



# St Paul's Cathedral

*Together transforming our City and Diocese*

## **Festival Choral Evensong**

Easter Day

5 April 2026, 4pm

### **WELCOME**

Happy Easter!

Welcome to St Paul's Cathedral, home church for Anglicans in Melbourne and Victoria. We want to be a place of transformation for our city and church where all people can come to experience and know God's love in Christ Jesus. We are an international community and are delighted that you're here!

### **SERVICE LEADERS**

*Officiant:* The Revd Lydia Thangadurai, Succentor; *Preacher:* The Revd Canon Dr Tim Watson, Precentor; The Cathedral Choir, directed by Canon Philip Nicholls, Director of Music.

**We are delighted you have joined our service** If you have any questions and would like to speak to a staff member, please phone the Cathedral office 9653 4333. If we cannot answer, please always leave a message and someone will get back to you – these messages are checked seven days a week and urgent pastoral concerns will be addressed in a timely way. If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please fill out a Welcome Card available from the back of the Cathedral, so we can keep in touch with you.

## ORDER OF SERVICE

Please join in singing the hymns and saying the responses printed in **bold type**.

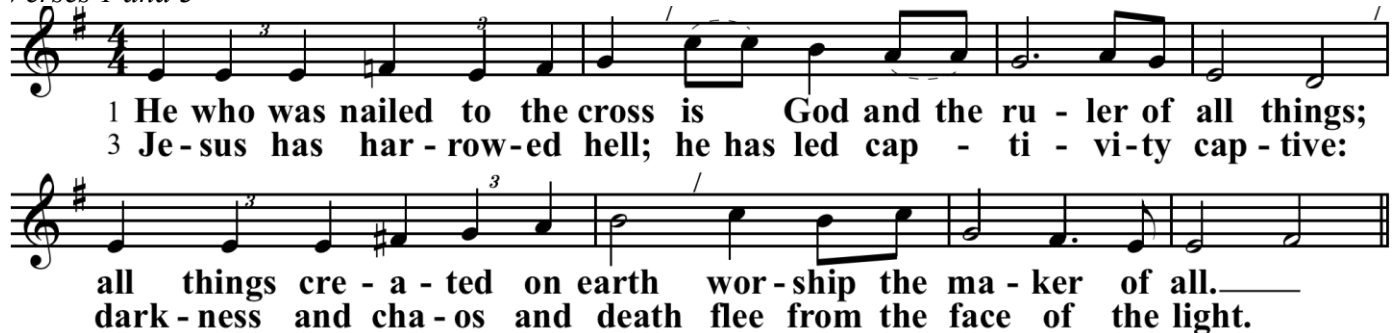
### THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*Refrain*



**Hail thee, fes - ti - val day, blest day that art hal - lowed for e - ver;  
day where - in Christ a - rose, break - ing the king - dom of death.**

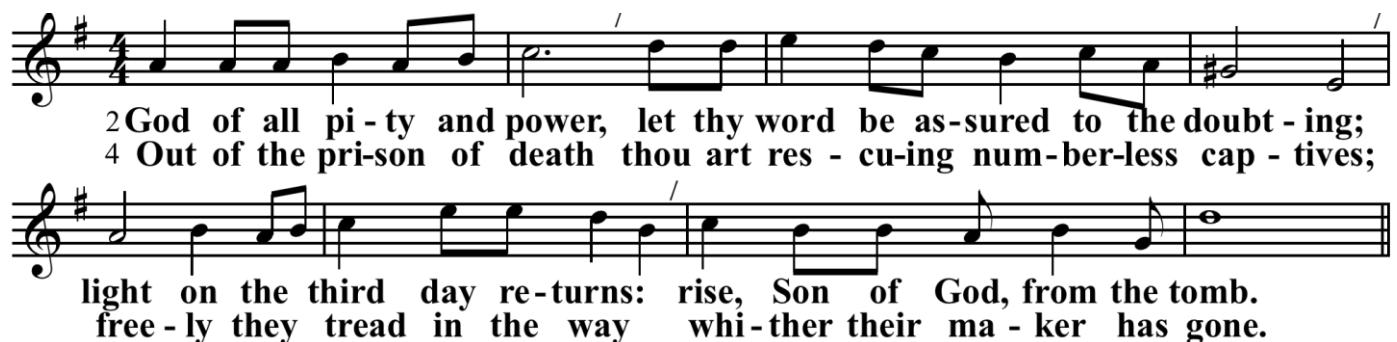
*Verses 1 and 3*



**1 He who was nailed to the cross is God and the ru - ler of all things;  
3 Je - sus has har - row - ed hell; he has led cap - ti - vi - ty cap - tive:  
all things cre - a - ted on earth wor - ship the ma - ker of all. —  
dark - ness and cha - os and death flee from the face of the light.**

***Hail thee, festival day, blest day that art hallowed for ever;  
day wherein Christ arose, breaking the kingdom of death***

*Verses 2 and 4*



**2 God of all pi - ty and power, let thy word be as - sured to the doubt - ing;  
4 Out of the pri - son of death thou art res - cu - ing num - ber - less cap - tives;  
light on the third day re - turns: rise, Son of God, from the tomb.  
free - ly they tread in the way whi - ther their ma - ker has gone.**

***Hail thee, festival day, blest day that art hallowed for ever;  
day wherein Christ arose, breaking the kingdom of death***

Venantius Fortunatus (530-609) tr. Maurice Frederick Bell (1862-1931)  
*English Hymnal 624*

### THE GREETING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

*The officiant welcomes the people, and acknowledges the Country on which we meet*

We meet on land that was taken, not ceded—the Sovereign Country of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation. We give thanks for their ancestors,

acknowledge the ongoing right and responsibility of their elders to care for this Country, and pay our respects to all First Peoples here today.

## THE RESPONSES

Humphrey Clucas (b.1941)

O Lord, open thou our lips;  
and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us;  
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord;  
the Lord's name be praised.

*Please be seated for the Psalm and the other Bible readings*

## PSALM 113

*Chant: June Nixon*

<sup>1</sup>When Israel came out of Egypt:  
and the house of Jacob from among the strange people,  
<sup>2</sup>Judah was his sanctuary: and Israel his dominion.  
<sup>3</sup>The sea saw that, and fled: Jordan was driven back.  
<sup>4</sup>The mountains skipped like rams: and the little hills like young sheep.  
<sup>5</sup>What aileth thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest:  
and thou Jordan, that thou wast driven back?  
<sup>6</sup>Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams: and ye little hills, like young sheep?  
<sup>7</sup>Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord:  
at the presence of the God of Jacob;  
<sup>8</sup>who turned the hard rock into a standing water:  
and the flint-stone into a springing well.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

## THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 25.6-9

*Read by Susan Hawley, Lay Clerk*

Here begins the sixth verse of the twenty-fifth chapter of the Prophecy of Isaiah.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,

the sheet that is spread over all nations;  
he will swallow up death for ever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day,  
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Here ends the First Lesson.

*Please stand as the Choir sings*

**MAGNIFICAT** *Evening Service in B Flat – C. V. Stanford (1852-1924)*  
*The Song of Mary, St Luke 1.46-55*

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.  
He hath shewed strength with his arm:  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat:  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things:  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

*Please be seated for the Bible reading*

**THE SECOND LESSON** *Luke 24.13-35*  
*Read by Canon Professor Kate Drummond AM*

Here begins the thirteenth verse of the twenty-fourth chapter of the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup>but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>And

he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup>Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' <sup>19</sup>He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup>and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup>But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup>and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' <sup>25</sup>Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup>Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' <sup>27</sup>Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup>As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup>But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup>When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup>Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup>They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' <sup>33</sup>That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup>They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' <sup>35</sup>Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Here ends the Second Lesson.

*Please stand as the Choir sings*

**NUNC DIMITTIS**

*Evening Service in B Flat – Stanford*

*The Song of Simeon, St Luke 2.29-32*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word.  
For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation;  
Which thou hast prepared: before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy  
Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,  
dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from  
the dead: He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the  
Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost: The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of  
Saints: The Forgiveness of sins: The Resurrection of the body, and the Life  
everlasting. Amen.**

*The Choir sings*

## THE LESSER LITANY

Clucas

The Lord be with you.  
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

*Please sit or kneel*

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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. Amen.**

## THE RESPONSES

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.  
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King.  
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.  
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.  
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

## THE COLLECTS

Almighty God, who through thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death, and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life: We humbly beseech thee, that as by thy special grace preventing us thou dost put into our minds good desires, so by thy continual help we may bring the same to good effect; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Remain seated as the choir sings*

## THE ANTHEM

*Ye choirs of new Jerusalem – Stanford*

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,  
your sweetest notes employ,  
the Pascal victory to hymn  
in strains of holy joy.

For Judah's Lion bursts his chains,  
crushing the serpent's head;  
and cries aloud through death's domains  
to wake the imprisoned dead.

Devouring depths of hell their prey  
at his command restore;  
his ransomed hosts pursue their way  
where Jesus goes before.

Triumphant in his glory now  
to him all power is given;  
to him in one communion bow  
all saints in earth and heaven.

While we his soldiers praise our King,  
his mercies we implore,  
within his palace bright to bring  
and keep us evermore.

All glory to the Father be,  
all glory to the Son,  
all glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,  
while endless ages run.

Alleluia. Amen.

St Fulbert of Chartres (d.1028) tr. Robert Campbell (1814–68)

## THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Concluding with*

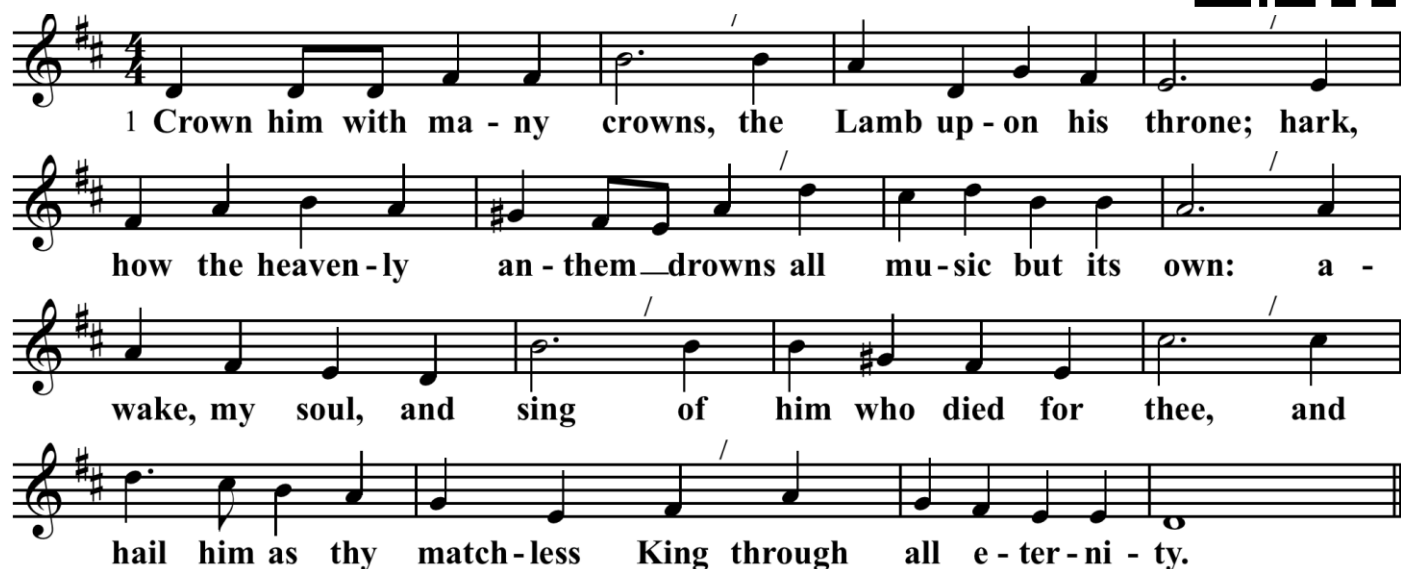
The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all,  
evermore. Amen.

*Stand to sing*

## THE HYMN BEFORE THE SERMON

*We rely entirely on your gift. Please be generous.*

*You can also donate online via our website [www.cathedral.org.au/donate](http://www.cathedral.org.au/donate)  
or by EFT BSB: 083-088, Account: 53-728-8315*



1 Crown him with ma - ny crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; hark,  
how the heaven - ly an - them - drowns all mu - sic but its own: a -  
wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and  
hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.

2  
Crown him the Virgin's Son,  
the God incarnate born,  
whose arm those crimson  
trophies won  
which now his brow adorn:  
fruit of the mystic Rose,  
as of that Rose the Stem;  
the Root whence mercy ever flows,  
the Babe of Bethlehem.

3  
Crown him the Lord of love!  
Behold his hands and side,  
rich wounds yet visible above  
in beauty glorified:  
no angel in the sky  
can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends the burning eye  
at mysteries so bright.

4  
Crown him the Lord of Peace,  
whose power a sceptre sways  
from pole to pole,  
that wars may cease,  
and all be prayer and praise:  
his reign shall know no end,  
and round his piercèd feet  
fair flowers of Paradise extend  
their fragrance ever sweet.

5  
Crown him the Lord of years,  
the Potentate of time,  
Creator of the rolling spheres,  
ineffably sublime.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
for thou hast died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail  
throughout eternity.

Matthew Bridges (1800-94)  
*Hymns Ancient and Modern Revised* 224

*The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.*

THE SERMON

The Revd Canon Dr Tim Watson, Precentor

*Stand to sing*

THE DISMISSAL HYMN

1 Christ the Lord is risen to-day, — Al - - - le - lu - ia!  
let the whole cre - a - tion say, — Al - - - le - lu - ia!  
raise your joys and tri - umphs high: Al - - - le - lu - ia!  
sing — now, — heaven, and earth re - ply: — Al - - - le - lu - ia!

Love's redeeming work is done; *Alleluia!*  
fought the fight, the battle won; *Alleluia!*  
vain the stone, the watch, the seal: *Alleluia!*  
Christ has burst the gates of hell. *Alleluia!*

Lives again our glorious king; *Alleluia!*  
where, O death, is now your sting? *Alleluia!*  
Once he died our souls to save; *Alleluia!*  
where your victory, O grave? *Alleluia!*

Soar we now where Christ has led, *Alleluia!*  
following our exalted Head; *Alleluia!*  
made like him, like him we rise: *Alleluia!*  
ours the cross, the grave, the skies. *Alleluia!*

John Wesley (1707-88) alt.  
*Together in Song* 370

## THE BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## THE ORGAN POSTLUDE

*Tu Es Petra* – Henri Mulet (1878-1967)  
Dr Mark Slavec, Cathedral Sub-Organist

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## THIS WEEK AT THE CATHEDRAL

Easter Mon 6 April	<i>Public Holiday: Cathedral Open 11am-4pm</i>
Tues 7 April	12.15pm Holy Communion
Wed 8 April	12.15pm Holy Communion 1pm Lunchtime Concert: Gabriel Liu (Cello) and Leigh Harrold (Piano)
Thurs 9 April	12.15pm Holy Communion
Frid 10 April	12.15pm Holy Communion
Sat 11 April	12.15pm Holy Communion with Holy Baptism 1pm Farsi Fellowship کلیسای جامع پولس رسول ملبورن پذیرای فارسی زبانان عزیز می باشد و جلسات پرستشی به زبان فارسی، هر هفته شنبه ها ساعت ۱۲:۱۵ ظهر برگزار می شود
Sun 12 April	8.00am Holy Communion ( <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> ) <i>Preacher: The Revd Canon Peter MacPherson, Canon for Preaching and Teaching</i> 10.00am Choral Eucharist <i>Preacher: The Revd Canon Peter MacPherson, Canon for Preaching and Teaching</i> 1pm Mandarin Service 圣保罗大座堂有一个中文群体在每个星期日下午一点正崇拜 <i>Preacher: The Revd Simon Li, Assistant Curate</i> 4pm Liturgical Performance of Beethoven's 9th Symphony <i>Preacher: The Revd Canon Dr Tim Watson, Precentor</i>

### CATHEDRAL OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 10am-5pm, Sundays during Services

### LIVESTREAMED SERVICES

Sunday 8am & 10am

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT JESUS

## DID JESUS ACTUALLY EXIST IN HISTORY?

Yes, Jesus' existence as a historical figure is well-established. Beyond the Gospel accounts (the biographies written by people closely associated with the life of Jesus), Jesus is also mentioned by non-Christian historians like Josephus and Tacitus. Scholars across religious perspectives generally accept that Jesus was a Jewish teacher who lived in first-century Palestine, gathered followers, and was executed by Roman authorities. The non-Christian historical evidence for Jesus' life, and his death on a cross, is compelling. There is no doubt he lived in the first century and died on a cross.

## WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES JESUS' DEATH MAKE FOR ME?

Christians believe Jesus' death addresses our deepest human problem—separation from God through sin. His death was sacrificial: taking upon himself the consequences of human wrongdoing to restore our relationship with God. This means that through Jesus, we can receive forgiveness, reconciliation with God, and freedom from guilt and shame. Jesus' death demonstrates God's profound love and provides a path to transformation and new life, offering hope even in our darkest moments.

## HOW CAN I BE SURE THAT JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEAD?

The resurrection rests on several compelling pieces of evidence: the empty tomb discovered by women (significant because women's testimony wasn't valued at that time and in that cultural context); numerous resurrection appearances to individuals and groups; the disciples' transformation from fearful to boldly proclaiming the resurrection despite persecution; the rapid growth of Christianity in Jerusalem where the resurrection could have been easily disproven; and the conversion of sceptics like Paul and James. While certainty comes through faith, these historical factors provide good grounds for believing the extraordinary claims of the resurrection.

## I'M CURIOUS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CHRISTIANITY. WHAT CAN I DO?

If you are new to faith and want to explore Christianity further, consider reading one of the Gospels (perhaps Mark because of its brevity, or John because of its theological depth). Come again to St Paul's and ask a member of the Cathedral clergy with any of your questions, or attend one of our Sunday Bible Studies. St Paul's regularly offers the enquirers' course *Alpha* which is specifically designed for people with questions about our faith. Or you may want to read some thoughtful books like John Stott's *The Radical Disciple*, or Dean Andreas Loewe's *Journeying with Bonhoeffer: Six Steps on the Path of Discipleship*, both of which engage honestly with doubts and questions—they can be bought in our Cathedral shop. Most importantly, remain open to both intellectual discovery and spiritual experience—our faith invites both.