



Sunday 23 February 2025, 10am
The Second Sunday before Lent

The Eucharist

Presider
Revd Richard Carter

Preacher
Revd Angela Sheard

with the baptism of
Annabelle Oliphant Alanna
Robinson

The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed by
Jennifer Sterling

Organist
Matthew Morrison

Setting
Kilcreggan Mass *Peter Nardone*

⊕ Common Worship

Welcome

Our welcomers are available to assist with any of the following information. Toilets are 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 outside 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 or mental health issues, or are neurodivergent. The order of service is online. Large print copies are also 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. A youth group for teenagers meets monthly on Sunday afternoons.

Welcome to anyone in need of safeguarding. If you would like to reach our safeguarding team, you can email safeguarding@smitf.org.

Welcome to all heritages and experiences of race, culture and language. At the Lord's Prayer, all are invited to bring the gift of our preferred 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 of no professed faith or are from a faith tradition other than 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 beingwith@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 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 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing,
if our God our Father be.**

**2 Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us;
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.**

**3 Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.**

James Edmeston (1791-1867)

Please sit.

Introduction Revd Angela Sheard

Baptism is the end of the old life we live for ourselves, and the beginning of the new life we live with God. When Moses led the children of Israel out of Egypt, God parted the sea and led them to freedom. All that held them in slavery was left behind. Christ's death on Good Friday echoes the Israelites' descent into the sea. In raising Jesus from the tomb, the Holy Spirit brings him out of the sea, taking him beyond sin and death. When we are baptised, God brings these stories to life in us. God takes away the power of all that oppresses us, and we are born again in the Spirit. We are made members of Christ's body, that we may share his sufferings and inherit his glory. We begin a life of service, to God, one another and the good creation. We join a new family, everlasting and universal: the communion of saints.

Prayer

All **Father God, in your love you have called us to know you, led us to trust you, and bound our life with yours. Surround us with your love; protect us from evil; fill us with your Holy Spirit; and restore us in the family of your Church; that we may walk in the way of Christ and grow in the knowledge of your love. Amen.**

The parents and godparents gather at the legilium.

Presentation

Faith is the Holy Spirit's gift to the people of God. Will you, God's people, welcome Annabelle Oliphant Alanna and uphold her in her new life in Christ?

All **With God's help, we will.**

Parents and godparents, will you pray for Annabelle Oliphant Alanna, draw her into the community of faith, help her take her place in the life and worship of the Church, and walk with her in the way of Christ?

With God's help, we will.

Making Our Decision to Follow Christ

To the parents and godparents

Baptism means turning from the despair of sin to the hope of Christ. I now ask you three times if you are resolved to turn from death to life.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour, Lord and Friend?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of all your sins?

I repent of all my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil.

Please stand.

The Baptism party goes to the font during the chant. Children and other members of the congregation are invited to join them.

Baptism Anthem Pure river of water of life *Whitbourn*

He showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, flowing out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. On either side was there the tree, the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit ev'ry month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. There shall be no night there, and they need no candle, neither the light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign forever and ever.

Revelation 22: 1-2, 5

Renewing the Outward Sign of Inward Faith

We thank you, gracious God, for your gifts of water and the Holy Spirit. We thank you that, through the waters of the Red Sea, you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the Promised Land. We thank you that out of death you raised your Son to glorious life. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this water, that as we recall our burial with Christ in baptism, we may share with the saints in his resurrection to new life; that, having been born again of water and the Holy Spirit, we may remain forever in the number of your faithful children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

To the parents and godparents and to the whole congregation

Now I ask you to make the profession of Christian faith into which we are baptised, and in which we live and grow.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

All I believe and trust in God the Father.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

All I believe and trust in God the Son.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God, and makes Christ known in the world?

All I believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit.

This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Annabelle Oliphant Alanna, for you Jesus Christ came into the world. For you he lived and showed God's love. For you he suffered the darkness of Calvary, and cried at the last, 'It is accomplished'. For you he triumphed over death, and rose to new life. For you he reigns at God's right hand. All this he did to be with you, though you do not know it yet.

Baptism

Annabelle Oliphant Alanna, I baptise you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Signing

The minister makes the sign of the cross on the candidate for baptism with holy oil.

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of the cross.

The minister invites the parents and godparents to sign the candidate with the cross.

All the leaders of God's people, prophets, priests and kings, were anointed at the start of their ministry. Jesus also, who was Israel's prophet, priest and king, was baptised by John at the start of his ministry. This is the start of a new ministry. Annabelle Oliphant Alanna, we anoint you with holy oil, making the sign of the cross, the seal of salvation.

All Teach us, Lord, to serve you as you deserve; to give, and not to count the cost; to fight, and not to heed the wounds; to toil, and not to seek for rest; to labour, and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do your will. Amen.

A Prayer of St Ignatius Loyola

Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: Annabelle Oliphant Alanna, by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

All We welcome you into the Lord's family. We are members together of the body of Christ; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we are inheritors together of the realm of God. We welcome you.

Giving of Light

God has delivered from the shadows of night into the realm of glorious day. You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

All Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

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

Baptism Anthem Pure river of water of life *Whitbourn*

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

The Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading Luke 8: 22-25

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

One day Jesus got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit after the opening prayer.

Sermon Revd Angela Sheard

Anthem *Beati quorum via Stanford*

Beati quorum via integra est: qui ambulant in lege Domini. Blessed are those that are undefiled in the way: and walk in the law of the Lord.

Psalm 119: 1

Please remain seated or kneel.

Prayers of Intercession *led by Jane Templeman*

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

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 Alleluia, sing to Jesus!
His the sceptre, his the throne;
alleluia, his the triumph,
his the victory alone:
hark, the songs of peaceful Sion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.**

- 2 Alleluia, not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
alleluia, he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how:
though the cloud from sight received him,
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?**

- 3 Alleluia, bread of angels,
thou on earth our food, our stay;
alleluia, here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day:
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.**

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

- 4 Alleluia, King eternal,
thee the Lord of lords we own;
alleluia, born of Mary,
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the eucharistic feast.**

William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

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.

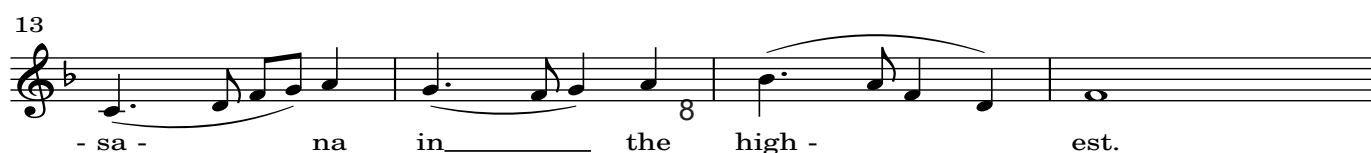
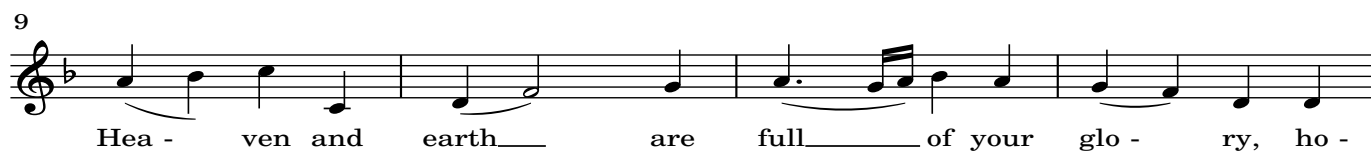
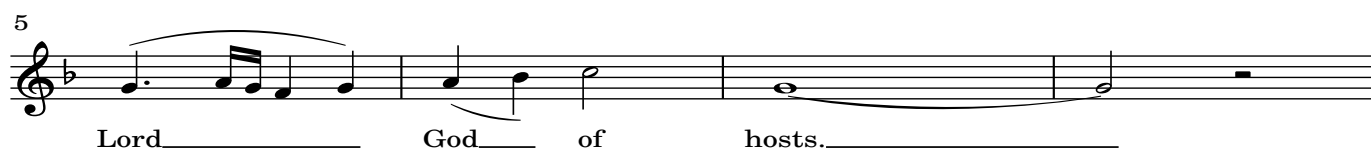
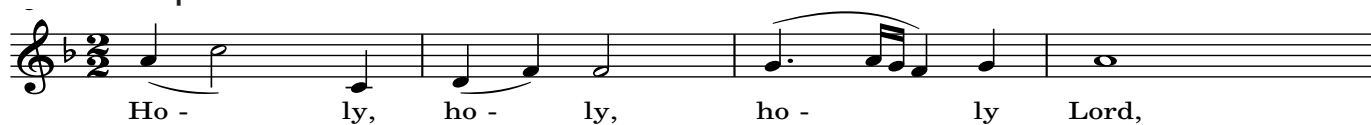
Eucharistic Prayer

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.

God our companion, from before the foundation of the world you shaped your own life to be in relationship, and in creation you extended that tender mercy that all things might find their identity in being with you. You animated the universe and you set the sky, the sea and the land in due order. You filled your whole earth with life and breath. You bestowed your image upon humankind, and called us to reflect your glory. In Christ you fulfilled your covenant purpose, embodying your constancy, renewing our destiny with you, and becoming the Sabbath of your joy. His death was the judgement of your wayward world, yet his resurrection was the promise of your everlasting kingdom. And so we gather at your table as angels and archangels gather around your throne, singing the song of thanks and praise.



17

Bles sed is he that comes in the name who

21

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

25

- san - na in the high - est, ho -

29

- san - na in the high - est.

Restoring God, your creation never runs out and your mercy never fails. Make this banquet in your name a celebration of your abundance in offering and renewing love. Send your Holy Spirit upon your people, that they may again be inspired by the breath of your life. Sanctify this bread and cup that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son. 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.

In the beginning was your Word, Lord God, and in the beginning your Spirit hovered over the deep. Speak your word today where the condition of your creation reflects how far your children have strayed from you. Bring a climate of hope; replenish the species of the earth in diversity and beauty; breathe your Spirit of transformation on icecap and desert, on mountain and prairie; teach your people the ways of gentleness and the paths of peace. As you stretch out your hand of companionship to humankind in Christ, by your Holy Spirit heal their relationship with your hurting world. Turn danger to discovery, scarcity to partnership, and exploitation to cherishing; until your groaning creation finds its eager longing met in the harvest of your kingdom, and you are all in all, Trinity of glory.

All **Amen.**

Please sit or kneel.

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

Make yourself known to us, Lord Christ, in the breaking of the bread.

Agnus Dei



Je - sus, lamb__ of God: have__ mer - cy on us.

5



Je - sus, bear - er of__ our sins: have mer - cy on us.

9



Je-sus, re-deem - er of__ the world: give us your__ peace.

Giving of Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come and share God's heavenly food.

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 aisle and both side aisles. Gluten-free bread and non-alcoholic wine are available in the south aisle upon request from the assistant. If you wish to receive communion in your seat, do let a steward know.

Communion Anthem *Be still, my soul* arr. Mark Hayes

Be still, my soul. The Lord is on your side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain; leave to your God to order and provide; in ev'ry change God faithful will remain. Your best, your heavenly friend through thorn ways leads to a joyful end. Your God will undertake to guide the future as in ages past. Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last. Be still, the waves and winds still know the Christ who ruled them while he dwelt below. The hour is hastening on when we shall be forever with the Lord, when disappointment, grief and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored. When change and tears are past, all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

*Katharina Amalia Dorothea von Schlegel
(1697-after 1768), tr. Jane Laurie Borthwick (1813-1897)*

Silence is kept.

Prayer after Communion

All **God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Dismissal

Notices

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 **Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does his successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.**
- 2 **People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.**
- 3 **Blessings abound where'er he reigns;
the prisoner leaps to lose his chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.**
- 4 **To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like incense shall arise
with every morning sacrifice.**
- 5 **Let every creature rise and bring
peculiar honours to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud Amen.**

Isaac Watts (1674-1748) based on Psalm 72

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Blessing Anthem Gaelic Blessing *John Rutter*

Deep peace of the running wave to you, deep peace of the flowing air to you, deep peace of the quiet earth to you, deep peace of the shining stars to you, deep peace of the gentle night to you, moon and stars pour their healing light on you, deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you, deep peace of Christ to you.

Adapted from a Gaelic rune

Organ Voluntary

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

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