

St Matthew's – Holy Communion

10.45am Sunday 20th September 2026

**Reflections on Stewardship 2: The Shrewd Manager or
Farsighted Wisdom?**

Service Leader: Rev Jim Trood

Preacher: Rev Yemi Oladunjoye

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.



Prayer ministry will be available following Communion in the prayer chapel. If you are unable to get to the prayer chapel, please speak to a warden who will arrange for prayer ministers to come to you.

Welcome, Notices and Banns

Opening Words

Let everything be said and done in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God through Jesus Christ.

Let us bring our gifts to the Lord

that they may be used for his glory.

May the Spirit of God fill our hearts

as we come to meet him in this place.



Song

Praise is rising,
eyes are turning to You
We turn to You.
Hope is stirring,
hearts are yearning for You
We long for You.



'Cause when we see You,
we find strength to face the day,
In your presence,
all our fears are washed away
Washed away.

Hosanna Hosanna
You are the God who saves us,
Worthy of all our praises
Hosanna Hosanna
Come have Your way among us
We welcome You here Lord Jesus.

Hear the sound of
hearts returning to You
We turn to You.
In Your kingdom
broken lives are made new
You make us new.

Saying Sorry (Confession)

As those who know the generosity of God,
let us confess our sins,
especially the ways in which we take his good gifts for granted.

Father, in all things you are generous towards us,
yet we have sown sparingly;
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.



Jesus, you show us the way of humility,
yet we have given reluctantly;
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit, you show us the gift of grace,
yet we have loved grudgingly;
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Forgiveness (Absolution)

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive us our sins,
open our eyes to God's truth,
strengthen us to do God's will
and give us the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



All Together Talk (Rev Jim)

Sung Worship

In my wrestling and in my doubts

In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea
You are the peace in my troubled sea



In the silence, You won't let go
In the questions, Your truth will hold
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea
You are the peace in my troubled sea

My lighthouse, my lighthouse
Shining in the darkness. I will follow You
My lighthouse, my lighthouse
I will trust the promise.
You will carry me safe to shore
(oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)
Safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)
Safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)
Safe to shore

I won't fear what tomorrow brings
With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea
You are the peace in my troubled sea

Bridge

Fire before us. You're the brightest
You will lead us through the storms [x4]

[Children leave for their groups]

Sung Worship

You chose the cross with every breath,
the perfect life, the perfect death:
you chose the cross.



A crown of thorns you wore for us, and crowned us with eternal life:
you chose the cross.

And though your soul was overwhelmed with pain,
obedient to death you overcame.

I'm lost in wonder, I'm lost in love,
I'm lost in praise forever more.
Because of Jesus' unfailing love,
I am forgiven, I am restored.

You loosed the cords of sinfulness
and broke the chains of my disgrace:
you chose the cross.
Up from the grave victorious you rose again so glorious:
you chose the cross.
The sorrow that surrounded you was mine,
"Yet not my will but yours be done", you cried.

Intercessions (Alyson Green)

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

Lord of creation,
whose glory is around and within us:
open our eyes to your wonders,
that we may serve you with reverence
and know your peace at our lives' end,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



1st Bible Reading:



- 1 Timothy 6:6–10, 17–19 p.1194 (Sarah Samuel Augustine)

⁶ Godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. ⁹ Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

...

¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

[at the end]

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading:



- Luke 16:1-13 p.1049 (Jeremy Sargent)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

16 Jesus told his disciples: ‘There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. ² So he called him in and asked him, “What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.”

³ ‘The manager said to himself, “What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I’m not strong enough to dig, and I’m ashamed to beg – ⁴ I know what I’ll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.”

⁵ ‘So he called in each one of his master’s debtors. He asked the first, “How much do you owe my master?”

⁶ ““Three thousand litres of olive oil,” he replied.

‘The manager told him, “Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifteen hundred.”

⁷ ‘Then he asked the second, “And how much do you owe?”

““Thirty tons of wheat,” he replied.

‘He told him, “Take your bill and make it twenty-four.”

⁸ ‘The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. ⁹ I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

¹⁰ ‘Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.

¹¹ So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? ¹² And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?

¹³ ‘No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.’

[at the end]

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



Nicene 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.**

Peace

Jesus said, "A new command I give you: love one another.
As I have loved you, so you must love one another.
By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,
if you love one another."



The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Offertory Song

I will offer up my life in spirit and truth,
Pouring out the oil of love as my worship to You.
In surrender I must give my every part;
Lord, receive the sacrifice of a broken heart.



Jesus, what can I give, what can I bring
To so faithful a friend, to so loving a king?
Saviour what can be said, what can be sung
As a praise of Your name for the things You have done?
Oh my words could not tell, not even in part,
Of the debt of love that is owed by this thankful heart.

You deserve my every breath, for You've paid the great cost -
Giving up Your life to death, even death on a cross.
You took all my shame away, there defeated my sin,
Opened up the gates of heaven and beckoned me in.

Bridge

What can I give, what can I bring,
What can I sing as an offering, O Lord?

Offertory Prayer



Holy Communion

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.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
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.**

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.

Breaking of the 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.

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

Prayer ministry is available.

Songs during Communion

I my life Lord

be glorified, be glorified.
In my life, Lord,
be glorified today



In my church Lord...

In your hearts Lord...

In my life Lord.....

Spirit of the living God

Fall afresh on me
Spirit of the living God
Fall afresh on me
Fill me anew
Fill me anew
Spirit of the Lord
Fall afresh on me



Thank you for saving me; What can I say?

You are my everything,
I will sing your praise.
You shed your blood for me;
What can I say?
You took my sin and shame,
A sinner called by name.



Great is the Lord. Great is the Lord
For we know your truth has set us free;
You've set your hope in me.

Mercy and grace are mine, forgiven is my sin;
Jesus my only hope.
The saviour of the world.
'Great is the Lord,' we cry,
'God let your kingdom come.'
Your word has let me see,
Thank you for saving me.

Prayer after Communion

Loving and righteous God.
here at your table we have tasted your goodness and generosity
which exceeds all that we can desire or deserve;
liberate us from all jealousy and greed,
that we may respond cheerfully by offering ourselves,
and love and serve others to witness to your glory,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.



Amen.

Song

All my days

I will sing this song of gladness
Give my praise
To the Fountain of delights
For in my helplessness You heard my cry
And waves of mercy poured down on my life



I will trust
In the cross of my Redeemer
I will sing of the blood that never fails
Of sins forgiven
Of conscience cleansed
Of death defeated and life without end

Beautiful Saviour Wonderful Counsellor
Clothed in majesty Lord of history
You're the Way the Truth the Life
Star of the Morning glorious in holiness
You're the Risen One heaven's Champion
And You reign You reign over all

I long to be
Where the praise is never ending
Yearn to dwell
Where the glory never fades
Where countless worshippers
Will share one song
And cries of worthy will honour the Lamb

Closing Words



The God of hope fill us with every blessing,
that we may share in every good work;
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.