

Holy Communion

9.30am – 30th March 2025

Mothering Sunday

Now thank we all our God, 530
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore,
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

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Gathering and Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of
the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you

Welcome – Revd Philip Sudell

Prayers of Penitence

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. Let us confess our sins remembering before God the times when we have fallen from temptation into sin.

Confession

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

We sing the

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Assurance of forgiveness

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Collect

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. All: Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 2:1-10

Now a man of the tribe of Levi married a Levite woman,² and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months.³ But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile.⁴ His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him.⁵ Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the riverbank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her female slave to get it.⁶ She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. 'This is one of the Hebrew babies,' she said.⁷ Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?'⁸ 'Yes, go,' she answered. So the girl went and got the baby's mother.⁹ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you.' So the woman took the baby and nursed him.¹⁰ When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, 'I drew him out of the water.'

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 34:11-20

O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.

¹¹ Come, my children, and listen to me; • I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

¹² Who is there who delights in life • and longs for days to enjoy good things?

O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.

¹³ Keep your tongue from evil • and your lips from lying words.

¹⁴ Turn from evil and do good; • seek peace and pursue it.

O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.

¹⁵ The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous • and his ears are open to their cry.

¹⁶ The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, • to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.

¹⁷ The righteous cry and the Lord hears them • and delivers them out of all their troubles.

¹⁸ The Lord is near to the brokenhearted • and will save those who are crushed in spirit.

O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.

¹⁹ Many are the troubles of the righteous; • from them all will the Lord deliver them.

²⁰ He keeps all their bones, • so that not one of them is broken.

O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.

New Testament Reading

2 Corinthians 1:3-7

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort,⁴ who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.⁵ For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.⁶ If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer.⁷ And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

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

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 6:19-34

¹⁹ 'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ²² 'The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! ²⁴ '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.

²⁵ 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷ Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

²⁸ 'And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. ²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. ³⁰ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you – you of little faith? ³¹ So do not worry, saying, "What shall we eat?" or

"What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon – Revd Philip Sudell

The Discipleship Agenda

7. Kingdom choices

Profession of Faith

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.

Prayers of Intercession

This response 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.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Since we are justified by faith, we have
peace with God through our Lord Jesus
Christ, who has given us access to his
grace. The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

The bread and wine are brought to the
Lord's Table

Lord of all hopefulness 507

Lord of all joy
Whose trust ever child-like
No cares could destroy
Be there at our waking
And give us we pray
Your bliss in our hearts Lord
At the break of the day

Lord of all eagerness
Lord of all faith
Whose strong hands were skilled
At the plane and the lathe
Be there at our labours
And give us we pray
Your strength in our hearts Lord
At the noon of the day

Lord of all kindliness
Lord of all grace
Your hands swift to welcome
Your arms to embrace
Be there at our homing
And give us we pray
Your love in our hearts Lord
At the eve of the day

Lord of all gentleness
Lord of all calm
Whose voice is contentment
Whose presence is balm
Be there at our sleeping
And give us we pray
Your peace in our hearts Lord
At the end of the day

Jan Struther
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The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.
All: **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts.
All: **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks
to the Lord our God
All: **It is right to give
thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good to give you
thanks and praise, almighty God and
everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ
your Son. For in these forty days you lead
us into the desert of repentance that
through a pilgrimage of prayer and
discipline we may grow in grace and learn
to be your people once again. Through
fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring
us back to your generous heart. Through
study of your holy word you open our eyes
to your presence in the world and free our
hands to welcome others into the radiant
splendour of your love. As we prepare to
celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts
and minds we bless you for your mercy and
join with saints and angels for ever praising
you and singing:

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.

Jesus Christ is Lord.

All: Lord, by your cross and
resurrection you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the World.

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:

All: Blessing and honour and glory and
power be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour
has taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be
thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be
done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us
this day our daily bread. And forgive us our
trespasses, as we forgive those who
trespass against us. And lead us not into
temptation; but deliver us from evil. For
thine is the kingdom, the power and the
glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of Bread

We break this bread to share in
the body of Christ.

All: Though we are many, we are one
body, because we all share in one
bread.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world, grant us peace.

The Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.

Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Giving of Communion

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.

Prayer after Communion

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Church family news

Lord Jesus Christ 505
You have come to us
You are one with us Mary's Son
Cleansing our souls from all their sin
Pouring Your love and goodness in
Jesus our love for You we sing
Living Lord

Lord Jesus Christ now and every day
Teach us how to pray Son of God
You have commanded us to do
This in remembrance Lord of You
Into our lives Your power breaks through
Living Lord

Lord Jesus Christ You have come to us
Born as one of us Mary's Son
Led out to die on Calvary
Risen from death to set us free
Living Lord Jesus help us see
You are Lord

Lord Jesus Christ I would come to You
Live my life for You Son of God
All Your commands I know are true
Your many gifts will make me new
Into my life Your power breaks through
Living Lord

Patrick Appleford
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Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen

Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

Readings for next Sunday

6th April – Fifth Sunday of Lent
Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalm 126
Philippians 3:4-14
Matthew 7:1-12

