



Sunday 27 April 2025, 10am  
The Second Sunday of Easter

# The Eucharist

Presider and Preacher  
Revd Catherine Duce

Soloist  
Saskia Bibb

Organist  
Jamie Andrews

Mass Setting  
Mass of St Thomas *Thorne*

⊕ 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Opening Hymn

- 1 The day of resurrection,  
Earth, tell it out abroad;  
the Passover of gladness,  
the Passover of God!  
From death to life eternal,  
From earth unto the sky,  
our God hath brought us over  
with hymns of victory.**
- 2 Our hearts be pure from evil,  
that we may see aright  
the Lord in rays eternal  
of resurrection light;  
and, listening to his accents,  
may hear, so calm and plain,  
his own 'All hail!' and, hearing  
may raise the victor strain.**

*continued...*

3    **Now let the heavens be joyful,  
and earth her song begin,  
the round world keep high triumph,  
and all that is therein;  
let all things seen and unseen  
their notes of gladness blend,  
for Christ the Lord is risen,  
our joy that hath no end.**

*Anastaseos hemera, John of Damascus (c.675-749) tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866)*

*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 is kept.*

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.**

*Children gather at the north east door during the sung Kyrie 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 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.*

## The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Acts 5: 27-32 *read by Eddie Grove*

When they had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

Hear the word of the Lord.

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

Second Reading Revelation 1: 4-8 *read by Valentina Chan*

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God,

who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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 pit 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 sight with truth accord?  
Scarce believing, joy unbounded,  
leapt to greet the 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.*

Sermon Revd Catherine Duce

Anthem I know that my Redeemer liveth from *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.*

## Apostles' Creed

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

## Prayers of Intercession *led by Jim Sikorski*

*The response to the prayers is:*

*All* **Risen Lord, in your mercy,  
hear our prayer.**

*And, at the end:*

*All* **Merciful Father,  
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 Jesus lives! thy terrors now  
can, O death, no more appal us;  
Jesus lives! by this we know  
thou, O grave, canst not enthrall us.  
Alleluia.**
- 2 Jesus lives! henceforth is death  
but the gate of life immortal:  
this shall calm our trembling breath,  
when we pass its gloomy portal.  
Alleluia.**
- 3 Jesus lives! for us he died;  
then, alone to Jesus living,  
pure in heart may we abide,  
glory to our Saviour giving.  
Alleluia.**
- 4 Jesus lives! our hearts know well,  
naught from us his love shall sever;  
life nor death nor powers of hell  
tear us from his keeping ever.  
Alleluia.**

*continued...*

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

**5 Jesus lives! to him the throne  
over all the world is given:  
may we go where he is gone,  
rest and reign with him in heaven.  
Alleluia.**

*Jesus lebt, mit ihm auch ich. Christian Fuerchtegott Gellert (1715-1769), tr. Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1897)*

## 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.**

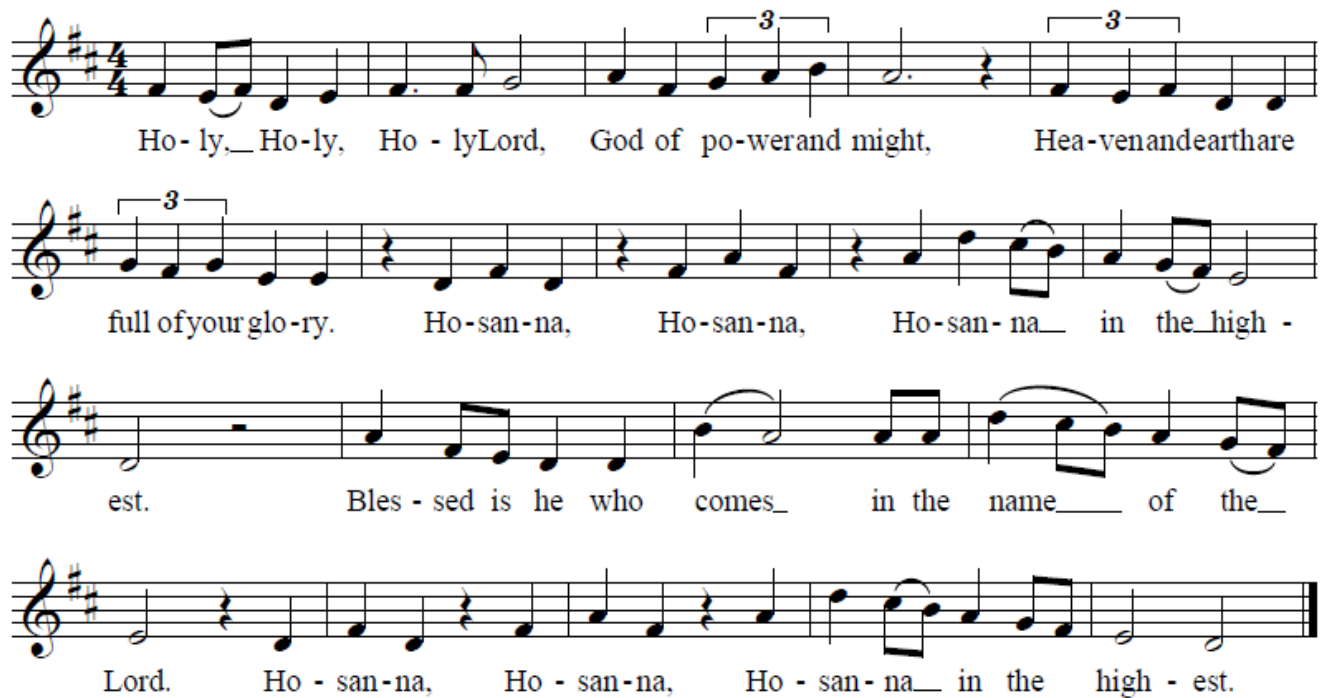
### The Eucharistic Prayer

**All The Lord be with you  
and also with you.**

**All Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them to the Lord.**

**All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
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:



Forgiving Lord, your Son's disciples covered 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.

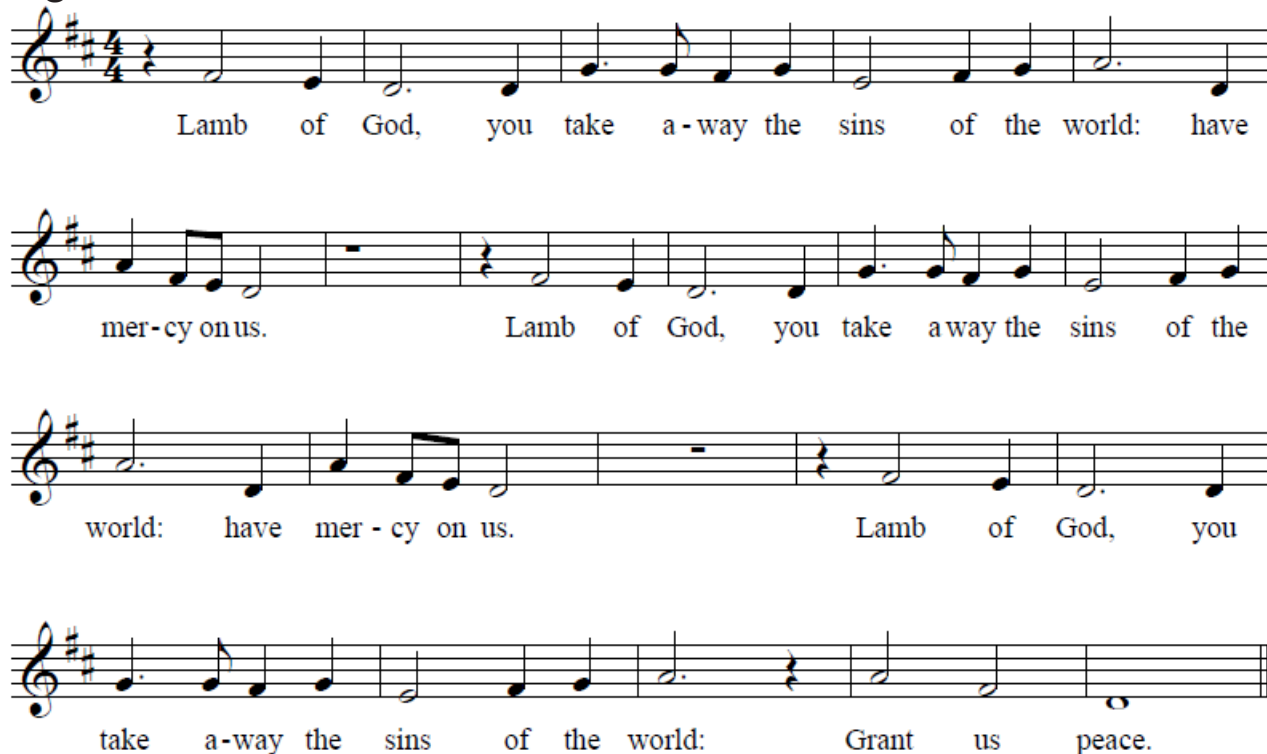
*All* **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

### 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



## The 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 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 Bread of life Bernadette Farrell

*Bread of life, hope of the world, Jesus Christ, our brother: feed us now, give us life, lead us to one another. As we proclaim your death, as we recall your life, we remember your promise to return again. This bread we break and share was scattered once as grain: just as now it is gathered, make your people one. We eat this living bread, we drink this saving cup: sign of hope in our broken world, source of lasting love.*

*Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957)*

*Silence is kept.*

## The 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 Good Christian folk, rejoice and sing!  
Now is the triumph of our King!  
To all the world glad news we bring:  
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***
- 2 The Lord of Life is risen for ay;  
bring flowers of song to strew his way;  
let all the earth rejoice and say  
*Alleluia...***
- 3 Praise we in songs of victory  
that love, that Life, which cannot die,  
and sing with hearts uplifted high  
*Alleluia...***
- 4 Thy name we bless, O risen Lord,  
and sing to-day with one accord  
the life laid down, the life restored:  
*Alleluia...***

*Cyril Argentine Alington (1872–1955)*



## Dismissal

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

*All* **In the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## Blessing Anthem Irish Blessing *Bob Chilcott*

May the road rise to meet you, may the wind be ever at your back, may the sun shine warm upon your face, and the rain fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again, may God hold you, ever in the palm of his hand.

*Trad.*

## Organ Voluntary

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

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