

St Matthew's – Morning Praise with Holy Communion

10.45am Sunday 21st November 2021

Service Leader: Rev Joe Smith Preacher: Mr Neale Wright

Theme: Beatitude 8 - Matt 5:10 - Blessed are the persecuted

Welcome to St Matthews.

Children leave at the end of the All Age Song and return at the end of the service. We will be serving refreshments after the service.

Please place any financial gifts in the collection box at the back, use the contactless machine or donate via the church website.

Welcome and Notices

Opening Words

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.

Let us recognize his presence with us.

Silence is kept.

As God's people we have gathered:

let us worship him together.

Song

Come let us worship our King
Come let us bow at His feet
He has done great things
See what our Saviour has done
See how His love overcomes
He has done great things
He has done great things



Oh, hero of Heaven,
You conquer the grave
You free every captive
and break every chain
Oh God, You have done great things
We dance in Your freedom,
awakened to life
Oh Jesus, our Saviour,
Your name lifted high
Oh God, You have done great things

You've been faithful through every storm
You'll be faithful forevermore
You have done great things
And I know You will do it again
For Your promise is "Yes and amen"
You will do great things
God, You do great things

*Hallelujah God, above it all
Hallelujah God, unshakable
Hallelujah, You have done great things
Hallelujah God, above it all
Hallelujah God, unshakable
Hallelujah, You have done great things
You've done great thing*

Confession and Absolution

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world
and knows our every word and deed.
Let us then open ourselves to the Lord
and confess our sins in penitence and faith.



We have not always worshipped God, our creator.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

We have not always followed Christ, our Saviour.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

We have not always trusted in the Spirit, our guide.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The Lord enrich *you* with his grace,
and nourish *you* with his blessing;
the Lord defend *you* in trouble and keep *you* from all evil;
the Lord accept *your* prayers,
and absolve *you* from *your* offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.
Amen.

Short Talk

All Age Song

I lay my life down at Your feet
You're the only One I need
I turn to You and You are always there
In troubled times it's You I seek
I put You first that's all I need
I humble all I am all to You



One way Jesus
You're the only One that I could live for
One way Jesus
You're the only One that I could live for
One way Jesus
You're the only One that I could live for
One way Jesus
You're the only One that I could live for

You are always
Always there
Every how and every where
Your grace abounds so deeply within me
You will never ever change
Yesterday today the same
Forever 'til forever meets no end

*You are the Way
The Truth and the Life
We live by faith and not by sight
For You
We're living all for You
You are the Way
The Truth and the Life
We live by faith and not by sight
For You
We're living all for You*

Children leave for Children's Church and return at the end of the service.

Intercessions (Rita Chilton)

These responses may be used
Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.



At the end

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

Collect

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory. **Amen**

Song

Your grace is enough
More than I need
At your word I will believe
I wait for you
Draw near again
Let your spirit make me new
And I will fall at your feet
I will fall at your feet
And I will worship you here

Your presence in me
Jesus light the way
By the power of your word
I am restored
I am redeemed
By your spirit I am free
And I will fall at your feet
I will fall at your feet
And I will worship you here



Freely you gave it all for us
Surrendered Your life upon that cross
Great is the love
Poured out for all
This is our God
Lifted on high from death to life
Forever our God is glorified
Servant and King
Rescued the world
This is our God

*And I will fall at your feet
I will fall at your feet
And I will worship you here*

1st Bible Reading: Acts 7:54-60 (Diane Edlin)



⁵⁴ When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ 'Look,' he said, 'I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.'

⁵⁷ At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸ dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹ While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' ⁶⁰ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he fell asleep.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

2nd Bible Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-19 (Graham Hird)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you, O Lord

¹² Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. ¹⁵ If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. ¹⁶ However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. ¹⁷ For it is time for judgment to begin with God's household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And,

'If it is hard for the righteous to be saved,
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?'

¹⁹ So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

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

Sermon Mr Neale Wright



Creed

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

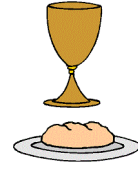
**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Holy Communion

The Lord be with you
and also with you.



The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

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.

It is indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word;
through him you have created all things from the beginning,
and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;
you raised him from the dead
and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us
your holy and life-giving Spirit,
and made us a people for your own possession.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and *saying*:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,

through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;
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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.**

Amen.

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.

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.**

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink

in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

Amen.

[Communion is distributed in one kind only]

Hand sanitising stations are available. Please maintain social distancing.

Prayer ministry is available in the side chapel.

Communion Songs:



The Table of the Lord

From the cross You made a table
Making room for all of us
Though the feast is never-ending
We will never know the cost

From Your hands You made a table
With the nails that held You down
By Your scars You built redemption
We will never know the cost

We give thanks around the table
The table of the Lord
Where Your mercy's pouring freely
And perfect love restores
Oh, Your grace is overflowing
It spills out on the floor
There is so much more
At the table of the Lord

From the grave You rose in power
Now forever You will reign
Highest King and humble servant
Come and take Your rightful place
Come and take Your rightful place

*We're in awe of who You are
We're in awe of what You've done
We have to worship
We have to worship
We're in awe we belong
We're in awe of it all
We have to worship
We have to worship*

When the tears fall

I've had questions without answers
I've known sorrow I have known pain
But there's one thing that I'll cling to
You are faithful Jesus You're true

When hope is lost I'll call You Savior
When pain surrounds I'll call You healer
When silence falls
You'll be the song within my heart

In the lone hour of my sorrow
Through the darkest night of my soul
You surround me and sustain me
My defender forevermore

*I will praise You I will praise You
When the tears fall still I will sing to You
I will praise You Jesus praise You
Through the suff'ring still I will sing*



Prayer after Communion

Song

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand



In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Offertory Prayer

Blessing & Closing Words

**God of power,
may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,
may the gifts of your Spirit equip us to serve and
worship you
now and always.**



The love of the Lord Jesus
draw you to himself,
the power of the Lord Jesus
strengthen you in his service,
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

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