



Sunday 26 November 2023, 10am  
Christ the King

# The Eucharist

Presider  
Revd Sally Hitchiner

Preacher  
Revd Dr Sam Wells

The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed by  
Jennifer Sterling

Organist  
Phoebe Tak Man Chow

Settings  
Mass of St Thomas *Thorne*

*Kyrie Eleison* from Missa Aeterna  
Christi Munera *Palestrina*

⊕ 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 O worship the King, all glorious above;  
O gratefully sing his power and his love;  
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,  
pavilioned in splendour and girded with praise.**
- 2 O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,  
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;  
his chariots of wrath the deep thunder clouds form,  
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.**
- 3 Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.**
- 4 Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;  
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,  
our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.**
- 5 O measureless might, ineffable love,  
while angels delight to hymn thee above,  
thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,  
with true adoration shall sing to thy praise.**

*Robert Grant (1779-1838) based on Psalm 104*

*Please sit or kneel.*

## Confession

Jesus says, 'Repent for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand,' so let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*Silence is kept.*

The kingdom is yours, but we turn away from your just rule.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

*The choir sings Kyrie eleison.*

The power is yours, but we trust in our own power and strength.  
Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ, have mercy.**

*The choir sings Christe eleison.*

The glory is yours, but we fall short of the glory of God.  
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.**

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

*Please stand.*

# 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.

## Collect

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one Glory.

*All* **Amen.**

*Please sit.*

## The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24 *read by Kristine Wellington*

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Hear the word of the Lord.

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

Second Reading Ephesians 1: 15-end *read by Sean Curtin*

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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 The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine for ever.**

**2 Where streams of living water flow  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow  
with food celestial feedeth.**

**3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home rejoicing brought me**

**4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.**

*continued after Gospel reading*

## Gospel Reading Matthew 25: 31-end

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

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

'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn *continued*

**5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and O what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth.**

*continued...*



**6 And so through all the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never:  
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house for ever.**

*Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877) based on Psalm 23*

*Please sit after the opening prayer.*

Sermon Revd Dr Sam Wells

Anthem Let all the world in every corner sing *Albrecht*

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

*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.*

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

To crown all things there must be love, to bind all together and complete the whole, let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

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*



### Offertory Hymn

- 1 Christ is the King! O friends rejoice;  
brothers and sisters, with one voice  
tell all the world he is your choice. *Alleluia.***
- 2 O magnify the Lord, and raise  
anthems of joy and holy praise  
for Christ's brave saints of ancient days. *Alleluia.***
- 3 They with a faith for ever new  
followed the King, and round him drew  
thousands of faithful hearts and true. *Alleluia.***
- 4 O Christian women, Christian men,  
all the world over, seek again  
the Way disciples followed then. *Alleluia.***
- 5 Christ through all ages is the same:  
place the same hope in his great name;  
with the same faith his word proclaim. *Alleluia.***
- 6 Let love's unconquerable might  
your scattered companies unite  
in service to the Lord of light. *Alleluia.***

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

- 7 So shall God's will on earth be done,  
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun,  
and the whole church at last be one. *Alleluia.***

*George Kennedy Allen Bell (1883–1958)*

## 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:*

As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now reunited on this table in bread and wine, so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.

**All Amen.**

## The 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.**

It is our duty and our joy to thank and praise you, God of heaven and earth; for you are our shepherd, who called Abraham by name, gathered a people under Moses, fed your flock in the wilderness, and led them out of Egypt and Babylon to take refuge in your sheepfold. In the fullness of time you sent Jesus to be our shepherd king, leading us beside still waters, delivering us from the valley of the shadow of death, and restoring our souls. And so with all your gathered flock, with sheep that are not of this fold, and with saints and angels surrounding your glorious throne, we praise your name and join 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.

Abundant God, you bestow upon your people the riches of your glorious inheritance and the immeasurable greatness of your power. You send upon your disciples the Spirit of wisdom and revelation. Send now that same Spirit to breathe upon your church and make it resound with your praise. Sanctify this bread and cup, that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 glory, you sent Jesus to be our prophet, priest, and king, and you show us his face in the face of those on whom the world turns its back. As the tempted Christ was hungry in the wilderness, make yourself known to all who search for food. As the crucified Christ was thirsty hanging on the tree, reveal your love among those who lack clean water. As the infant Christ was a stranger in Egypt, manifest your visage through any who are pilgrims from afar. As the newborn Christ was naked in the manger, live in all who experience shame and exposure. As Christ in his passion was sick to the heart in Gethsemane, declare your grace among those who suffer in body, mind or spirit. And as Christ under judgment was a prisoner under Pontius Pilate, be with all who are incarcerated by folly, injustice, or fear. Renew your church by making it resemble Jesus, our crucified king, our saviour, Lord and friend, with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever.

*All* **Amen.**

*Please sit or kneel.*

The 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.

### 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

Behold! Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are all those who are called to his supper.

*All* **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*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 O Rex Gloriam Marenzio

O rex Gloriam, Domine virtutum, qui triumphator hodie super omnes coelos ascendisti, ne derelinquas nos orphanos, sed mitte promissum Patris in nos Spiritum Veritatis. Alleluia.

*O King of glory, Lord of all goodness, who ascended to heaven on this day triumphant over all, do not leave us as orphans but send us the Father's promise, the spirit of truth. Alleluia.*

*Silence is kept.*

### The Prayer after Communion

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Dismissal

### Notices

*Please stand.*

### Blessing

Christ our servant King, pour upon you his abundant gifts of grace and bring you to reign with him in glory 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 **Rejoice, the Lord is King,  
your Lord and King adore;  
mortals, give thanks and sing,  
and triumph evermore:  
*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;  
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.***
  
- 2 **Jesus the Saviour, reigns,  
the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains,  
he took his seat above:  
*Chorus***
  
- 3 **His kingdom cannot fail;  
he rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus given:  
*Chorus***
  
- 4 **He sits at God's right hand  
till all his foes submit,  
and bow to his command,  
and fall beneath his feet:  
*Chorus***
  
- 5 **Rejoice in glorious hope;  
Jesus the judge shall come,  
and take his servants up  
to their eternal home:  
*We soon shall hear the archangel's voice  
the trump of God shall sound: Rejoice!***

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

## Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Organ Voluntary Postlude no.6 *Stanford*