



Sunday 1 October 2023, 10am
The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

The Eucharist

With prayers and thanksgiving for 10 years of our Sunday International Group and prayers for our guests and volunteers from around the world.

President
Revd Sally Hitchiner

Preacher
Revd Richard Carter

The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed by
Jennifer Sterling

Organist
Phoebe Tak Man Chow

Setting
Mass of St Thomas *Thorne*

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 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 children's church groups during the service (currently alternate weeks) and a monthly group for teenagers after Sunday morning worship.

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

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 Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.**
- 2 In him shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord,
close binding humankind.**
- 3 Join hands, then, children of the faith,
whate'er your race may be;
who serves my Father as his child
is surely kin to me.**
- 4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north;
all Christlike souls are one in him,
throughout the whole wide earth.**

John Oxenham (William Arthur Dunkerley) (1852-1941)

Please sit or kneel.

Confession

As those who know the generosity of God, let us confess our sins, especially the ways in which we take creation and God's gifts for granted.

All **Creator God, maker of heaven and earth,
we acknowledge our failure to live responsibly
as part of your creation.
We have taken what we want
without considering the consequences;
we have wasted and discarded,
without thought for the future.
Open our hearts and minds to the signs of our times,
to the groaning of creation,
so that we may turn from our greed and lack of vision
and see a world being made anew in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

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 *see opposite*

Collect

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; 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.**

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.

Please sit.

The Liturgy of the Word

Testimony Michael Okoporo

Testimony Sophie Tyler

Please stand and turn to face the Gospel in the centre aisle.

Gospel Hymn

- 1 **Jesus Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets;
no one is his neighbour, all alone he eats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am lonely too;
make me, friend or stranger, fit to wait on you.**
- 2 **Jesus Christ is raging, raging in the streets,
where injustice spirals and real hope retreats.
Listen, Lord Jesus I am angry too;
in the Kingdom's causes let me rage with you.**
- 3 **Jesus Christ is healing, healing in the streets;
curing those who suffer, touching those he greets.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I have pity too;
let my care be active, healing, just like you.**

continued after Gospel reading

Gospel Reading Matthew 21: 23-32

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

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

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And

he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you O Christ.**

Hymn *continued*

**4 Jesus Christ is calling, calling in the streets,
'Who will join my journey? I will guide their feet.'
Listen, Lord Jesus, let my fears be few:
walk one step before me; I will follow you.**

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

Please sit after the opening prayer.

Sermon Revd Richard Carter

Anthem Christ has no body now but yours *Ogden*

Please stand.

The Affirmation of Faith

We belong to the Creator in whose image we are all made.

All **In God we are breathing, in God we are living, in God we share the life of all creation.**

We belong to Jesus Christ, the true icon of God and of humanity.

All **In him God is breathing, in him God is living, through him we are reconciled.**

We belong to the Holy Spirit, who gives us new life and strengthens our faith.

All **In the Spirit love is breathing, in the Spirit truth is living, the breath of God always moves us.**

We belong to the Holy Trinity, who is one in all and Three-in-One.

All **In God we are all made, in Christ we are all saved, in the Spirit we are all united.**

Per Harling

Please sit or kneel.

The Prayers of Intercession *led by Neil MacGregor*

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

You shall go out with joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

The peace of the Lord 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



Volunteers from the Sunday International Group will place candles in pots they have made on the altar as a sign of hope.

Offertory Hymn

**1 Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.**

**2 Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.**

**3 Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.**

**4 Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.**

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

**5 Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.**

Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926)

The Preparation of the Table
The Taking of the Bread and Wine

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; you bring forth bread from the earth; you create the fruit of the vine.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

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.**

We exalt you, Lord God, for the holy extravagance of your salvation. Worthy are you to whom we bow, for in your Son you have knelt before us in humility. You have looked with favour upon your servant Israel; you have scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts and have lifted up the lowly. Your Son, though of the same love and same mind as you, did not regard equality with you as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave. Being born in human likeness, he humbled himself even unto death on a cross. You lifted him up in resurrection glory, and exalted him to your right hand on high. And so, on bended knee, we confess him as Lord, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, joining the unending hymn.

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.

Communing God, make your joy complete by uniting those who share this meal with the same mind that was in Christ Jesus. As we remember his saving mercies, make us to be of the same love, the same heart, sharing in the same Spirit; and sanctify this bread and cup that it 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.**

God of every consolation, bring your kingdom among your children who are bowed low under the weight of oppression. Send your Spirit of truth into places where servanthood has turned to exploitation, service has turned to slavery, or humility has turned to bonded labour. Empty your church of all that obscures our witness to the cross of Christ. Make us ready for that one eternal day when we shall kneel around your throne, together with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, in the company of Jesus our Lord, giving all praise and glory to you, God our Father, forever and ever.

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,**

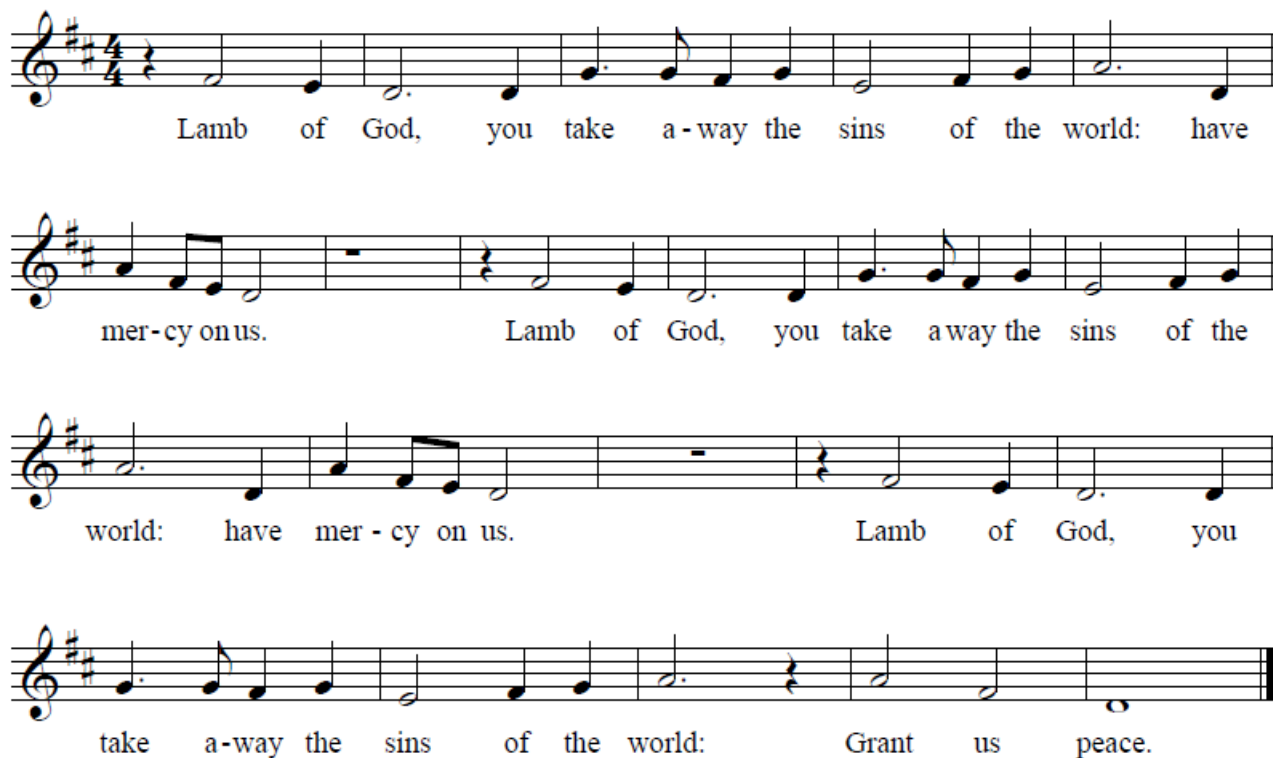
**and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

The 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.

The Giving of Communion

Taste and see. Happy is the one who finds strength in Christ, our living bread.

All Thanks be to God.

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 steward know.

Communion Anthem Ubi Caritas *Duruflé*

*Where charity and love are, God is there.
Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in him.
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
And may we love each other
with a sincere heart. Amen.*

Silence is kept.

The Prayer after Communion

Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation, and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us, and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Notices

Focus on Finance

Please stand.

Blessing

May God who clothes the lilies and feeds the birds of the sky, who leads the lambs to pasture and the deer to water, who multiplied loaves and fishes and changed water into wine, lead us, feed us, multiply us, and change us to reflect the glory of our Creator now and through all eternity; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Thanksgiving Hymn

- 1 **Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord.
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.**
- 2 **Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name.
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.**
- 3 **Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might.
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**
- 4 **Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word.
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore.**

Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926) based on Luke 1: 46-55

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Voluntary Final *Vierne*

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