

St Matthew's – All Age Communion

10.45am Sunday 29th September 2024

Service Leader: Rev Jim Trood

Preacher: Mrs Izzy Butterfield

Welcome to St Matthew's.

Please join us for tea or coffee after this service.

Today's service is an All Age Communion service. At the appropriate point in the service, and following the wardens' directions, please come forward to receive a blessing or communion. If it is your normal practice to receive bread and wine, you are welcome to receive it at St Matthew's. Some of our children have also been admitted to communion before confirmation and will receive the bread and the wine. For hygiene reasons we do not "dip" the bread in the wine but if you prefer just to receive the bread, that is perfectly acceptable.

Please place any financial gifts in the bags which will be passed around during our offertory song. If you prefer you may use the contactless machine at the back of church or donate via the church website.

Welcome & Notices

Opening Words

Why are we here?

We are here to worship God.

Why are we here?

We are here to hear from God.

Why are we here?

We are here to pray to God.

Sung Worship

Praise Him, you heavens and all that's above
Praise Him you angels and heavenly hosts
Let the whole earth praise Him



Praise Him the sun moon and bright shining stars
Praise Him you heavens and waters and skies
Let the whole earth praise Him

Great in power, great in glory, great in mercy
King of Heaven
Great in battle, great in wonder, great in Zion
King over all the earth

Saying Sorry

**Almighty God,
long-suffering and of great goodness:
I confess to you,
I confess with my whole heart
my neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments,
my wrong doing, thinking, and speaking;
the hurts I have done to others,
and the good I have left undone.
O God, forgive me, for I have sinned against you;
and raise me to newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



God Forgives

May God our Father forgive us our sins,
and bring us to the fellowship of his table
with his saints for ever. **Amen.**



Introduction

Sung Worship



Blessed be the name of the Lord

Blessed be the name of the Lord,

Blessed be the name of the Lord Most High! *(Repeat)*

The name of the Lord is a strong tower,

The righteous run into it, and they are saved. *(Repeat)*

Glory to the name of the Lord,

Glory to the name of the Lord,

Glory to the name of the Lord Most High! *(Repeat)*

The name of the Lord is, a strong tower,

The righteous run into it, and they are saved. *(Repeat)*

Holy is the name of the Lord,

Holy is the name of the Lord,

Holy is the name of the Lord Most High! *(Repeat)*

The name of the Lord is, a strong tower,

The righteous run into it, and they are saved. *(Repeat)*

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

O my soul,
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before,
O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy name.



The sun comes up it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing;
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come;
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending:
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

Prayers (Rita Chilton)

[These responses may be used]

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.



[And at the end]

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



Special Prayer for Today (Collect)

God, our judge and saviour,
teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love,
that we may live each day
with confidence in the salvation which is given
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

1st Bible Reading: Genesis 1:27- 2:3 (ERV) (Millie Barkley)



²⁷ So God created humans in his own image. He created them to be like himself. He created them male and female. ²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, “Have many children. Fill the earth and take control of it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the air. Rule over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

²⁹ God said, “I am giving you all the grain bearing plants and all the fruit trees. These trees make fruit with seeds in it. This grain and fruit will be your food. ³⁰ And I am giving all the green plants to the animals. These green plants will be their food. Every animal on earth, every bird in the air, and all the little things that crawl on the earth will eat that food.” And all these things happened.

³¹ God looked at everything he had made. And he saw that everything was very good.

There was evening, and then there was morning. This was the sixth day.

2 So the earth, the sky, and everything in them were finished. ² God finished the work he was doing, so on the seventh day he rested from his work. ³ God blessed the seventh day and made it a holy day. He made it special because on that day he rested from all the work he did while creating the world.

[at the end]

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Mark 2:23-28 (ERV) (Patti Lane)

At the beginning

Please stand for our gospel reading.



Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 2:23-28.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ On the Sabbath day, Jesus and his followers were walking through some grain fields. The followers picked some grain to eat. ²⁴ Some Pharisees said to Jesus, “Why are your followers doing this? It is against the law to pick grain on the Sabbath.”

²⁵ Jesus answered, “You have read what David did when he and the people with him were hungry and needed food. ²⁶ It was during the time of Abiathar the high priest. David went into God’s house and ate the bread that was offered to God. And the Law of Moses says that only priests can eat that bread. David also gave some of the bread to the people with him.”

²⁷ Then Jesus said to the Pharisees, “The Sabbath day was made to help people. People were not made to be ruled by the Sabbath. ²⁸ So the Son of Man is Lord of every day, even the Sabbath.”

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon (Izzy Butterfield)



The Peace

Blessed are the peacemakers:

they shall be called children of God.

We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Sung Creed (including offering)

We believe in God the Father,
a mighty God who never sleeps,
He delights to hear our laughter,
He consoles the child that weeps,
And He loves us like a mother,
And He sent us Christ our brother,
Above Him there is no other!



We believe in God our Father,
And in Christ who sets us free.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
Blessed Trinity.

We believe in Christ our Saviour,
God with us to show us love,
Died a shameful death to save us,
Now He sits enthroned above.
You can come to Him whenever,
His forgiveness failing never,
Our Great Shepherd, King forever!

We believe the Holy Spirit
Is our comforter and guide.
Though we walk in fearful darkness,
Still we have this light inside,
Joy, Love, Gentleness and Kindness,
Self-Control, Peace, Patience, Goodness,
Adding Faithfulness to all this!

Bridge

Our Father God who made us,
His Son who came down to save us,
The Spirit who sustains us,
The Holy Three in One.

Offertory Prayer

**God of all goodness and grace,
receive the gifts we offer;
and grant that our whole life
may give you glory and praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



Holy Communion

(The children may gather round the table at the front if they wish.)

The Lord is here.

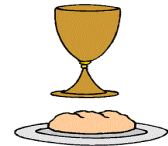
His Spirit is with us.

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.



Lord of all life,
you created the universe,
where all living things reflect your glory.
You give us this great and beautiful earth,
to discover and to cherish.

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord;
holy is the Lord God almighty.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord;
holy is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord!**

We thank you, loving Father,
because, when we turned away,
you sent Jesus, your Son.
He gave his life for us on the cross
and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died,
when darkness had fallen,
Jesus took bread.
He gave thanks, broke it,
and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.
As you feed us with these gifts,
send your Holy Spirit,
and change us more and more
to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us, Father, to love one another,
as we look forward to that day
when suffering is ended,
and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with all your saints
we give you glory,
through Jesus Christ,
in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Communion is distributed.

*(Please follow the wardens' directions.
The musicians receive first.)*

*Please note – dipping the wafer in the wine is not allowed for
health reasons.*

Prayer ministry is available in the side chapel.

Songs during Communion

There is no greater love

Than how you died for us
So we may walk with you;
There is no greater love.



There is no greater cost
Than dying on a cross
Drawing our hearts to you;
There is no greater cost

Jesus we give you praise,
Glorify your name,
For your love has overcome the darkness.
Jesus we give you praise,
Glorify your name,
For your love has overcome the grave!

Be still for the presence of the Lord,

The holy one is here.
Come bow before him now
With reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found -
We stand on holy ground.
Be still for the presence of the Lord,
The holy one is here.



Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire,
With splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight -
Our radiant king of light.
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around.

Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal,
To minister his grace -
No work too hard for him.
In faith receive from him.
Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place.

(Optional Verse)

Be still for the kindness of the Lord
Is there when times are hard
His love will lift and heal
The bruised and battle scarred
He is our strength and shield
The heart of God revealed
Be still for the kindness of the Lord
Is there when times are hard.

Prayer after Communion

Father of all,
we thank you that you have shared this feast of your
kingdom with all peoples
and have united all races in your Son Jesus Christ:
may the unity we have known here
give us a joyful anticipation of the fullness of life
to which you call us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.
Amen.



Song

Before the throne of God above

I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart



When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin
Because the sinless Saviour died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there the risen Lamb
My perfect spotless righteousness
The great unchangeable I Am
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased with His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Saviour and my God
With Christ my Saviour and my God

Blessing & Closing Words

The Lord bless you and watch over you,
the Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you,
the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace; **Amen.**



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