



Sunday 6 April 2025, 10am  
The Fifth Sunday of Lent

# The Eucharist

Presider  
Revd Dr Sam Wells

Preacher  
Revd Angela Sheard

The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed by  
Jennifer Sterling

Organist  
Matthew Morrison

Setting  
St Anne's Mass *James MacMillan*

⊕ 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 monthly on Sunday afternoons.

**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 of no professed faith 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 [beingwith@smitf.org](mailto:beingwith@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

## Introit Lent Prose

*Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee. To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory: lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings: listen, O Jesu, to our supplications. Refrain* O thou chief Corner-stone, Right Hand of the Father Way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement. *Refrain* God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated bow down and hearken to thy weeping children pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses. *Refrain* Sins oft committed now we lay before thee with true contrition, now no more we veil them grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution. *Refrain* Innocent, captive, taken unresisting falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced, save us, we pray thee, Jesu our Redeemer. *Refrain*

*'Attende, Domine', anonymous Latin from the Mozarabic Breviary (5th to 8th century), compiled by Dom Pothier (fl. 1824)*

## Welcome

*Please stand. 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 In the cross of Christ I glory,  
towering o'er the wrecks of time,  
all the light of sacred story  
gathers round its head sublime.**

**2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,  
hopes deceive and fears annoy,  
never shall the cross forsake me;  
lo! it glows with peace and joy.**

*continued...*

**3** When the sun of bliss is beaming  
light and love upon my way,  
from the cross the radiance streaming  
adds more lustre to the day.

**4** Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,  
by the cross are sanctified;  
peace is there that knows no measure,  
joys that through all time abide.

**5** In the cross of Christ I glory,  
towering o'er the wrecks of time:  
all the light of sacred story  
gathers round its head sublime.

*John Bowring (1792-1872)*

*Please sit or kneel.*

## Confession

Jesus said, 'And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' Let us come to the Lord who is full of compassion and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

*Silence.*

We confess our selfishness and lack of love.  
Lord have mercy.

*All* **Lord have mercy.**

We confess our fear and failure to trust.  
Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ have mercy.**

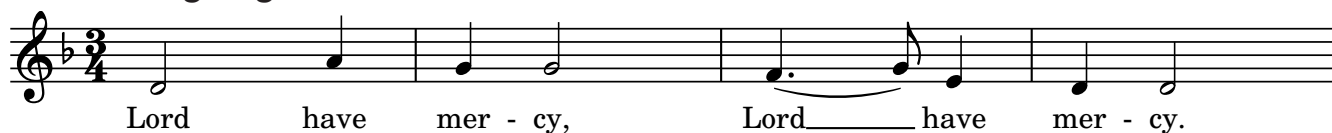
We confess our pride and the times we have been blind to your  
grace.

Lord, have mercy.

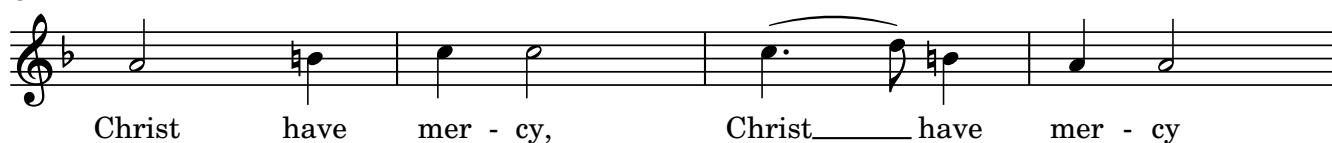
*All* **Lord have mercy.**

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

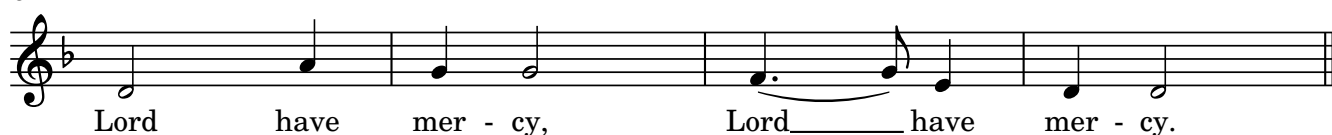
*We sing together:*



5



9



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.**

### Collect

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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 43: 16-21 *read by Deborah Whalley*

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my

chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

Hear the word of the Lord

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

Second Reading Philippians 3: 4b-14 *read by Julian Templeman*

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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 Just as I am, without one plea  
but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bidst me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**2 Just as I am, though tossed about  
with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come.**

*continued...*

**3 Just as I am, thy love unknown  
has broken every barrier down,  
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come.**

*continued after Gospel reading*

Gospel Reading John 12: 1-8

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

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

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn *continued*

**4 Just as I am, of that free love  
the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,  
here for a season, then above,  
O Lamb of God, I come.**

*Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871)*

*Please sit after the opening prayer.*

Sermon Revd Angela Sheard

## Anthem Upon Your Heart *Eleanor Daley*

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death. Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. If you keep my commandments, you shall abide in my love, love one another as I have loved you, then shall your joy be complete.

*Song of Solomon 8: 6, 7; John 15: 9-12*

*Please stand.*

## Apostles' Creed

*All* **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I 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.  
I 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 a member of the congregation*

*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

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. We meet in his name and share his 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 And can it be that I should gain  
an interest in the Saviour's blood?  
Died he for me, who caused his pain?  
For me, who him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?**
- 2 'Tis mystery all : the Immortal dies!  
Who can explore his strange design?  
In vain the first-born seraph tries  
to sound the depths of love divine.  
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,  
let angel minds enquire no more.**
- 3 He left his Father's throne above—  
so free, so infinite his grace—  
emptied himself of all but love,  
and bled for Adam's helpless race.  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;  
for, O my God, it found out me.**

*continued...*

**4 Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
thine eye diffused a quickening ray;  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light,  
my chains fell off, my heart was free,  
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.**

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

**5 No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!  
Alive in him, my living Head,  
and clothed in righteousness divine,  
bold I approach the eternal throne,  
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.**

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

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:*

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

Extravagant God, you poured out your life in your covenant with your chosen people, and you poured out your life-blood in the ministry and death of your Son Jesus Christ. You meet our meanness with your grace, our scarcity with your abundance, and our suspicion with your generous trust. And so we give you thanks, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

5

God of power and might,

9

Heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho -

13

- san - na in the high - est.

17

Bles - sed is he, O bles - sed is he who

21

comes in the name of the Lord Ho -

25

- san - na in the high - est Ho -

29

san - na in the high - est.

Sharing God, in Jesus you attended a meal to celebrate Lazarus' resurrection, and so we gather today to celebrate your resurrection, in faith that even now you are preparing a feast to celebrate our resurrection with you. Sanctify us that even as our flesh and blood decays, our hearts are made ready that we may meet you face to face. Send down your Holy Spirit, that this bread of sustenance and wine of joy 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.**

Abundant God, when we know the price of everything and the value of nothing, may this meal remind us of the limitless joy you take in us. When we are full of criticism of others and hatred of ourselves, may this sacrifice show us the goodness you see in us all. Bless all our touching, that we may touch your gifts and one another as if we were touching your body and blood. Bless all our desire, that in every craving and longing we may discover a deeper yearning for you. Renew the hearts of all your people, that your whole church, seeking together the justice of your kingdom, may discover in the stranger the gifts that only come from you, through whom, and with whom, and in whom, comes all honour and glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, 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,**

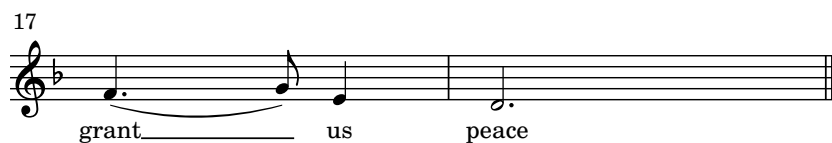
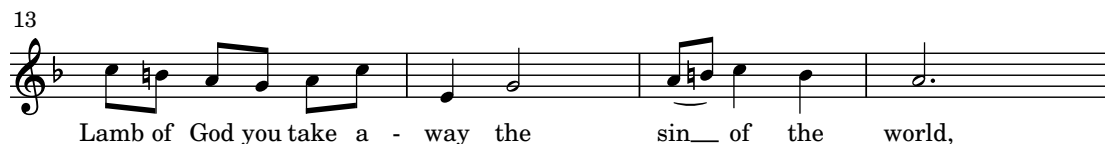
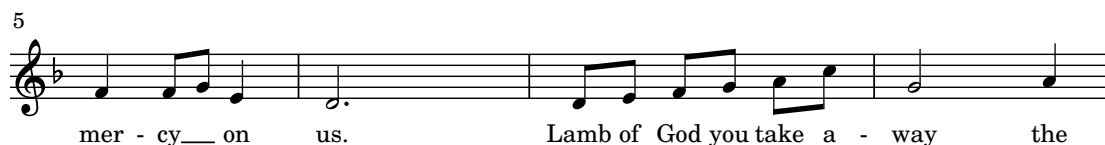
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
 on earth as in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
 Lead us not into temptation  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
 now and for ever.  
 Amen.

## Breaking of the Bread

Christ's body is broken for the life of the world.

All In him we find forgiveness and peace.

## Agnus Dei



## Giving of Communion

Come, enter the broken heart of God.

*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. Gluten-free bread and non-alcoholic wine are available in the south aisle upon request from the assistant. If you wish to receive communion in your seat, do let a steward know.*

## Communion Anthem O vos omnes Casals

O vos omnes qui transitis per viam attendite et videte si est dolor similis sicut dolor meus. Attendite universi populi, videte dolorem meum. *O all ye that pass by the way, attend and see if there be any sorrow like to my sorrow. Attend, all ye people, and see my sorrow.*

*Lamentations 1: 12*

*Silence is kept.*

## Prayer after Communion

**All Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Dismissal

### Notices

*Please stand.*

### Blessing

Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

## Thanksgiving Hymn

**1 To God be the glory, great things he has done.  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
who opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

*continued...*

***Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son;  
and give him the glory! Great things he has done!***

**2** O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
to every believer the promise of God!  
For every offender who truly believes,  
that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives:  
***Chorus***

**3** Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer and higher and greater will be  
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.  
***Chorus***

*Fanny Crosby (Frances Jane van Alstyne) (1820–1915)*

Dismissal

Walk with Christ on the way of the Cross, for it is the way of life and peace.

**All Thanks be to God.**

Blessing Anthem With prayer and supplication *Beach*

With prayer and supplication, let your requests be known unto God. And the peace of God which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Philippians 4: 6-7*

Organ Voluntary Toccata: Aberystwyth *David Bednall*

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

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April 2025