

ST MARK AND ALL SAINTS, READING

PARISH MASS

SUNDAY 26TH OCTOBER 2025

Bible Sunday

THE GATHERING

*All the words are in this service sheet. Please join in with the words printed in **bold type**.*

At the start of the service a bell is rung and the procession enters as we stand to sing the opening hymn.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Thou whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the Gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

Thou, who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move o'er the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

Blessed and holy Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the world far and wide
let there be light.

THE GREETING

✠ In the name of the Father,

and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The priest welcomes us and introduces the theme of the service.

PRAYER OF PENITENCE

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.**

**We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

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.
Amen.

Knowing that we are forgiven for our sins we sing this song of praise to God.

**Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.**

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory . . .**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer. .**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. . .**

The priest invites us to pray silently and then prays the collect

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast
the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Please sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Romans 15.1-6

We who are strong ought to put up with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Each of us must please our neighbour for the good purpose of building up the neighbour. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, 'The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.' For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN PSALM 119

Tune: Ravenscroft

Our gradual Hymn is a congregational setting of today's psalm.

As we stand and sing the Gospel Book is carried into the midst of the congregation, reflecting God's coming among us in Christ. Please turn to face it.

**Remarkable are your decrees;
My soul keeps your command.
Resplendence from your charges helps
The simple understand.**

**Respiring as I long for your
Commands, I will proclaim.
Regard me justly by your grace,
With those who love your name.**

**Restore my steps by all your speech;
From evil keep me free.
Redeem me from abuse, so I
May keep your just decree.**

**Regard me with your glorious face;
O teach me your demands.
Reduced to tears, I mourn that they
Do not keep your commands.**

THE GOSPEL

Luke 4.16-24

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
Speak Lord for your servant is listening,
You have the words of eternal life..
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you
And also with you
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to release the oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.

Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself! Do here in your home town what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.'"

"I tell you the truth," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his home town."

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

THE SERMON

A brief period of silence may follow for us to reflect on the address and the readings today, then the priest invites us to stand to declare our faith.

THE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the
Virgin Mary and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son**

is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Sit or kneel to pray

THE INTERCESSIONS

During the prayers these or other responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

And at the end of the prayers we say

Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand

THE PEACE

We are the Body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

We greet those around us in the peace of Christ, shaking hands and saying "Peace be with you"

OFFERTORY HYMN

Regent Square

Word of life! Such transformation!
bringing light to darkest space;
loving mother of creation,
forging life in every place.
Shine that light on every nation,
gather us in your embrace.

Word of truth! You spoke though history,
prophets knew you as their friend;
As you shared with earth the mystery
of your love that knows no end.

**Yet your fullest glory must be
More than words can comprehend.**

**Word made flesh! You came to meet us,
pitched your tent among our own,
Born on earth so heaven could greet us:
God in human heart and bone.
Teach us, lead us, tend us, feed us
with the life that's yours alone.**

**Words of scripture, here you teach us,
All you speak is here received.
Shared by print and voice to reach us:
written, read and now believed;
Speak again to all and each, as
faith is grown and life is lived.**

When the altar is prepared and the offerings received the president leads the offertory prayers.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread
to set before you,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.
Blessed be God for ever.

Generous God, as we gather around your table called and welcomed by Christ we present this
money, symbol of all the gifts you give to us.
**use it, use us, in the service of your world
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;

who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.
By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was
betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, 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

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father,
calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,

we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of [N and] all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen

We kneel or sit as silence is kept before the Lord's Prayer.

**Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

The priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

The priest invites the people to receive Communion, and says

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world**

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world
grant us your peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

St Peter

Teach us to love the Scriptures, Lord,
to read and mark and learn;
and daily in your written word
the living Word discern.

Your purposes in us fulfil
as we your promise claim,
who seek to know and do your will
and learn to love your Name.

When in some dark and cloudy day
beset by fears we stand,
your word be light upon our way,
a sword within our hand.

As on your word our spirits feed
through all its pages shine;
make known yourself to us who read,
the Bread of life divine.

So shall the treasures of your word
become as sacred ground;
teach us to love the Scriptures, Lord,
where Christ is surely found.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Once communion has been shared we stand when the priest invites us to pray.

God of all grace,
your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry
with the bread of his life
and the word of his kingdom:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your true and living bread;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen.

**God of gentleness and love
draw near to us as we draw near to you.
Dwell in every heart and conversation.
Fashion in us the likeness of your Son, Jesus Christ.
Help us to discern together
all that you are calling us to be
and all that you are calling us to do.
Assist us by your Spirit
to become a more contemplative,
more compassionate
and more courageous Church,
for the building of your kingdom
and the glory of your Son.
Amen.**

NOTICES

*We sit to listen to any notices about parish events.
Banns of Marriage may be announced.*

*If your **Birthday** falls this week please tell us we would love to celebrate with you.*

THE DISMISSAL

Stand

THE BLESSING

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image
of his glory and gladden your hearts with the
good news of his kingdom; and the blessing
of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

**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.**

**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.

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.

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.

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.

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England (2000).

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