



Sunday 8 September 2024, 10am  
The Fifteenth 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  
Communion Service 'Collegium Regale'  
*Howells*

⊕ Common Worship

## Welcome

Our welcomers are available to assist with any of the following information. Toilets are 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 outside 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 or mental health issues, or are neurodivergent. The order of service is online. Large print copies are also 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. A youth group for teenagers meets fortnightly on Sundays at 3.30pm.

**Welcome** to anyone in need of safeguarding. If you would like to reach our safeguarding team, you can email [safeguarding@smitf.org](mailto:safeguarding@smitf.org).

**Welcome** to all heritages and experiences of race, culture and language. At the Lord's Prayer all are invited to bring the gift of our preferred 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 other than 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](mailto: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 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

*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 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise,  
triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Daystar, in my heart appear.**
- 2 Dark and cheerless is the morn  
unaccompanied by thee:  
joyless is the day's return,  
till thy mercy's beams I see,  
till they inward light impart,  
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.**
- 3 Visit then this soul of mine;  
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
fill me, radiance divine;  
scatter all my unbelief;  
more and more thyself display,  
shining to the perfect day.**

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

*Please sit or kneel.*

## Confession

Liberating God, you have called us into freedom, but we confess we have not always used that freedom rightly.

*Silence is kept.*

We have used it to advance our own comfort at the expense of others. We have used it to exploit the earth.

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

We have used it to silence voices different from our own. We have used it to validate unjust systems that keep others bound.

Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ, have mercy.**

We have used it to restrict and restrain others. We have used it to keep those with whom we are at odds trapped in guilt.

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

Holy Trinity, whose mercy is as expansive as the heavens above, forgive you, restore you and empower you in full and flourishing freedom.

*All* **Amen.**

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

*Please stand.*

Gloria in Excelsis *sung by the choir*

## Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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 forever.

*All* **Amen.**

*Please sit.*

# The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Isaiah 35:4-7a *read by Deborah Whalley*

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water.

Hear the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading James 2: 1-10, 14-17 *read by Andrew Caspari*

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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 **Will you come and follow me  
if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown,  
in you and you in me?**
- 2 **Will you leave yourself behind  
if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer  
in you and you in me?**
- 3 **Will you love the 'you' you hide  
if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound  
in you and you in me?**

*continued after Gospel reading*

## Gospel Reading Mark 7: 24-end

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

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

From there Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' But she answered

him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn *continued*

**4 Lord, your summons echoes true  
when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
in you and you in me.**

*John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (1958-2019)*

*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*

*Please stand.*

## Apostles' Creed

*All* **We believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
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.*

## 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

**All** The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**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** **How shall I sing that majesty**  
**which angels do admire?**  
**Let dust in dust and silence lie;**  
**sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.**  
**Thousands of thousands stand around**  
**thy throne, O God most high;**  
**ten thousand times ten thousand sound**  
**thy praise; but who am I?**

*continued...*

- 2 Thy brightness unto them appears,  
whilst I thy footsteps trace;  
a sound of God comes to my ears;  
but they behold thy face.  
They sing, because thou art their Sun:  
Lord, send a beam on me;  
for where heaven is but once begun,  
there alleluias be.
- 3 Enlighten with faith's light my heart,  
in flame it with love's fire;  
then shall I sing and bear a part  
with that celestial choir.  
I shall, I fear, be dark and cold,  
with all my fire and light;  
yet when thou dost accept their gold,  
Lord, treasure up my mite.

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

- 4 How great a being Lord, is thine,  
which doth all beings keep!  
Thy knowledge is the only line  
to sound so vast a deep.  
Thou art a sea without a shore,  
a sun without a sphere;  
thy time is now and evermore,  
thy place is everywhere.

*John Mason (c.1645-1694)*

## 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.**

Maker and redeemer of all, we lift our hearts to thank you, because you open our ears to hear your voice and release our tongue to sing your praise. You created the earth as a place of encounter between you and your creatures. You called your people from slavery and wilderness to covenant and abundant life. You gave your children manna to share, and from the crumbs that fell from their table you made a banquet to welcome the Gentiles to the joy of your companionship. You made the body of your crucified and risen Son the altar of your mercy and of our redemption. And so we zealously proclaim the triumphs of your grace, joining with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven in the hymn of your eternal glory.

### Sanctus and Benedictus *sung by the choir*

Life-giving God, you share your bread with the poor, and you make this banquet the place where in the power of your Spirit we are united as one body in your Son. Make this meal a moment of reconciliation between you and your people, and let those who share in it be ambassadors of reconciliation within your wounded world. Send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and this cup, that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord 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.**

God of the afflicted, you have chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that you have promised to those who love you. Make your church rich as you are rich, in compassion and mercy, in wisdom and grace; and make your people poor as you are poor, in sharing the calamity of those who endure injustice and knowing the pain of all who live with the world's anger. Take away the mask of poverty, that all may see with joy the riches of those the world calls poor, and remove the mask of wealth, that all may see with love the poverty of those the world calls rich. Hasten the day when your gentle mercy triumphs over the world's harsh judgment and all find a place at the feast of your kingdom, ever one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*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 *sung by the choir*

## Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*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 intinct 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    Open thou mine eyes    *John Rutter*

Open thou mine eyes and I shall see: incline my heart and I shall desire: order my steps and I shall walk in the ways of thy commandments. O Lord God, be thou to me a God and beside thee let there be none else, no other, nought else with thee. Vouchsafe to me to worship thee and serve thee according to thy commandments, in truth of spirit, in rev'rence of body, in blessing of lips, in private and public. Open thou mine eyes...

*Lancelot Andrewes (1555-1626)*

*Silence is kept.*

## Prayer after Communion

**All    Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

## 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** There's a wideness in God's mercy  
like the wideness of the sea;  
there's a kindness in his justice  
which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows  
are more felt than up in heaven;  
there is no place where earth's failings  
have such kindly judgement given.
- 2** For the love of God is broader  
than the measure of our mind,  
and the heart of the eternal  
is most wonderfully kind.  
But we make his love too narrow  
by false limits of our own;  
and we magnify his strictness  
with a zeal he would not own.
- 3** There is plentiful redemption  
through the blood that has been shed;  
there is joy for all the members  
in the sorrows of the head.  
There is grace enough for thousands  
of new worlds as great as this;  
there is room for fresh creations  
in that upper home of bliss.

*Second half of tune*

- 4** If our love were but more simple  
we should take him at his word;  
and our lives would be all gladness  
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

*Frederick William Faber (1814-1863)*

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Organ Voluntary Prelude and Fugue in D Major BWV532 *J.S. Bach*

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

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