

Sunday 1 June 2025, 10am The Seventh Sunday of Easter

The Eucharist

Presider Revd Dr Sam Wells

Preacher Revd Andrew Woodward Community Choir

Directed by Jennifer Sterling

Organist Ashley Chow

Setting
St Martin's Mass Bednall

(†) 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.

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 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

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.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Opening Hymn

- 1 Hail the day that sees him rise, *Alleluia*, to his throne above the skies; *Alleluia*, Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, *Alleluia*, enters now the highest heaven. *Alleluia!*
- There for him high triumph waits; lift your heads, eternal gates. He hath conquered death and sin; take the King of Glory in.
- 3 Lo, the heaven its Lord receives, yet he loves the earth he leaves; though returning to his throne, still he calls humankind his own.
- 4 Lord, though parted from our sight, far above the starry height, grant our hearts may thither rise, seeking thee above the skies.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788), Thomas Cotterill (1779-1823) and others

Please sit or kneel.

Confession

Jesus said 'The one who believes in me will also do the works that I do because I am going to the Father.'

Silence is kept.

We have become divided within ourselves, failing to grasp the depth of your love for us.

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

We have become disunited among ourselves, failing to honour your loving mercy towards each of us.

Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

We have become weak in our discipleship in the world, turning aside from your promise to strengthen us.

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

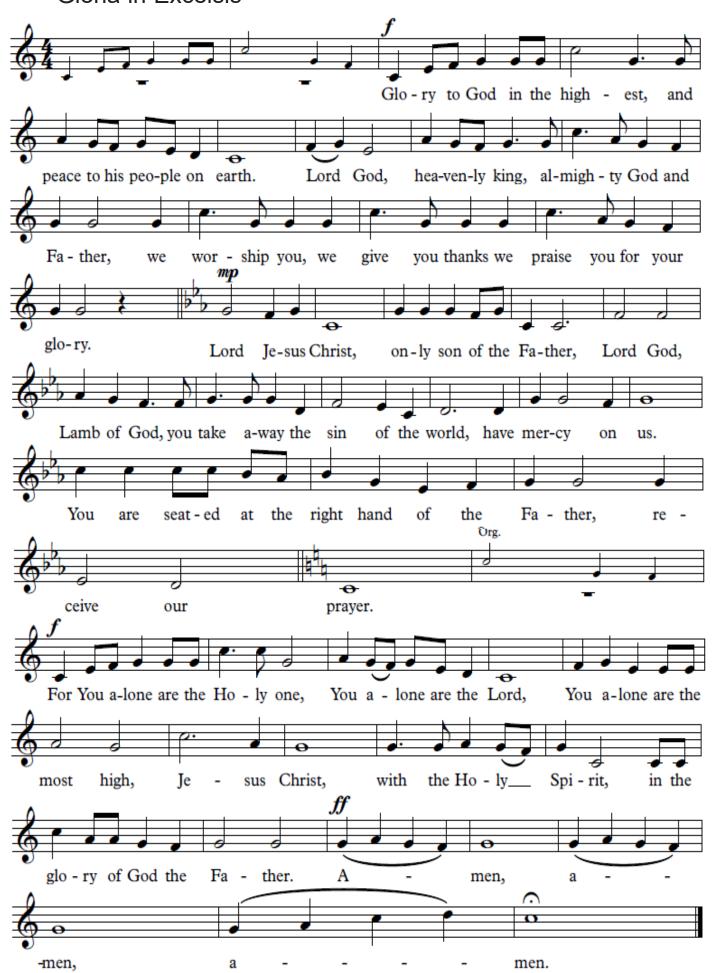
Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

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

Please stand.

Gloria in Excelsis



Collect

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, 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 16: 16-34 read by Sean Curtin

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, 'These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.' She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, 'I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.' And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market-place before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, 'These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.' The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted

in a loud voice, 'Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.' The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, 'Sirs, what must I do to be saved?' They answered, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.' They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptised without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Hear the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Second Reading Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-end read by Lawrence Warner

'See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.'

Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

'It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.'

The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.' And let everyone who hears say, 'Come.' And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

The one who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

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 Breathe on me, Breath of God fill me with life anew, that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure; until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.

continued after Gospel reading

Gospel Reading John 17: 20-end

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: 'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one.

As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn continued

- 3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine; until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.
- 4 Breathe on me, Breath of God: so shall I never die, but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

Edwin Hatch (1835-89)

Please sit after the opening prayer.

Sermon Revd Andrew Woodward

Anthem Let all the world Tomlins

Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing, My God and King! The heav'ns are not too high, his praise may thither fly; the earth is not too low, his praises there may grow. The church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out; but above all, the heart must bear the longest part.

George Herbert 'The Temple' (1593-1633)

Please stand.

Nicene Creed

ΑII We believe in one God. the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is. seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God. eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God. begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate: he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please sit or kneel.

Prayers of Intercession led by Wendy Quill

The response to the prayers is: God of wonder and 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 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 Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne; hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own!
 Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
- 2 Crown him the Virgin's Son, the God incarnate born, whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn: Fruit of that 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, those wounds yet visible above in beauty glorified: no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight, but downward bends each burning eye at mysteries so bright.
- 4 Crown him the Lord of peace, whose pow'r 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 flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

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

continued...

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 (1800-1894)

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:

Thou that hast given so much to me, give one thing more—a grateful heart. Not thankful when it pleaseth me, as if thy blessings had spare days, but such a heart, whose pulse may be thy praise.

All Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

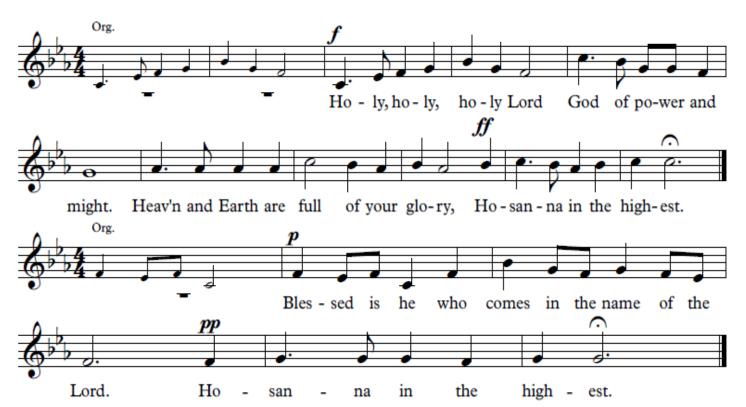
Lift up your hearts.

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.

Glorious God, in Moses, the prophets, and the psalms you showed your purpose for your people and your love for your world. In Jesus you fulfilled your promises and opened to us your heart. In his passion and death we saw the consequences of our rejection and the depth of your yearning. Yet you raised Jesus from the tomb. In his resurrection you invite us into the company of your eternal joy, and in his ascension on high you seal as complete his work among us. So with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we praise you forever, singing:



Gracious God, your Son at his ascension promised the disciples they would be clothed with power from on high. Send now your Holy Spirit, that we may know the presence of your Son among us, and that bread broken, and wine outpoured, may be for us his body and blood. 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.

Generous God, your Son told his disciples to stay in the city until they were clothed by the Spirit. Give courage to those whom you call to stay in places of danger and confusion when their hearts are full of doubt and disillusion. Your Son withdrew from the disciples when they did not know what the future would hold. Be close to all who face an uncertain future and deeply know their need of you. Your Son's disciples were continually in the temple praising you. Give your church a fresh outpouring of your Spirit and make it a blessing to all the children of your earth; until the completion of your Son's ministry becomes the completion of your whole creation, and you are all in all, 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.

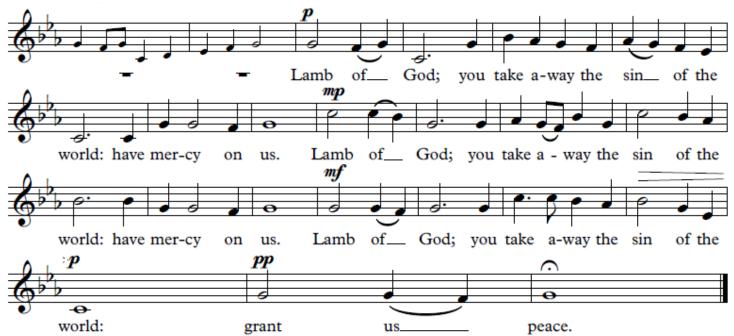
All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are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





Giving of Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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 My eyes for beauty pine Howells

My eyes for beauty pine, my soul for Goddes grace: no other care nor hope is mine, to heaven I turn my face. One splendour thence is shed from all the stars above: tis named when Goddes name is said, 'tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love. And every gentle heart, that burns with true desire, is lit from eyes that mirror part of that celestial fire.

Robert Bridges (1844-1930)

Silence is kept .

Prayer after Communion

All Eternal God, giver of life and power, your son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to live the Gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission that we may be the bearers of your love to all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Dismissal

Notices

Please stand.

Blessing

Christ our ascended King pour upon you the abundance of his gifts that we may one day share with him the peace and joy of God's kingdom. 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 All hail the power of Jesu's name; let angels prostrate fall; bring forth the royal diadem to crown him, crown him, crown him, crown him.
- 2 Crown him, ye martyrs of your God, who from his altar call; praise him whose way of pain ye trod, and crown him Lord of all.
- Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, ye ransomed of the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.
- 4 Let every tribe and every tongue to him their hearts enthral, lift high the universal song and crown him Lord of all.

Edward Perronet (1726-92) and others

Dismissal

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

Blessing Anthem Irish Blessing Bob Chilcott

May the road rise to meet you, may the wind be ever at your back, may the sun shine warm upon your face, and the rain fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again, may God hold you, ever in the palm of his hand.

Trad.

Organ Voluntary

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

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