



Sunday 21 September 2025, 10am
The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Eucharist

Presider
Revd Richard Carter

Preacher
Revd Dr Sam Wells

The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed by
Jennifer Sterling

Organist
Tom Winpenny

Mass Setting
St Martin's Mass *Bednall*

⊕ 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@smidf.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@smidf.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

Introit There is a balm in Gilead *arr. Dawson*

There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole, there is a balm in Gilead, to heal the sin-sick soul. Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain, but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. There is a balm... If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul, you can tell the love of Jesus, and say, 'He died for all'. There is a balm...

Jeremiah 8: 22

Welcome

Silence is kept.

At the request of Churches Together in England, we are sharing a prayer from the Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem, Most Revd Dr Hosam Naoum.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: In your mercy, provide for all those in Gaza and beyond who suffer from hunger and starvation, that they may be given both physical bread to nourish their bodies and heavenly bread to sustain their souls. By the power of your Spirit, bring a speedy end to this cruel war, the release of all captives, care for the sick and wounded, comfort for those who have lost loved-ones, and the opening of a pathway for a just and lasting peace here in the very homeland where your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ministered during his earthly life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All **Amen.**

Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem, Most Reverend Dr Hosam E. Naoum. August, 2025

The prayer is followed by a minute's silence following the global call to prayer from the World Council of Churches.

Please stand.

The Greeting

All The Lord be with you
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 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.**
- 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)

Please sit or kneel.

Confession

Let us confess our sins to the God who knows us better than we know ourselves and loves us beyond our deserving or desiring.

Silence is kept.

We have claimed to love you, but have often failed.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

We have tried to love our neighbours as ourselves, but have sometimes loved neither.

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

We were made for your glory, but have fallen short and sometimes not even tried.

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.

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

Gloria in Excelsis *overleaf*

Collect

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Jeremiah 8: 18-9: 1 *read by Michael Okorokporo*

My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick. Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land: 'Is the Lord not in Zion? Is her King not in her?' ('Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?') 'The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.' For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt, I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.

Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored? O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of my poor people!

Hear the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Second Reading 1 Timothy 2: 1-7 *read by Andrea Budd*

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings should be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

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 O thou who camest from above
the fire celestial to impart,
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart!**

continued...

- 2 **There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze,
and trembling to its source return,
in humble prayer and fervent praise.**
- 3 **Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work, and speak, and think for thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up the gift in me.**

continued after Gospel reading

Gospel Reading Luke 16: 1-9

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus said to the disciples, 'There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, "What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer." Then the manager said to himself, "What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes." So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, "How much do you owe my master?" He answered, "A hundred jugs of olive oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty." Then he asked another, "And how much do you owe?" He replied, "A hundred containers of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and make it eighty." And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn *continued*

- 4 Ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat,
till death thy endless mercies seal,
and make the sacrifice complete.**

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Please sit after the opening prayer.

Sermon Revd Dr Sam Wells

Anthem O love *Elaine Hagenberg*

O love, that will not let me go, O love, I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be. O joy, that seeks me through the pain, O I cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be. O love...

George Matheson (1842-1906)

Please stand.

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.

Prayers of Intercession *led by Neil MacGregor*

The response to the prayers is:

God of wonder and 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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

*During the following hymn a collection will be taken for the ministry and work of St Martin-in-the-Fields. You are welcome to donate in the following ways: **cash in the collection bags** (filling in a Gift Aid envelope if applicable), using the **card machines**, or **scanning the QR code***



Offertory Hymn

- 1 **Inspired by love and anger, disturbed by need and pain,
informed of God's own bias, we ponder once again:
'How long must some folk suffer? How long can few folk mind?
How long dare vain self-interest turn prayer and pity blind?'**
- 2 **From those forever victims of heartless human greed,
their cruel plight composes a litany of need:
'Where are the fruits of justice? Where are the signs of peace?
When is the day when prisoners and dreams find their release?'**

continued...

- 3 From those forever shackled to what their wealth can buy,
the fear of lost advantage provokes the bitter cry,
'Don't query our position! Don't criticise our wealth!
Don't mention those exploited by politics or stealth!'
- 4 To God, who through the prophets proclaimed a different age,
we offer earth's indifference, its agony and rage:
'When will the wrongs be righted? When will the kingdom come?
When will the world be generous to all instead of some?'
- 5 God asks, 'Who will go for me? Who will extend my reach?
And who, when few will listen, will prophesy and preach?
And who, when few bid welcome, will offer all they know?
And who, when few dare follow, will walk the road I show?'

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

- 6 Amused in someone's kitchen, asleep in someone's boat,
attuned to what the ancients exposed, proclaimed and wrote,
a saviour without safety, a tradesman without tools
has come to tip the balance with fishermen and fools.

John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (1958-2019)

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:

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All 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 of wonder and love, we thank and praise you because we and all creation were your debtors; your Son Jesus Christ forgave our debts at the price of his own blood and showed us what your grace could do. When your people cried out for healing balm, you restored their soul, sending your only Son to be the steward who turned justice into mercy and in spite of our failure made us welcome in your eternal home as your companions forever. He transforms us from resentful antagonists and anxious sinners into joyful friends, and in his glorious resurrection opens the way to life with you. And so with angels and archangels and the company of heaven, we join the everlasting song of praise.

The musical score is written for an organ and voices. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The organ part is indicated by 'Org.' and the vocal part by 'f' (forte). The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of po-wer and might. Heav'n and Earth are full of your glo-ry, Ho - san - na in the high-est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The organ part is marked with 'ff' (fortissimo) and the vocal part with 'p' (piano) and 'pp' (pianissimo).

God our saviour, you desire everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth; and in Christ Jesus you have given us the one mediator between yourself and humankind. Receive the supplications and thanksgivings of your church, that by the power of your Spirit your people may be made holy in the likeness of your Son. By that same Holy Spirit, bless these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord 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.**

God of compassion, bring hope to any whose joy is gone, who find grief is upon them, whose heart is sick. Come near to all who find you far away, who have waited long, whose sadness is deep, who have been taken hold of by dismay, whose eyes are a fountain of tears. Be their balm in Gilead. Be the physician of their soul and body. Restore the well-being of your people. Give them faith, lend them patience, fill them with courage, and heal every sin-sick soul. Bring your whole creation to the day when your saints enjoy the glory of your kingdom, and you are all in all, one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

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

p Lamb of God; you take a-way the sin of the

mp world: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God; you take a - way the sin of the

mf world: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God; you take a-way the sin of the

p world: *pp* grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins 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 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 Os justi Bruckner

Os justi meditabitur sapientiam, ut lingua ejus loquetur judicium. Lex Dei ejus in corde ipsius et non supplantabuntur gressus ejus. *The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak justice. The Law of his God is in his heart and his steps shall not falter. Hallelujah.*

Psalms 37:30-31

Silence is kept.

Prayer after Communion

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **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 Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.
- 2 Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.
- 3 Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.
- 4 Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

continued...

**5 Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.**

Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)

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 Prelude in G BWV 541 *J.S. Bach*

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

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