



Sunday 5 March 2023, 10am
The Second Sunday of Lent

The Eucharist

Presider
Revd Sally Hitchiner

Preacher
The Venerable Adam Atkinson
Archdeacon of Charing Cross

The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed by
Jennifer Sterling

Organist
Polina Sosnina

Setting
St Anne's Mass *MacMillan*

⊕ Common Worship

Welcome

Our Welcomers are available to assist with any of the following access information.

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 available online or large print copies. 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 take them to the back if they need that to settle or to our children's church room provided for them. We support breastfeeding in services or we also have a room allocated. We have children's church groups during the service (currently alternate weeks) and a monthly group for teenagers after our service.

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 we are all invited to bring the gift of our first language to our worship. Because of historical links to Soho our 1.30pm is in Cantonese and our Welcomers are happy to help where they can if you are new to English. Of course, you are also very welcome if you are LGBTQIA+.

Welcome if you are agnostic or have different beliefs to 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 a bread wafer then wine sharing a cup. You may receive just bread if you wish. 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 priest will bring it to you. If you do not want to or cannot receive bread and wine for whatever reason you are welcome to let the priest know you would like to receive a simple prayer for blessing or 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

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 **Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in 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 every trembling heart.**
- 2 **Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace 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.**

continued...

**3 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 heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee
lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Please sit or kneel.

Confession

God has called us to be a blessing to one another and the world. But we have scorned God's blessing, and become a curse to ourselves and others. Let us pray for forgiveness, restoration, and new life.

Silence.

You have given us so much but we have seen only what you have withheld.

Lord have mercy.

All **Lord have mercy.**

The choir sings Kyrie eleison from Missa O Magnum Mysterium Victoria

You have given us your very self but we have hidden ourselves away from you.

Christ have mercy.

All **Christ have mercy.**

The choir sings Christe eleison

You have given us power but we have used that power to do harm.

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.**

The Collect

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Genesis 12: 1-4a *read by Jeff Claxton*

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Hear the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading Romans 4: 1-5; 13-17 *read by Eugene Ling*

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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 How deep the Father's love for us,
how vast beyond all measure,
that he should give his only Son
to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss-
the Father turns his face away,
as wounds which mar the Chosen One
bring many souls to glory.**

**2 Behold the man upon a cross,
my sin upon his shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there
until it was accomplished;
his dying breath has brought me life-
I know that 'it is finished.'**

continued after Gospel reading

Gospel Reading John 3: 1-17

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

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

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these

things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn *continued*

**3 I will not boast in anything,
no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,
his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward?
I cannot give an answer;
but this I know with all my heart-
his wounds have paid my ransom.**

Stuart Townend (b. 1963)

Please sit after the opening prayer.

Sermon Archdeacon Adam Atkinson

Anthem God so loved the world *Stainer*

Please stand.

Nicene Creed

All **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 Fiona MacMillan*

The response to the prayers is:

Lord in your mercy

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

Since we are justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.

**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 welcomers*
- 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 O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed:
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee,
how great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
how great thou art! How great thou art!**

continued...

2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;
*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee,
how great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
how great thou art! How great thou art!*

3 And when I think that God his Son not sparing,
sent him to die-I scarce can take it in.
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin:
Then sings my soul...

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

4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home-what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul...

Stuart K Hine (1899-1989)

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

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.

Blessings and thanks belong to you, promising God. You made the sands of the desert and the stars in the sky, and in Abraham you called a people to be a great nation in whom all the families of the earth would find a blessing. In Jesus you raised up a new Abraham to be a blessing to all people. In his death and resurrection, sin died and eternal life was born. And so we look forward to the fulfilment of your promise, rejoicing with you, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, singing your unending praise.

5

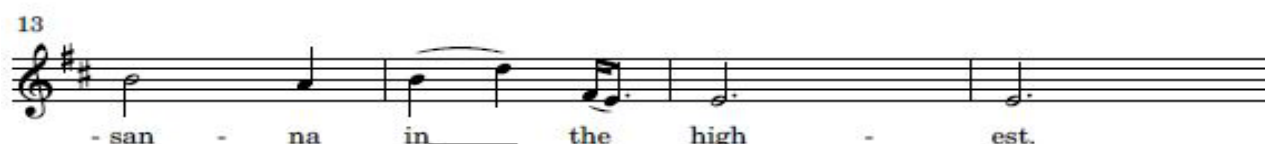
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

9

 God of power and might,

13

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

17

 - san - na in the high - est.

21

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

25

 comes in the name of the Lord Ho -

29

 - san - na in the high - est Ho -

33

 san - na in the high - est.

Faithful God, in Jesus you fulfilled all righteousness. In him you turn our duty into joy, and our sorrow into dancing. You give us new birth through water and the Spirit. Send down your Holy Spirit now, that your people may become a blessing to you and all the world, and that the bread of sustenance and the wine of relaxation may become 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.**

Generous God, you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son, look now upon the places where your people are perishing, where they are being condemned, where they are being born under the shadow of disease and destruction and despair. Infuse your church with Spirit and truth, walk with all your beloved people as they seek security, companionship, and freedom in your world, and fill your saints with the hope of eternal life, that all may come to praise your name, and every grain of sand and star in the sky be stirred with the wonders 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 first 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

In the anger at our sin and the never-ending love for all creation we see the broken heart of God.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world, have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God you take a - way the
sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world,
grant us peace

Giving of Communion

Come, share the living bread, and let God turn you from dust and ashes to living stones.

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 welcomer know.

Communion Anthem Adoramus Te *Lassus*

Silence is kept.

Prayer after Communion

All **Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Dismissal

Notices

Please stand.

Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; 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 God is Love: let heav'n adore him;
God is Love, let earth rejoice;
let creation sing before him,
and exalt him with one voice.
He who laid the earth's foundation,
he who spread the heav'ns above,
he who breathes through all creation,
he is Love, eternal Love.**

continued...

- 2 God is Love: and he enfoldeth
all the world in one embrace;
with unfailing grasp he holdeth
every child of every race.
And when human hearts are breaking
under sorrow's iron rod,
then they find that selfsame aching
deep within the heart of God.**
- 3 God is Love: and though with blindness
sin afflicts all human life,
God's eternal loving-kindness
holds and guides them even then.
Sin and death and hell shall never
o'er us final triumph gain;
God is Love, so Love for ever
o'er the universe must reign.**

Timothy Rees (1874-1939)

Dismissal

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

All **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Voluntary

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March 2023