to instruct in the way of eternal life all those who heard his preaching and believed your word.

Now, therefore, he who became your chosen instrument for the salvation of the nations has made us also eager to proclaim your mercy, and sing in union with all the powers of heaven the joyful hymn of your praise:

The choir sings:

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth,
pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

*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.*

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: 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.

The deacon says

Great is the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of The Blessed Virgin Mary, St Nicholas and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.



All A - men -

Please kneel or sit.

The Lord's Prayer

As we join our prayers with those of the Church Universal, so we pray, each in our own language or form, as our Saviour taught us:

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 for ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated 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.**

Giving of Communion

The president says this invitation to 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.**

The Agnus Dei is sung as the bread is broken.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis;
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis;
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.*

All who normally receive the bread and wine in any church are welcome to take Holy Communion here today. Please follow the directions of the Wardens and stewards. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please bow your head and keep your hands at your sides when you come, to signal your intention. If you need to receive communion in your seat, please make this known to the Wardens or stewards.

*Gluten free wafers are available; please ask if you require one.
When receiving the wine, please drink from the cup.*

During the distribution, the choir sings the following, otherwise, silence is kept.

Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart
Be all else but naught to me save that thou art
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night
Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom be thou my true word
Be thou ever with me, and I with me, Lord
Be thou my great father and I thy true son
Be thou in me dwelling and I with thee one

Be thou and thou only the first in my heart
O Sovereign of Heaven my treasure thou art
Great heart of my own heart whatever befall
Still be thou my vision
O Ruler of All

Bob Chilcott (b 1955)

Tr. Mary Byrne (1880-1931)

Prayer after Communion

The Post Communion prayer is said.

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: by the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

All say the following prayer.

All Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

The Dismissal

Please stand, as you are comfortable, to sing the hymn.



**Go forth and tell! O Church of God, awake!
God's saving news to all the nations take:
proclaim Christ Jesus, Saviour, Lord, and King,
that all the world his worthy praise may sing.**

**Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all;
he will in grace respond to all who call;
how shall they call if they have never heard
the gracious invitation of his word?**

**Go forth and tell! The doors are open wide:
share God's good gifts—let no one be denied;
live out your life as Christ your Lord shall choose,
your ransomed pow'rs for his sole glory use.**

**Go forth and tell! O Church of God, arise!
Go in the strength which Christ your Lord supplies;
go till all nations his great name adore
and serve him, Lord and King, for evermore.**

*James Edward Seddon (1915–83)
NEH 186 Walter Greatorex (1877–1949)*

The president says

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

The president uses this blessing.

May Christ who called Paul to his service, and to preach the good news to the world, strengthen you to witness to his grace and love. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

The deacon says:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ, Amen.

The ministers and choir depart.

You are then invited to sit for the duration of the organ voluntary

Grand Choeur No.2

Alfred Hollins (1865-1942)

Thank you for joining us in worship today.
If you are able, please join us now for refreshments.

If you are new, or a visitor,
we hope that we will see you again soon.

This order of service is printed on recycled paper. You are warmly invited to take it home with you.

The Rev'd Canon Ruth
Hulse
**Canon for Worship &
Congregational Life**

The Very Rev'd Lee Batson
The Dean

The Rev'd Canon Zoe
Heming
Canon for Mission

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