



Sunday 5 May 2024, 10am
The Sixth Sunday of Easter

The Eucharist

Presider
Revd Dr Sam Wells

Preacher
Revd Angela Sheard

The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed by
Jennifer Sterling

Organist
Phoebe Tak Man Chow

Mass Settings
Kyrie from 'The Spheres' *Ola Gjeilo*
Mass of St Thomas *Thorne*

⊕ Common Worship

Welcome

Our welcomers are available to assist with any of the following access information. Toilet access is available, please ask a welcomer.

Welcome whether you are joining us today in our building or online. Our cameras focus on those who are leading our service, but if you are in the building and would like to ensure that you are not caught on camera, please sit beyond the pillars on the south of the church (to the right as you enter).

Welcome if you are disabled, unwell, have experiences of dementia, physical, sensory, cognitive or mental health issues, or are neurodivergent. The order of service is online or large print copies are available. The hearing loop works best on the south side of the church. Step-free access to church is via the ramp on the north side, and to the Crypt and Hall via lifts in the NW porch and Pavilion.

Welcome to babies, children and young people. We understand that young children make noise. If your baby becomes upset during the service, you are welcome to go to the back of church if needed to settle — or to our children's church room. We support breastfeeding in services; we also have a room allocated if preferred. We have a children's church group during the service and a fortnightly youth group for teenagers on Sundays at 3.30pm

Welcome to anyone with a need of safeguarding. If you would like to reach our safeguarding team, you can email safeguarding@smitf.org

Welcome to all experiences of race, culture and language. At the Lord's Prayer all are invited to bring the gift of our first language to our worship. Our 1.30pm is in Cantonese: our welcomers are happy to help where they can if you are new to English. You are also very welcome if you are LGBTQIA+.

Welcome if you are agnostic or are from a faith tradition different from Christianity. **Welcome** if you are wary of faith. **Welcome** if you're exploring. **Welcome** if you are here to support someone else. If you would like to explore what you believe in a friendly and non-judgemental group, our Being With Courses run throughout the year online and in the building. Email being-with@smitf.org for more details.

You are welcome to share our meal with God. When we come to Holy Communion, we receive bread in the form of a wafer, then wine from a common cup. Non-alcoholic wine and gluten-free wafers are available in the south aisle. If you need to receive in your seat please let a welcomer know and the ministers will come to you. If you do not want to or cannot receive bread or wine for whatever reason you are welcome to let the priest know you would like to receive a simple prayer for blessing, or to stay in your seat. We welcome your ideas and help for us to become a more welcoming community.

We are glad you are here.

The Gathering

Welcome

Please stand. Silence is kept.

The Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Visit us Lord, by your Holy Spirit.

All **Though in many places, we are united as one body.
Though from many backgrounds, we share one hope.**

Opening Hymn

- 1 **O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou for ever near me,
my Master and my Friend:
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.**
- 2 **O let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.**
- 3 **O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee,
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be;
and, Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end:
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my Friend.**

continued...

4 O let me see thy foot-marks,
and in them plant mine own;
my hope to follow duly
is in thy strength alone:
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my Friend.

John Ernest Bode (1816-1874)

Please sit or kneel.

Confession

Jesus said; 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments.' Let us confess the ways in which we have failed to keep those promises, and to live in love and faithfulness with God and our neighbour.

Silence.

You made the world and everything in it and give us life and breath; but we fail to live as part of your creation.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The choir sings Kyrie eleison.

You have planted the seed of love in our hearts; but we have been stony ground, unable to see beyond our selfish desires.

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

The choir sings Christe eleison.

You grow us into community; but we tacitly accept a world that smothers the dreams of those with less power and wealth.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The choir sings Kyrie eleison.

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.**

Children gather at the north east door during the Gloria to go to Children's Church.

Please stand.

Gloria in Excelsis

Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the High - est. Glo-ry to God in the High - est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth. Lord God, Heav'n-ly King, Al-migh-ty God and Fa - ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we_ praise you for your glo - ry. Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the High - est. Lord, Je - sus Christ, on - ly son of the Fa - ther. Lord God, Lamb of God, you take_ a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us; You are sea-ted at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer. Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the High - est. For you a-lone are the Ho - ly one, You a - lone are the Lord, You a-lone are the most high, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly spi - rit, in the Glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the High - est.

The musical score is written on ten staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It includes various musical notations such as treble clefs, notes, rests, and triplets. The lyrics are placed below the corresponding notes.

Collect

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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 Acts 10: 44-end *read by Phyllis Santamaria*

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Hear the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading 1 John 5.1-6 *read by Noriko Inagaki*

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Hear the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand and turn to face the Gospel in the centre aisle.

Gospel Hymn

***A new commandment I give unto you
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.***

- 1** **By this shall all know that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another.
By this shall all know that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another.
*Chorus***

continued after Gospel reading

Gospel Reading John 15: 9-17

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

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn *continued*

- 2** **By this shall all know that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another.
By this shall all know that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another.
*Chorus***

Anonymous

Please sit after the opening prayer.

Sermon Revd Angela Sheard

Anthem Ubi caritas *Ola Gjeilo*

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exsulemus et in ipso jucundemur. Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Amen. *Where charity and love are, God is there. The love of Christ has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice and delight in him. Let us fear and love the living God, and let us honour him with a sincere heart. Amen.*

Attr. Paulinus of Aquilea (d. 802)

Please stand.

Creed

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All **Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe.
Amen.**

1 Corinthians 15. 3-7

Please sit or kneel.

Prayers of Intercession *led by Jeff Claxton*

The response to the prayers is:

God of love,

All **hear our prayer.**

And, at the end:

Merciful Father,

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

Please stand.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said 'Peace be with you.' Then they were glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

A collection will be taken for the work of this church during the following hymn. You are welcome to donate using:

- cash in the collection bags filling in a Gift Aid envelope if applicable*
- select amount and tap the card machines brought by the stewards*
- by texting COLLECTION to 70450 to donate £10 (texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message).*
- by scanning the QR code to the right with your phone*



Offertory Hymn

- 1** Love is his word, love is his way,
feasting with all, fasting alone,
living and dying, rising again,
love, only love, is his way.
*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord,
better than splendour and wealth.*
- 2** Love is his way, love is his mark,
sharing his last Passover feast,
Christ at the table, host to the twelve,
love, only love, is his mark.
Chorus
- 3** Love is his mark, love is his sign,
bread for our strength, wine for our joy,
'This is my body, this is my blood.'
Love, only love, is his sign.
Chorus

continued...

4 Love is his sign, love is his news,
'Do this,' he said, 'lest you forget
all my deep sorrow, all my dear blood.'
Love, only love, is his news.
*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord,
better than splendour and wealth.*

5 Love is his news, love is his name,
we are his own, chosen and called,
sisters and brothers, parents and kin.
Love, only love, is his name.
Chorus

6 Love is his name, love is his law,
hear his command, all who are his:
'Love one another, I have loved you.'
Love, only love, is his law.
Chorus

A musical interlude may be played on the organ before the final verse is sung

7 Love is his law, love is his word:
love of the Lord, Father and Word,
love of the Spirit, God ever one,
love, only love, is his word.
Chorus

Luke Connaughton (1917-1979)

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

The table is prepared and bread and wine are received from the congregation and placed upon it. The financial gifts of the people are gathered and presented with the following prayer:

Yours Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All **All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.**

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Wondrous and merciful God, we thank and praise you because we did not choose you but you chose us. You destined us to become your friends from before the foundation of the world. You showed steadfast love and faithfulness to your covenant people and remembered your promises in every generation. Greater love hath no one than you, because in Christ you laid down your life and turned us from servants into friends, and by your Spirit you raise us up to be your beloved companions forever. And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels, and all who with your risen and ascended Son sit at your right hand on high, singing the hymn of your unending praise.

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and might, Hea - ven and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

God of joys and surprises, your Son's apostles were astounded that you sent your Holy Spirit upon the Gentiles and that all the earth was awakening to the praise of your name. You invite us to join your company through baptism and sustain us in your fellowship through this meal of memory and hope. Send your Holy Spirit upon your church that it may bear the image of your crucified and resurrected Son. By the power of that same Spirit, bless this bread and this cup that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, 'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.' After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, 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.

Great is the mystery of faith.

All **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Overwhelming God, you give your children faith that celebrates your sovereignty. Renew that faith among any who see your Son's continuing crucifixion more evidently than his glorious resurrection. Restore and inspire all who, in the face of evil and suffering, feel less like conquerors and more like the conquered. Walk with those who find your commandments a burden rather than a gift. Hasten the day when all shall be drawn into the banquet of your kingdom, and you fill heaven and earth with the triumphs of your grace, ever one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever

All **Amen.**

Please sit or kneel.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray, each in our own preferred language.

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

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.**

Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a way the sins of the
world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sins of the world: Grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

All **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Communicant members of all Christian Churches are invited to receive Holy Communion. Bread and wine are available in the central and side aisles. Gluten-free wafers and non-alcoholic wine are available in the south aisle. If you wish to receive Communion in your seat do let a steward know.

Communion Anthem Love Divine *Howard Goodall*

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n to earth come down, fix is us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesu, thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast, let us all in thee inherit, let us find that second rest: take away our power of sinning, Alpha and Omega be, end of faith as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty. Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above; pray, and praise thee, without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love. Finish then thy new creation: pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation, perfectly restored in thee; changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Silence is kept.

Prayer after Communion

All **Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Dismissal

Notices

Please stand.

Blessing

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, through the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Thanksgiving Hymn

- 1 **Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not,
as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.
*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.***
- 2 **Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
*Chorus***
- 3 **Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside.
*Chorus***

Thomas O. Chisholm (1866-1960)

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!
All **In the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Organ Voluntary Toccata in Seven *John Rutter*

Prayers for healing are available at the altar rail after the service.

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