



Sunday 17 September 2023, 10am
The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Eucharist

Presider
Revd Dr Sam Wells

Preacher
Revd Angela Sheard

The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed by
Jennifer Sterling

Organist
Benjamin Frost

Setting
St Martin's Mass *Bednall*

⊕ 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 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

Introit Notre Père (*Our Father*) Duruflé

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 Light's abode, celestial Salem,
vision whence true peace doth spring,
brighter than the heart can fancy,
mansion of the highest King;
O how glorious are the praises
which of thee the prophets sing.**
- 2 There for ever and for ever
alleluia is outpoured;
for unending, for unbroken
is the feast-day of the Lord;
all is pure and all is holy
that within thy walls is stored.**
- 3 There no cloud nor passing vapour
dims the brightness of the air;
endless noon-day, glorious noon-day
from the Sun of suns is there;
there no night brings rest from labour
for unknown are toil and care.**

continued...

**4 Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One,
consubstantial, co-eternal,
while unending ages run.**

Jerusalem luminosa, Thomas à Kempis (1379–1471) tr. John M Neale (1818–1866)

Please sit or kneel.

Confession

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

Silence.

We have used it to look after our own comfort at the expense of others. We have used it to abuse or exploit the earth which is our home.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

We have used it to silence voices that are different from our own. We have used it to prop up 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, fill us with the knowledge of your forgiveness; and help us to live with the full and flourishing freedom, which is your intention for all.

All **Amen.**

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

Please stand.

Gloria in Excelsis

f
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo-ple on earth. Lord God, hea-ven-ly king, al-migh - ty God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks we praise you for your
mp
glo-ry. 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 seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, re -
ceive our prayer. *Org.*
f
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
ff
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men, a - -
-men, a - - - - men.

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 for ever.

All **Amen.**

Please sit.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Genesis 50: 15-21 *read by Ramesh Puvaneswaran*

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Hear the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading News from Tariro – a programme, supported by St Martin's, helping young people in Zimbabwe to learn, develop and grow. *read by Jane Portal*

It's always good to have a success story to tell in Zimbabwe. The pig project is one of them. These pigs were given to Tariro a few years ago and they were not prospering, so they were moved to a piece of land Tariro had acquired in the Honde Valley. It is just two years since the land was acquired, and 18 months since the pigs moved there. It has completely changed their fortunes. The land is producing

excellent crops on a small scale: sugar beans, cabbages, and, this year, maize. These are the right crops to ensure the regeneration of the soil as we use it. Then the pigs – they have grown to a herd of 75 and more coming. They are now self-supporting and within a few months should be providing a few thousand dollars a month to Tariro, which should plug the funding gap we have recently found.

At the same time, their manure fertilises the land, so we don't use artificial fertilizer. They also provide jobs for two of the Tariro boys. That has been another joy: Chengetai from St Augustine's Children's Home is now full-time manager of the project, happily supported by Nyasha Chikukwa before he goes off to University to study mechanical engineering.

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

Gospel Hymn



Solo Garai pano, Garai pano, Garai pano, Ishe anouya

All **Garai pano, Garai pano, Garai pano, Ishe anouya**

Solo I ye nouya, I ye nouya, I ye nouya, Ishe anouya

All **I ye nouya, I ye nouya, I ye nouya, Ishe anouya**

Translation: Stay here, the Spirit is coming

Gospel Reading Matthew 18: 21-35

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

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

Then Peter came and said to Jesus, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

‘For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.” And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, “Pay what you owe.” Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, “Have patience with me, and I will pay you.” But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, “You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?” And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn *continued*



Ga-rai___ pa - no, Ga - rai pa - no, Ga-rai___ pa - no, I - she a - nou - ya.

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I___ ye nou - ya, I___ ye nou - ya, I___ ye nou - ya, I - she a - nou - ya.

All **Garai pano, Garai pano, Garai pano, Ishe anouya
I ye nouya, I ye nouya, I ye nouya, Ishe anouya**

Please sit after the opening prayer.

Sermon Revd Angela Sheard

Anthem A Prayer of Desmond Tutu *James Whitbourn*

Please stand.

Creed

All **We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female.**

We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree. A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.

He descended into the earth to the place of death.

On the third day he rose from the tomb.

He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present, and His kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the Church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and of eternal life.

Amen.

Iona Community

Please sit or kneel.

The 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

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 Light of the minds that know him,
may Christ be light to mine!
My sun in risen splendour,
my light of truth divine;
my guide in doubt and darkness,
my true and living way,
my clear light ever shining,
my dawn of heaven's day.**
- 2 Life of the souls that love him,
may Christ be ours indeed!
the living bread from heaven
on whom our spirits feed;
who died for love of sinners
to bear our guilty load,
and make of life's brief journey
a new Emmaus road.**

continued...

**3 Strength of the wills that serve him,
may Christ be strength to me,
who stilled the storm and tempest,
who calmed the tossing sea;
his Spirit's power to move me,
his will to master mine,
his cross to carry daily
and conquer in his sign.**

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

**4 May it be ours to know him
that we may truly love,
and loving, fully serve him
as serve the saints above;
till in that home of glory
with fadeless splendour bright,
we serve in perfect freedom
our strength, our life, our light.**

Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926) from a prayer of Saint Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

The Preparation of the Table
The 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.
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.**

Worship and praise belong to you, O God, Creator of all things visible and invisible, source of life and immortality, whom the heavens praise, the sun and moon and all the stars, the earth, the sea and all that is in them, in every place and at all times. By your holy Word you brought order out of chaos, you divided light from darkness, created the heavens and established the earth; you divided the sea from the dry land, and caused all life to come into being. When you had made the plants and the animals, you formed humanity in your own image, and entrusted us with the priesthood of your Creation. In Christ your holy Word became flesh, took our human form, lived among us, and, through dying on the cross, overcame sin and death, that your creation might be restored in him. Through your life-giving Holy Spirit who first moved over the waters, you renew your creation, call us to new birth, in a world restored by love. As children of your redeeming purpose, with all your creatures throughout space and time we offer you our praise, together with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Org. *f*
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of po - wer and

ff
might. Heav'n and Earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Org. *p*
Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the

pp
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, God our creator, for the gift of your Son born in human flesh. Christ is your holy Wisdom, existing beyond time, present at creation. Through Christ you revealed yourself in the world, and bring your saving work to its completion. Obedient to your will he died upon the Cross. By your power you raised him from the dead. He broke the bonds of evil and set your people free to be his Body in the world. On the night when he was given up to death, knowing that his hour had come, having loved his own, he loved them to the end. At supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: 'Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.' After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: 'Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me.'

Great is the mystery of faith.

All **Christ has died:**
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

We now obey your Son's command. We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice. Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by the Spirit's life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom. Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end.

All **Amen.**

Adapted from the Eco Congregation Scotland website

Please sit or kneel.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray, each in our 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

As Christ breaks bread with us

All he enfolds our story in his story.

Agnus Dei

The musical score for Agnus Dei is written on four staves of music. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "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." Dynamics include *p* (piano), *mp* (mezzo-piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *pp* (pianissimo). The score ends with a double bar line.

The Giving of Communion

This is Christ's body, broken for you. Enter into the joy of his risen life.

All Amen.

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 Blahoslovy Dushe Moyà Hospoda
Stetsenko

Silence is kept.

The Prayer after Communion

All-powerful God, you are present in the universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with your peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle, for justice, love and peace.

All **Amen.**

Pope Francis, A Prayer for our Earth from Laudato Si' (246)

The Dismissal

Notices

Focus on Finance

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 God of freedom, God of justice,
you whose love is strong as death,
you who saw the dark of prison,
you who knew the price of faith —
touch our world of sad oppression
with your Spirit's healing breath.**
- 2 Rid the earth of torture's terror,
you whose hands were nailed to wood;
hear the cries of pain and protest,
you who shed the tears and blood —
move in us the power of pity
restless for the common good.**
- 3 Make in us a captive conscience
quick to hear, to act, to plead;
make us truly sisters, brothers
of whatever race or creed —
teach us to be fully human,
open to each other's needs**

Shirley E Murray (1931-2020)

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Organ Voluntary

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St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 4JJ

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