

**St Matthew's – Morning Praise
10.45am Sunday 26th April 2026**

Service Leader: Rev Jim Trood

Preacher: Mr Jeremy Sargent

Theme: Distinctively Christian 1 - The person of Jesus

Welcome to St Matthew's. Please join us for tea or coffee after this service. Children leave for Children's Church after the All Together song, returning at midday.

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.

If you would like a translation or captions to help follow today's service in real-time, please scan this QR code and select English for live subtitles, or choose your preferred language.



Welcome & Notices

Opening Words

Faithful one, whose word is life:
come with saving power
to free our praise,
inspire our prayer
and shape our lives
for the kingdom of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Song



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 (Confession)



Christ came in humility to share our lives:
forgive our pride.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Christ came with good news for all people:
forgive our silence.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ came in love to a world of suffering:
forgive our self-centredness.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Forgiveness (Absolution)

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw us to himself
and cleanse us from all our sins,
that we may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



All Together Talk

All Together Song

Our God is a great big God
Our God is a great big God
Our God is a great big God
And He holds us in His hands



He is higher than a skyscraper
He's deeper than a submarine
He is wider than the universe
And beyond my wildest dreams
And He's known me
and He's loved me
Since before the world began
How wonderful to be a part
of God's amazing plan

[Children leave for their groups]

Song

My Jesus, my Saviour,
Lord, there is none like you;
all of my days, I want to praise
the wonders of your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter,
tower of refuge and strength,
let every breath, all that I am,
never cease to worship you.



Shout to the Lord all the earth,
let us sing power and majesty,
praise to the king;
mountains bow down and the seas will roar
at the sound of your name.
I sing for joy at the work of your hands,
for ever I'll love you, for ever I'll stand;
nothing compares to the promise
I have in you.

Intercessions (Jimm Rennie)

[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

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.



The Lord's Prayer

**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.



Song

Jesus Christ, I think upon Your sacrifice:

You became nothing, poured out to death.
Many times I've wondered at Your gift of life,
And I'm in that place once again,
I'm in that place once again.

And once again I look upon the cross where You died:
I'm humbled by Your mercy and I'm broken inside,
Once again I thank You,
Once again I pour out my life.

Now You are exalted to the highest place -
King of the heavens, where one day I'll bow,
But for now, I marvel at this saving grace,
And I'm full of praise once again,
I'm full of praise once again.

Bridge

Thank you for the cross.
Thank you for the cross.
Thank you for the cross, my friend. *[Repeat]*



1st Bible Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18 p.1202 (Natasha McGuinness)



¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death – that is, the devil – ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

[At the end]

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

2nd Bible Reading: John 1:1-14 p.1062 (Joan Cartridge)



¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹ The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.

¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

[At the end]

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



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.**

[Prayer ministry is available in the side chapel]

Sung Offertory

There is a redeemer

Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious lamb of God, Messiah,
Holy one.



Thank you, O my Father,
For giving us your Son,
And leaving your Spirit
Till the work on earth is done.



Jesus my redeemer,
Name above all names,
Precious lamb of God, Messiah,
O for sinners slain.

When I stand in glory
I will see his face.
And there I'll serve my King for ever,
In that holy place.

Offering Prayer



Blessing

Lord Jesus Christ,
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:
give us the courage to follow you
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
to the glory of God the Father.



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.