St Edmundsbury Cathedral
A beacon of faith, hope and love in Suffolk

Sung Eucharist
on the Feast Days of
Apostles and Evangelists

5.30 pm
Welcome to  
St Edmundsbury Cathedral

Apostles and Evangelists

The Apostles (literally meaning ‘one who is sent’), particularly the Twelve Apostles (also called the Disciples), were the first and closest followers of Jesus, and became the primary teachers of the Gospel. The writers of the four Gospels are known as the Evangelists (literally meaning ‘publisher of glad tidings’). Over time the word ‘disciple and ‘apostle’ became used interchangeably, and in modern usage, prominent missionaries are often called apostles - for example, Saint Patrick (AD 373–463) is known as the ‘Apostle of Ireland’. The period of early Christianity during the lifetimes of the apostles is known as the Apostolic Age. During the 1st century AD, the apostles established churches throughout the territories of the Roman Empire and, according to tradition, through the Middle East, Africa, and India. The Apostles' Creed was said to have been composed by the apostles themselves.

We give thanks for the life, faith and witness of the first followers of Jesus, and we pray for Christians today as we seek to make know the love and light of Christ to those in our own generation.

Today’s Service

The musical setting of the Eucharist and hymns are shown on the cathedral service schedule. The texts used are from Common Worship and BCP, and help us focus on the apostles’ teaching and fellowship.

The front cover woodcut depicts ‘The Lamb of God’. The first followers of Jesus are sometimes referred to as ‘the Apostles of the Lamb’ (from the book of the Revelation, 21:14).

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The Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

All stand to sing

The Processional Hymn

The hymn number is announced or printed on a separate sheet.

All remain standing for

The Greeting

President We meet in the name of the ☩ Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All Amen.

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

The Prayers of Penitence

President As we prepare to celebrate the mystery of God’s love, revealed in Word and Sacrament, let us call to mind our sins.

All kneel.

President Let us confess our sins.
The Kyrie eleison

Lord Jesus, in your love you invite us to be your followers, yet we do not always follow you with our whole heart:
Lord, have mercy.
All Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, in your joy you send us to bring good news to a waiting world, yet we sometimes forget your call:
Christ, have mercy.
All Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, in your power you strengthen us in faith and love, yet we often fail to show love to others:
Lord, have mercy.
All Lord, have mercy.

The Choir may sing

Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christe eleison. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy upon us.

President May God our Father forgive you your sins, and bring you to the fellowship of his table with his saints for ever.
All Amen.
All stand as the Choir sings

Gloria in Excelsis

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
et in terra pax hominibus
bonæ voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te,
gratias agimus tibi
propter magnam gloriam tuam,
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite,
Jesu Christe;
Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscie 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 be to God on high,
and in earth peace,
good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee
for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son,
Jesu Christ; O Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of
God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord,
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost, art most high
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

All stand as the Choir sings

The Collect

The Prayer for the day is sung or said by the President.
The Liturgy of the Word

All sit for

The First Reading

After the reading the following response may be used

Reader For the word of the Lord
All Thanks be to God.

All stand for

The Gospel Acclamation

The Choir sings the Alleluias and the congregation repeats them both here and after the versicle.

Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
All

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

This or another text may be sung by the choir

I do not call you servants but friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father

All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
The Gospel Reading

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.
All Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading, the following response is used

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, O Christ.

The procession returns and all sit for

The Homily

The homily is followed by a time of quiet for reflection.
All stand for

The Affirmation of Faith

President Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?
All I believe and trust in him.
Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?
All I believe and trust in him.
Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?
All I believe and trust in him.
This is the faith of the church.
All This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.
Encouraged by our fellowship with Apostles, Evangelists and all the saints, let us make our prayers to the Father through our Lord Jesus Christ.

All kneel for

The Prayers of Intercession

Father, your Son called men and women to leave the past behind them and to follow him as his disciples in the way of the cross. Look with mercy upon those whom he calls today, marks with the cross and makes his disciples within the Church.

Lord, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Your Son told his disciples not to be afraid, and at Easter breathed on them his gift of peace. Look with mercy upon the world into which he sent them out, and give it that peace for which it longs.

Lord, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Your Son formed around him a company who were no longer servants but friends, and he called all those who obeyed him his brother and sister and mother. Look with mercy upon our families and our friends and upon the communities in which we share.

Lord, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Your Son sent out disciples to preach and heal the sick. Look with mercy on all those who yearn to hear the good news of salvation, and renew among your people the gifts of healing.

Lord, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.
Your Son promised to those who followed him that they would sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel and would share the banquet of the kingdom. According to your promise, look with mercy on those who have walked with Christ in this life and now have passed through death.

Lord, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Almighty God, grant that your Church may faithfully hold and make known the faith that has come to us through the apostles, that with them and all your saints we may inherit the glories of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All stand as the President leads

The Peace

The following or some other words of introduction may be used.

President We are the Body of Christ. We are fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God, through Christ our Lord, who came and preached peace to those who were far off and those who were near.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.
All remain standing for

The Offertory Hymn
during which the table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

The Preparation of the Table

The Taking of the Bread and Wine

President
Holy God,
keep us united in the apostles’ teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread and the prayers,
through Jesus Christ our Lord

All
Amen.

All remain standing for

The Eucharistic Prayer

The President and people sing the Sursum Corda.

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.
President

It is indeed right and good, that we should give you thanks, praise and glory, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For after his resurrection he sent out his apostles and evangelists to preach the gospel to all nations and lead us in the way of truth.

Himself the chief cornerstone, he founded his Church upon the apostles firmly to stand for ever as a sign of your holiness upon earth and a living witness to all of the way that leads to heaven.

And so with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we lift our voices and join in their unending hymn of praise:

Choir

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, *Holy, holy, holy Lord*
Dominus Deus sabaoth. *God of hosts,*
Pleni sunt coeli et terra *heaven and earth are full*
gloria tua. *of thy glory:*
Hosanna in excelsis. *Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.*
Benedictus qui venit *Blessed is he that cometh*
in nomine Domini. *in the name of the Lord:*
Hosanna in excelsis. *Hosanna in the highest.*

President

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.

President Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

All Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life: Lord Jesus, come in glory.

President 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 our blessed Lady St Mary, St James, St Edmund 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.
All kneel as the consecrated bread and wine are raised in the sight of the people and the Sanctus bell is rung.

Silence is kept.

The Lord’s Prayer

President  Rejoicing in the presence of God here in our midst let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All  Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

President  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.

The Invitation to Communion

President  Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All  Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.
All remain kneeling as the Choir sings

Agnus Dei

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.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

The Communion

Everyone is asked to follow the direction of the stewards to receive.
If you are used to receiving Communion in a church of your own, you are warmly invited to receive the sacrament today.

Anyone wishing to receive a blessing is also welcome: please carry this order of service with you as an indication to the ministers.

During Communion, the Choir may sing

The Anthem
The Prayer after Communion

All kneel as silence is kept.

President Let us pray.

This or an alternative prayer may be used.

President Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

All We thank you, Lord,
that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet
prepared for all peoples. Amen.

All stand for

The Blessing And Dismissal

President The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

President God, who has prepared for you
a city with eternal foundations,
bring you, with all the saints,
to the eternal and triumphant joy of that city;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the ø Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always. Amen.

Following God’s saints,
let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

All remain standing as the choir and ministers depart and as the organist plays

The Organ Voluntary