



Sunday 7 April 2024, 10am
The Second Sunday of Easter

The Eucharist

Presider and Preacher
Revd Dr Sam Wells

Soloist
Tamsin Raitt

Organist
Phoebe Tak Man Chow

Mass Setting
St Martin's Mass *Bednall*

⊕ 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 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

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 Love's redeeming work is done;
fought the fight, the battle won:
lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er,
lo, he sets in blood no more.**
- 2 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ has burst the gates of hell;
death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened paradise.**
- 3 Lives again our glorious King;
where, O death, is now thy sting?
Dying once, he all doth save;
where thy victory, O grave?**
- 4 Soar we now where Christ has led,
following our exalted Head;
made like him, like him we rise;
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.**
- 5 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!
Praise to thee by both be given:
thee we greet triumphant now;
hail, the Resurrection thou!**

Charles Wesley (1707–1788)

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.

You break open the tomb, but we hide behind locked doors.
Lord have mercy.

All **Lord have mercy.**

You invite us to touch your life, but we hold on to our scars.
Christ have mercy.

All **Christ have mercy.**

You believe in us, but we are reluctant to believe in you.
Lord have mercy.

All **Lord have mercy.**

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.**

Please stand.

Gloria in Excelsis *see opposite*

Collect

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ 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.

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 -
Org.
ceive our prayer.
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.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Acts 4: 32-35 *read by Beverley Logan*

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Hear the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading 1 John 1: 1—2: 2 *read by Dan Kaszeta*

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life – this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us – we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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 **Blessed Thomas, doubt no longer,
see the wounds in hand and side,
now behold the risen Saviour
who for thee has bled and died,
and from death's dark put arising,
lives in body glorified.**
- 2 **Here behold the love victorious,
over death triumphant now,
see the feet where nails were driven,
and thy faith in him avow:
for he lives, the world's redeemer,
unto whom all knees shall bow.**
- 3 **Thomas looked upon the master:
was it then indeed the Lord?
Were those wounds no phantom tokens?
Did the sigh with truth accord?
Scarce believing, joy unbounded,
leapt to greet to Saviour's word.**

continued after Gospel reading

Gospel Reading John 20: 19-end

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

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' A week later his disciples were

again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn *continued*

**4 Thomas, sight has now convinced thee,
faith within thy heart has stirred;
blessed more those faithful servants,
trusting in the Saviour's word,
who, though vision is denied them,
still believe, and own him Lord.**

Anonymous Latin. Tr. George B. Timms (1910-1997)

Please sit after the opening prayer.

Sermon Revd Dr Sam Wells

Anthem I know that my Redeemer liveth 'Messiah' *Handel*

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day, upon the earth. And though worms destroy this body yet in my flesh shall I see God. I know that my Redeemer liveth for now is Christ risen from the dead. The first fruits of them that sleep for now is Christ risen from the dead.

Job 19: 25–26, 1 Corinthians 15: 20–22

Please stand.

The Apostles' Creed

All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Please sit or kneel.

The Prayers of Intercession *led by Michael Angus*

The response to the prayers is:

Risen 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 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our victorious King,
who hath washed us in the tide
flowing from his pierced side;
praise we him, whose love divine
gives his sacred blood for wine,
gives his body for the feast,
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.**

- 2 Where the Paschal blood is poured,
death's dark angel sheathes his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
through the wave that drowns the foe.
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, Paschal bread;
with sincerity and love
eat we manna from above.**

continued...

3 **Mighty victim from the sky,
hell's fierce powers beneath thee lie;
thou hast conquered in the fight,
thou hast brought us life and light.
Now no more can death appal,
now no more the grave enthrall:
thou hast opened paradise,
and in thee thy saints shall rise.**

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

4 **Easter triumph, Easter joy,
sin alone can this destroy;
from sin's power do thou set free
souls new-born, O Lord, in thee.
Hymns of glory and of praise,
risen Lord, to thee we raise;
holy Father, praise to thee,
with the Spirit, ever be.**

17th-century form of Ad cenam Agni providi, tr. Robert Campbell (1814-1868)

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

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 give you thanks and praise, Lord God of heaven and earth, because you are continually renewing your work of creation and transforming it to show your glory through resurrection. With your touch, you formed us from the dust of the earth. You raised your people from slavery in Egypt; you bound them to you through your covenant on Sinai; and you made yourself known to them in exile and the Promised Land. In Jesus you take into yourself the scars of our sin, and in his resurrected body you invite us to touch the wounds of your love. And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise:

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.

Forgiving Lord, your son's disciples cowered behind locked doors; and yet in him you visited them on the evening of resurrection and breathed on them the Spirit of peace. Breathe that Holy Spirit upon us now, that your church may know the power of your forgiveness and these gifts of bread and wine may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Who, on the night he was betrayed, 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.**

Lord and God, intimate saviour of our lives and cosmic ruler of the universe, in Jesus you are the substance of things hoped for and the knowledge of things unseen. Visit any who struggle under the shadow of doubt; minister among all who suffer under the claims of oppressive rule; resurrect your children, your church, and your earth. Bless those who have not seen and yet believe, and shape your wounded body the church to let the world see you through its scars. Lift every voice to sing your Easter glory, until the day when all stand before your throne, in one communion with one another and with you, ever one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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 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

Musical score for Agnus Dei in G minor, 3/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. 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*, *mp*, *mf*, *P*, and *pp*.

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 Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace *Jonathan Willcocks*

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, may there be union; where there is doubt, faith; Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace; where there is despair, let there be hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, may there be joy! Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. May we all be in peace, and only peace, and may that peace come unto each of us.

Attr. St Francis of Assisi (1182-1226) and the Vedas

Silence is kept.

Prayer after Communion

All Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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 Christ is the world's true light,
its captain of salvation,
the daystar clear and bright
of every land and nation;
new life, new hope awakes,
where peoples own his sway:
freedom her bondage breaks,
and night is turned to day.**

continued...

2 In Christ all races meet,
their ancient feuds forgetting,
the whole round world complete,
from sunrise to its setting:
when Christ is throned as Lord,
lands shall forsake their fear,
to ploughshare beat the sword,
to pruning-hook the spear.

3 One Lord, in one great name
unite us all who own thee;
cast out our pride and shame
that hinder to enthrone thee;
the world has waited long,
has travailed long in pain;
to heal its ancient wrong,
come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

George Wallace Briggs (1875-1959)

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All In the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Blessing Anthem The peace of God *John Rutter*

The peace of God, which passeth 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 Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer (1662) based on Philippians 4: 7

Organ Voluntary Prelude on Vulpus *Willan*

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

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