

Holy Eucharist

Conversion of S. Paul



Visitors – welcome to our service today

To follow the service today you need this sheet, together with the coloured Holy Eucharist card.

Please ask Fr Chris if you would like a paper or email copy of the sermon to read

We welcome and invite baptised Christians from other denominations to receive Holy Communion at this service.

Please join us for refreshments after the service

If you are glad our church is here, please support us with your generosity in the collection, and by telling others about us.

To ask a question or to find out more, please speak to a minister or visit our website:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/christ-church-manche-normandy>



Entry of the Ministers T – Ellacombe

**We sing the glorious conquest
Before Damascus' gate,
When Saul, the Church's spoiler,
Came breathing threats and hate;
The rav'ning wolf rushed forward
Full early to the prey;
But lo! the Shepherd met him,
And bound him fast to-day.**

**O glory most excelling
That smote across his path!
Oh, light that pierced and blinded
The zealot in his wrath!
Oh, voice that spake within him
The calm, reproving word!
Oh, love that sought and held him
The servant of his Lord!**

**O Wisdom ord'ring all things
In order strong and sweet,
What nobler spoil was ever
Cast at the Victor's feet?
What wiser master-builder
E'er wrought at your employ
Than he, till now so furious
Your building to destroy?**

**Lord, teach your Church the lesson,
Still in her darkest hour
Of weakness and of danger,
To trust your hidden power:
Your grace by ways mysterious
The wrath of Earth can bind,
And in Thy boldest rival
Your chosen saint can find.**

Readings:

God's Word in the Scriptures



Jeremiah 1, vv4-10

- Go to where God sends you, say what he tells you!

Psalm 67 T – Heathlands

**God of mercy, God of grace,
Show the brightness of Thy face;
Shine upon us, Saviour, shine,
Fill Thy Church with light divine,
And Thy saving health extend
Unto earth's remotest end.**

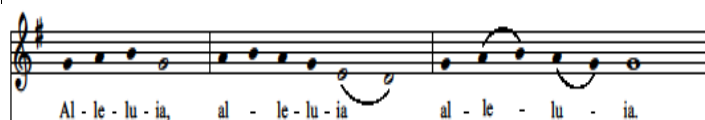
**Let the people praise Thee, Lord!
Be by all that live adored;
Let the nations shout and sing
Glory to th' eternal King;
At Thy feet their tributes pay
And Thy holy will obey.**

**Let the people praise Thee, Lord!
Earth shall then her fruits afford;
God to man His blessing give;
Man to God devoted live;
All below and all above
One in joy, in light, in love.**

Acts 9, vv1-22

- The conversion of Saul

Gospel greeting:



All repeat: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

The Lord said to Saul: I am Jesus whom you persecute.

All: Alleluia

Before the Gospel:

The Lord be with you.

All and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew (19, vv27-30)

All Glory to you, O Lord.

God's promise to the apostles

After the reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

All repeat: **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Preparing of the gifts *T - Slane*

**Come to God's table, for all is prepared,
the bread that we offer is broken and shared,
Christ's presence among us is food for the soul,
reviving, renewing, and making us whole.**

**Come to God's table, and drink of the wine,
the blood of the Saviour, in mystery divine,
the cup of salvation both priceless and free,
transforming God's people to all we can be.**

**Come to God's table, we come as we are,
we bring all the burdens we've carried so far,
in body, in spirit, in soul, mind and heart,
to feed on the grace only God can impart.**

**Come to God's table! then go in God's grace
to hold all the earth in a heav'nly embrace,
sent out in the Spirit to tend and to care
in thought, word and action, our life is our prayer.**

Sending Out *T: Woodlands*

**The early Christians' claim bewildered Saul:
how could their dead messiah be from God?
He journeyed out, for holy honour galled,
to quash their claim with persecution's rod.**

**Ambushed by grace, encountering the Christ,
the hunter at the mercy of his prey,
Saul left the wisdom of the learned wise
to live and die a fool for Jesus' sake.**

**"Receive your sight" brave Ananias prayed,
and Paul saw deep into the way of Christ:
the foolish wisdom that his life portrayed,
his steadfast faithfulness with death its price.**

**Christ was on earth the flesh and blood of grace
who for love entered and for love explored
the furthest reaches of our deep disgrace
so we through him, in him could be restored.**

**Christ's body showed the new creation's dawn
will quash the stranglehold of death and pain;
and Paul saw here the template for Christ's own:
for us to live is Christ, to die is gain.**

**Now we in Christ are flesh and blood of grace,
the living icons of what God can do;
grant us we pray, for every time and place
the foolish wisdom that brings Christ to view.**