



Sunday 21 April 2024, 10.00am
The Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Eucharist

Presider
Revd Angela Sheard

Preacher
Revd Richard Carter

The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed by
Jennifer Sterling

Organist
Richard Sutton

Mass Setting
Mass of St Thomas *Thorne*

Kyrie from 'Missa Aeterna Christi
Munera' *Palestrina*

⊕ Common Worship

Welcome

Our welcomers are available to assist with any of the following access information. Toilet access is 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 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 a children's church group during the service and a fortnightly youth group for teenagers on Sundays at 3.30pm

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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 There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in his justice
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgement given.**
- 2 For the love of God is broader
than the measure of our mind,
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
But we make his love too narrow
by false limits of our own;
and we magnify his strictness
with a zeal he would not own.**
- 3 There is plentiful redemption
through the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.
There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that upper home of bliss.**

continued...

Second half of tune
**4 If our love were but more simple,
we should take him at his word;
and our lives would be all gladness
in the joy of Christ our Lord.**

Frederick William Faber (1814-1863)

Please sit or kneel.

Confession

Let us confess our sins to our merciful God, trusting in the power and love that alone can set us free.

Silence.

Like those who saw the empty tomb, we fail to grasp the wonder of your risen life.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The choir sings Kyrie eleison.

Like the disciples locked in fear we do not recognise your presence among us.

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

The choir sings Christe eleison.

Like sheep who have gone astray, we do not listen to your voice.

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

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he 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 4: 5-12 *read by Fiona MacMillan*

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

Hear the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading 1 John 3: 16-end *read by Ivan Yuen*

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have

boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

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 **I will sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me,
how he left the realms of glory
for the cross on Calvary.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me-
sing it with his saints in glory,
gathered by the crystal sea.**
- 2 **I was lost but Jesus found me,
found the sheep that went astray,
raised me up and gently led me
back into the narrow way.
Days of darkness still may meet me,
sorrow's path I oft may tread;
but his presence still is with me,
by his guiding hand I'm led.**

continued after Gospel reading

Gospel Reading John 10: 11-18

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

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

Jesus said; 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away - and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know

me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn *continued*

**3 He will keep me till the river
rolls its waters at my feet:
then he'll bear me safely over,
made by grace for glory meet.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me-
sing it with his saints in glory,
gathered by the crystal sea.**

Francis Harold Rowley (1854-1952)

Please sit after the opening prayer.

Sermon Revd Richard Carter

Anthem The Lord is my Shepherd *Berkeley*

The Lord is my shepherd: I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

Psalm 23: 1-3

Please stand.

Creed

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All **Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe.
Amen.**

1 Corinthians 15. 3-7

Please sit or kneel.

The Prayers of Intercession *led by Neil MacGregor*

The response to the prayers is:

God of 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

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

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

- 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

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:

As the good shepherd assembles sheep in the sheepfold,
All So we bring the fruit of the vine and the work of our hands to the altar.

As God has given everything for us,
All So we offer the firstfruits of our lives in return.

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.

Shepherding God, we praise and thank you because you gathered your flock around Abraham, and through Moses and Joshua you brought your sheep to a place of safety. In Jesus you came to us as a Passover Lamb to take away the sins of the world. As our everlasting good shepherd you promise that those who hear your voice shall never be in want, for you know your sheep by name, and you call us your own and give to each of us a place in the sheepfold of your kingdom, where angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, sing your unending praise.

Ho - ly_ Ho-ly, Ho - lyLord, God of po-werand might, Hea-venandearthare
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.

Sustaining God, as you lead your sheep to green pastures and guide them beside still waters, so you have led us to this table where in bread and wine you restore our soul. Send down your Holy Spirit and restore your church through the abundance of this sacred meal. As we remember the story of your Son's life laid down for us, sanctify this bread and cup and make them 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.**

Saving God, your rod and staff comfort all who look to you in faith. Search out your sheep that are lost and bring them home. When you find them in the valley of fear, gather them in your arms. When they face evil in the presence of enemies, follow them with your goodness and mercy all the days of their life. On that day when the shadow of death covers them, bring them to dwell in your house forever. Shepherd us with all your saints of every age into your glorious presence where we shall behold your Lamb in seated glory, most Holy Trinity, now and always.

All **Amen.**

Please sit or kneel.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray, each in our own preferred language.

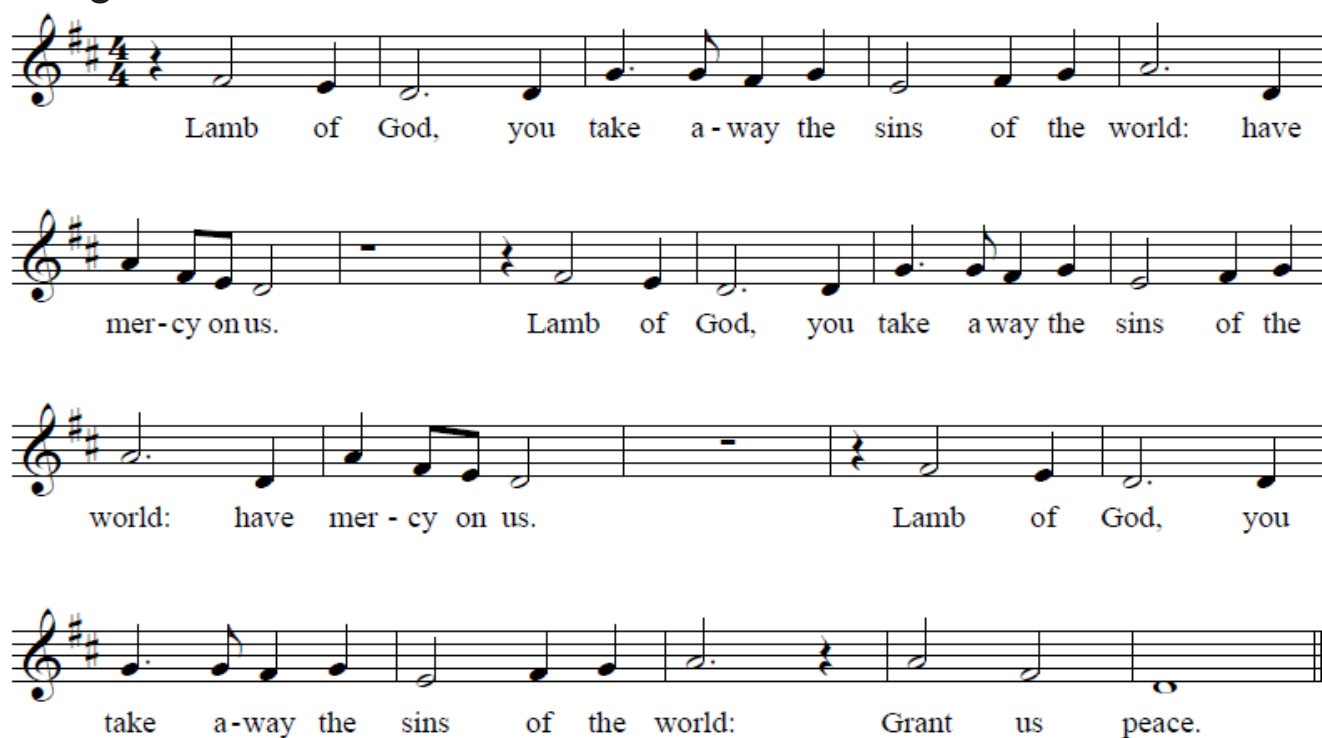
All **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We are invited into God's heart
All to receive the Father's abundant life, enjoy the Spirit's boundless gifts, and join the Son's broken body.

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.

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.
All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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 These are they that follow the Lamb Goss

These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the first-fruits unto God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

Revelation 14: 4-5

Silence is kept.

The Prayer after Communion

All Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Dismissal

Notices

Please stand.

Blessing

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, through the power of the Holy Spirit; 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 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,
to his feet thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.**

continued...

- 2 Praise him for his grace and favour
to his people in distress;
praise him still the same for ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness.
- 3 Father-like, he tends and spares us,
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely as his mercy flows.
- 4 Frail as summer's flower we flourish,
blows the wind and it is gone;
but while mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the high eternal One.
- 5 Angels, help us to adore him,
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him
dwellers all in time and space:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.

Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

Dismissal

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

Organ Voluntary

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

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St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 4JJ 020 7766 1100 www.smitf.org

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