St Matthew's – All Age Communion
10.45am Sunday 29th November 2025

Service Leader: Rev Yemi Oladunjoye **Preacher: Rev Jim Trood**

Welcome to St Matthew's. Please join us for tea or coffee after this service.

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

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.

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 health and safety reasons we do not "dip" the bread in the wine but if you prefer just to receive the bread, that is perfectly acceptable.

Welcome & Notices

Advent Wreath Prayer

(The first candle on the Advent Wreath is lit)



People of God: awake!
The day is coming soon
when you shall see God face to face.
Remember the ways and the works of God.
God calls you out of darkness
to walk in the light of his coming.
You are God's children.
Lord, make us one as we walk with Christ
today and for ever.
Amen.

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



No other name can satisfy
You are the one my heart desires
No other name can satisfy
No other name but Jesus

No other name could be this high
You are the promised King of Zion
No other name be lifted high
No other name but Jesus

You are the one that we love
You are the one that we love

Bridge
You set my feet on a rock
On a rock
On a rock

Saying Sorry



Heavenly Father,
you have created a universe of light:
forgive us when we return to darkness.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus,
you are the light of the world:
cleanse and heal our blinded sight.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit,
you give us light in our hearts:
renew us in faith and love.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

God Forgives



May almighty God,
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
bring us his pardon and peace, now and for ever.
Amen.

Introduction

Prayers (Barbara Parker)



[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 (Collect)



Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin
to the light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

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]*

Gospel Reading: Luke 12.35-40 p.1045 (Emmanuel Kemakolam)



[At the beginning]
Please stand for our Gospel reading.

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

35 ‘Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning,
36 like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding
banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately
open the door for him. 37 It will be good for those servants whose
master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will
dress himself to serve, will make them recline at the table and will
come and wait on them. 38 It will be good for those servants whose
master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night
or towards daybreak.

39 But understand this: if the owner of the house had known at what
hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be
broken into. 40 You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will
come at an hour when you do not expect him.’

[At the end]
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon (Rev Jim)



Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

The Peace



In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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

Offertory Song

I love You Lord









Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days
I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night
You are close like no other
I've known You as a father
I've known You as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

Bridge
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me

Offertory Prayer



Generous God,
creator, redeemer, sustainer,
at your table we present this money,
symbol of the work you have given us to do;
use it, use us,
in the service of your world
to the glory of your name.
Amen.

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 always right to give you thanks,
God our Creator,
loving and faithful, holy and strong.

You made us and the whole universe,
and filled your world with life.

You sent your Son to live among us,
Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.
He suffered on the cross;
he died to save us from our sins;
he rose in glory from the dead.

You send your Spirit
to bring new life to the world,
and clothe us with power from on high.
And so we join the angels to celebrate and sing:
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.

Father, on the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.
He took the bread, and thanked you.
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you.
This is my blood,
the new promise of God's unfailing love.
Do this to remember me.

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

Father, as we bring this bread and wine,
and remember his death and resurrection,
send your Holy Spirit,
that we who share these gifts
may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.

Pour your Spirit on us
that we may love one another,
work for the healing of the earth,
and share the good news of Jesus,
as we wait for his coming in glory.

For honour and praise belong to you, Father,
with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:
one God, 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.

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.

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.

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

Faithful One,
So unchanging,
Ageless One, you're my rock of peace.
Lord of all, I depend on you,
I call out to you again and again,
I call out to you again and again.



You are my rock in times of trouble,
You lift me up when I fall down;
All through the storm your love is the anchor -
My hope is in you alone.

This is my desire
To honour You
Lord with all my heart
I worship You
All I have within me
I give You praise
All that I adore is in You



Lord I give You my heart
I give You my soul
I live for You alone
Ev'ry breath that I take
Ev'ry moment I'm awake
Lord have Your way in me

Prayer after Communion



O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Song



Come Thou fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it
Mount of Thy redeeming love

Here I raise my Ebenezer
Here by Thy great help I've come
And I hope by Thy good pleasure
Safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wandering from the fold of God
He to rescue me from danger
Interposed His precious blood

Oh, to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness like a fetter
Bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, oh take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above

Blessing & Closing Words



Almighty God, by your command time runs its course;
forgive our impatience, perfect our faith,
and, while we wait for the fulfilment of your promises,
grant us to have a good hope because of your word;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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.