



Sunday 16 June 2024, 10.00am
The Third Sunday after Trinity

The Eucharist

Presider
Revd Richard Carter

Preacher
Revd Dr Sam Wells

The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed by
Jennifer Sterling

Organist
Phoebe Tak Man Chow

Mass Setting
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

Introit Veni Creator Spiritus *Gibbons*

Come, Holy Ghost, the maker, come; take in the souls of thine thy place; thou whom our hearts had being from, oh, fill them with thy heav'nly grace. Thou art that comfort from above, the highest doth by gift impart; thou spring of life, a fire of love, and the anointing spirit art.

George Wither (1588-1667)

Welcome

Silence is kept.

The Greeting

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

We acknowledge God's presence drawing each of us into one body as we gather on site and online.

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 Holy Spirit, come, confirm us
in the truth that Christ makes known;
we have faith and understanding
through your helping gifts alone.**
- 2 Holy Spirit, come, console us,
come as Advocate to plead,
loving Spirit from the Father,
grant in Christ the help we need.**
- 3 Holy Spirit, come, renew us,
come yourself to make us live:
holy through your loving presence,
holy through the gifts you give.**

continued...

**4 Holy Spirit, come, possess us,
you the love of Three in One,
Holy Spirit of the Father,
Holy Spirit of the Son.**

Brian Foley (1919–2000)

Please sit or kneel.

Confession

Let us confess our sins to the God who longs to bring us peace and offers us the gift of life.

Silence is kept.

You give us the universe: but we make your world too small.
Lord have mercy.

All **Lord have mercy.**

You stretch out your hands to die for us: but we fold our arms and withdraw our hearts.

Christ have mercy.

All **Christ have mercy.**

You spread good news through all the earth: but we try to keep good things to ourselves.

Lord have mercy.

All **Lord have mercy.**

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.

Collect

Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts whereby we call you Father: give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that we and all creation may be brought to the glorious liberty of the children of God; 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 1 Samuel 15: 34—16: 13 *read by Lois Howarth*

Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the Lord was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.' And the Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord." Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.' Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?' He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel

said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.' Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Hear the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5: 6-10, 14-17 *read by Valentina Chan*

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

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

- 1 **For the fruits of all creation,
thanks be to God;
for the gifts to every nation,
thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
thanks be to God.**

- 2 **In the just reward of labour,
God's will is done;
in the help we give our neighbour,
God's will is done;
in our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.**

continued after Gospel reading

Gospel Reading Mark 4: 26-34

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

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

Jesus also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn *continued*

- 3 For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us,
thanks be to God.**

Fred Pratt Green (1903–2000)

Please sit after the opening prayer.

Sermon Revd Dr Sam Wells

Anthem The Spirit of the Lord *Elgar*

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor: he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord; to give unto them that mourn a garland for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

Isaiah 61, from 'The Apostles'

Please stand.

Apostles' Creed

- All* **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.**

Please sit or kneel.

The Prayers of Intercession *led by Jim Sikorski*

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 peace of the triune God 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 **The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine for ever.**
- 2 **Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.**
- 3 **Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home rejoicing brought me**
- 4 **In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.**
- 5 **Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth.**

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

- 6 **And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never:
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.**

Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877)

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

All The Lord be with you
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.**

Glorious God, we praise and thank you, because you destined us to be your children, and when you bring us to faith in your Son Jesus Christ you make a new creation. Your people longed for a leader and out of Bethlehem you gave them David; when they yearned for a Saviour, out of Bethlehem you gave them Jesus. In your Son's life and death you showed us the extent of your love, and in his resurrection and ascension you showed us our future in you. And so with all the company of heaven we rejoice to sing the praise of your glory.

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.

True and living God, you do not judge by outward appearances but look upon the heart. You came among us in your Son Jesus Christ, whose appearance was one with us, and whose heart was one with you. You call your church in human form; send upon us your Holy Spirit that we may become one with you in faith and hope and love. By that same Spirit take this food and drink, whose outward appearance is bread and wine, and make them 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.**

Promising God, you set our hearts to anticipate your harvest, in which all that turns to you is transformed into glory, and all that shrinks from you is turned to dust. Uphold all who live in the midst of famine, that the bread of your eternal banquet may bring hope to the hungry. Strengthen any who walk in the desert of despair, that the wine of your kingdom may give sustenance to those who thirst. Bless all who labour and are heavy-laden, that the sacrifice you made once for all may inspire them to walk with you until the time for tears is done, and you fill heaven and earth with the ever-rolling stream of your righteousness, ever one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All **Amen.**

Please sit or kneel.

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 away 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

We are invited into God's heart

All **to receive the Father's abundant life, enjoy the Spirit's boundless gifts, and join the Son's broken body.**

Communicant members of all Christian Churches are invited to receive Holy Communion. Bread and wine are available in the central aisle and both side aisles. When receiving the cup you are welcome to take the chalice, to have the assistant pour the chalice, or to instinct by dipping the bread into the chalice, being careful not to let your fingers touch the wine. Gluten-free bread 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 Give us the wings of faith *Whitbourn*

Give us the wings of faith to rise within the veil, and see the saints above, how great their joys, how bright their glories be. We ask them whence their vict'ry came: they, with united breath, ascribe the conquest to the Lamb, their triumph to his death. They marked the footsteps that he trod, his zeal inspired their breast, and, foll'wing their incarnate God, they reached the promised rest.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Silence is kept.

The Prayer after Communion

All **O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining and whose power we cannot comprehend: show us your glory as far as we can grasp it, and shield us from knowing more than we can bear, until we may look upon you without fear; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

The Dismissal

Notices

Please stand.

Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; 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 **Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**
- 2 **Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**
- 3 **To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.**
- 4 **Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.**

Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908)

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Blessing Anthem A Gaelic Blessing John Rutter

Deep peace of the running wave to you, deep peace of the flowing air to you, deep peace of the quiet earth to you, deep peace of the shining stars to you, deep peace of the gentle night to you, moon and stars pour their healing light on you, deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you, deep peace of Christ to you.

Adapted from a Gaelic rune

Organ Voluntary

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

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