

Holy Communion All Saints' Church

Fifth Sunday of Lent / Passion Sunday 26 March 2023

A warm welcome to our worship this morning. Whether a regular or a visitor, it is good to have you here.

We ask that you do **not publish photographs** you take in our church, with children other than your own in them, on social media sites (Instagram, Facebook etc.)

We stand as the bell sounds to mark the beginning of our worship. As we sing our first hymn the altar party and choir process into church.

HYMN

Chorus	Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.
1	Come, let us follow where our Captain trod, our King victorious, Christ the Son of God:
2	O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw us unto thee:
3	Let every race and every language tell of him who saves our souls from death and hell:
4	From farthest regions let them homage bring, and on his cross adore their Saviour King:
5	Set up thy throne, that earth's despair may cease beneath the shadow of its healing peace:
6	For thy blest cross which doth for all atone creation's praises rise before thy throne:

George William Kitchin (1827–1912) and Michael Robert Newbolt (1874–1956)

Words and Music: © Hymns Ancient & Modern Ltd

GREETING

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

All Amen.

Minister The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Words of welcome may be said.

CONFESSION

Deacon Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden,

and I will give you rest.

God shows his love for us in that,

while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Let us then show our love for him

by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

cf Romans 5.8

KYRIE ELEISON

Minister We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:

fill us with your Spirit. Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Minister We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith:

fill us with your Spirit. Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Minister We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust:

fill us with your Spirit. Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

Minister Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

who in his great mercy

has promised forgiveness of sins to all those

who with heartfelt repentance and true faith turn to him:

have mercy on you,

pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,

and bring you to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

COLLECT

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding.

The Collect is said:

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

FIRST READING Ezekiel 37.1-4

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord GOD, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.'

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.'

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

LENT PROSE

Choir Hear us, O Lord, have mercy on us:

for we have sinned against thee.

All Hear us, O Lord, have mercy on us:

for we have sinned against thee.

Choir Sins oft committed, now we lay before thee:

with true contrition, now no more we veil them:

grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.

All Hear us, O Lord, have mercy on us:

for we have sinned against thee.

SECOND READING Romans 8.6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

HYMN

- It is a thing most wonderful,
 almost too wonderful to be,
 that God's own Son should come from heaven,
 and die to save a child like me.
- 2 And yet I know that it is true:
 he chose a poor and humble lot,
 and wept and toiled and mourned and died
 for love of those who loved him not.

- I cannot tell how he could love a child so weak and full of sin; his love must be most wonderful, if he could die my love to win.
- I sometimes think about the cross, and shut my eyes, and try to see the cruel nails and crown of thorns, and Jesus crucified for me.
- 5 But even could I see him die,
 I could but see a little part
 of that great love which, like a fire,
 is always burning in his heart.
- 6 It is most wonderful to know his love for me so free and sure; but 'tis more wonderful to see my love for him so faint and poor.
- 7 And yet I want to love thee, Lord; O light the flame within my heart, and I will love thee more and more, until I see thee as thou art.

William Walsham How (1823-1867)

GOSPEL READING John 4.5-42

All/choir Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

Cantor The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice.

Harden not your hearts.

All/choir Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

Deacon Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

A certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this

for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

After the Sermon silence may be kept.

CREED

Minister Let us declare our faith in God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All 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

Minister Let us bring to the Father our prayers of intercession through Christ who gave himself for the life of the world.

This response may be included:

Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

And at the end:

Merciful Father,

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

Silence is kept.

PEACE

Minister Once we were far off,

but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near

through the shedding of Christ's blood,

for he is our peace.

cf Ephesians 2.13

The peace of the Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Deacon Let us share with one another a sign of peace.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

HYMN

- My song is love unknown, my Saviour's love to me, love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be. O who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?
- 2 He came from his blest throne, salvation to bestow; but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know. But O, my Friend, my Friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend!

3 Sometimes they strew his way, and his sweet praises sing; resounding all the day hosannas to their King.
Then 'Crucify!' is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.

They rise, and needs will have my dear Lord made away; a murderer they save, the Prince of Life they slay.

Yet cheerful he to suffering goes, that he his foes from thence might free.

Here might I stay and sing:
 no story so divine;
 never was love, dear King,
 never was grief like thine!
 This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise
 I all my days could gladly spend.

Samuel Crossman (c.1624-1683)

TABLE PRAYER

Minister God of wisdom,

may the light of your eternal Word, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, lead us in holiness and guide us to glory;

we ask this in his name.

All Amen.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Minister The Lord is here.

All His spirit is with us.

Minister Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Minister Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Minister It is indeed right and just, our duty and our salvation,

always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty. The power of the life-giving cross reveals the judgement that has come upon the world and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more, the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever, our advocate in heaven to plead our cause, exalting us there to join with angels and archangels, for ever praising you and singing:

All/choir Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Minister We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Deacon Great is the mystery of faith.

All/choir Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Minister Lord of all life,

help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with [N and] all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

Silence may be kept.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Minister Standing at the foot of the cross, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

All
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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

Minister 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.

All/choir Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us [x2].

Jesus, bread of life, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us [x2].

Jesus, Prince of Peace, you take away the sins of the world: grant us your peace [x4].

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Minister Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

Please wait to be directed forward to receive communion.

HYMNS

- 1 Glory be to Jesus, who, in bitter pains, poured for me the life-blood from his sacred veins.
- 2 Grace and life eternal in that blood I find; blest be his compassion infinitely kind.
- 3 Blest through endless ages be the precious stream, which from endless torments did the world redeem.
- 4 Abel's blood for vengeance pleaded to the skies; but the blood of Jesus for our pardon cries.
- 5 Oft as it is sprinkled on our guilty hearts, Satan in confusion terror-struck departs.
- 6 Oft as earth exulting wafts its praise on high, angel-hosts rejoicing make their glad reply.
- 7 Lift ye then your voices; swell the mighty flood; louder still and louder praise the precious blood.

Edward Caswall (1814–1878) based on Viva! Viva! Gesù!, (Italian, before 19th century)

- How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure, that he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure. How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns his face away, as wounds which mar the chosen One bring many souls to glory.
- 2 Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders; ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers. It was my sin that held him there, until it was accomplished; his dying breath has brought me life I know that 'it is finished.'
- I will not boast in anything,
 no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
 but I will boast in Jesus Christ,
 his death and resurrection.
 Why should I gain from his reward?
 I cannot give an answer;
 but this I know with all my heart,
 his wounds have paid my ransom.

Stuart Townend (b. 1963)

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Minister Lord Jesus Christ,

you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us,

but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

All
Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;

we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

NOTICES

HYMN

- There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea: there's a kindness in his justice which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven; there is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgement given.
- 2 For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind. and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. But we make his love too narrow by false limits of our own; and we magnify his strictness with a zeal he would not own.

There is plentiful redemption through the blood that has been shed; there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head. There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this; there is room for fresh creations. in that upper home of bliss.

Second half of tune:

4 If our love were but more simple, we should take him at his word: and our lives would be all gladness in the joy of Christ our Lord.

Frederick William Faber (1814-1863)

BLESSING

Minister Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

ΑII Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Deacon

In the name of Christ, Amen. ΑII

The people and ministers depart.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY Eric Thiman: Prelude Set 1 in G

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, among them Richard H, Kay G, Jonathan, Kath T, June M, Jenny A, Hilly S, Diana B, Peter S, Andre.

The housebound and those in residential homes: Shirley C.

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, please obtain the consent of the person you wish us to pray for. Then tell Pat Thomas whom to pray for and the reason why.

REMEMBER THE DEPARTED

Those whose anniversaries fell on this past week: Mary Manning, Kathleen Lovell, Harold Edward Boulden, Anne Dorothy Woodbridge, Rennee Startin, Evelyn May Lorentzen, Helen Emma Tredgett, Tom Weed, Margaret Carter, Florence Roberts, Kit Bailey, Winnie Simms, George Abbott, Edith Short, Marjorie Freeman, Irene Andrew, Iris Bird, Beryl Metcalf, Mary Anstead, Arthur Davies.

NOTICES

For a lily in remembrance of a loved one, please sign up on the sheet in church.

Holy Week posters are available in church, please take as many as you need, to display them in your windows from Fig Monday to Easter.

Come and sing Stainer's Crucifixion Sunday 2 April 18:00, All Hallows.

We are giving All Saints a spring clean on Saturday 1 April from 9:30. Please come and help us. Bring dusters, polish, or, if you've got one, your rechargeable hoover.

Good Friday Workshop 7 April 10:00-11:30, All Hallows Vicarage garden. If you would like to attend, please email the benefice office, or tell Pat Thomas.

Decorate a window at All Saints for the coronation on 6 May. You can use any materials. Volunteers, please add your names to the list at the north door.

PRAY FOR A NEW DIOCESAN BISHOP

The process for appointing our next Diocesan Bishop continues. Please continue to pray for those involved in this process. Please pray for the process, for the people directly involved and for the person whom God is calling to be our new Bishop.

God our Father, you have welcomed each one of us in Jesus and called us to be His Body in this place; send us your Holy Spirit, at this time of uncertainty and change, to fill us with vision, energy, and faithfulness in prayer, that we may be true to our calling to bring new life to our communities; guide us with your heavenly wisdom as we seek to find our new Bishop, that the one who we receive may be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people: ready to serve us with joy, to build us up in faith, and to lead us by example in loving obedience to your son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

DIARY

Mon 27 Mar

Tues	28	Mar

11:15-12:15

18:00-19:00

1 acs 20 mai		
9:00-9:30 9:30-12:00	Zoom All Hallows' Hall	Morning Prayer coffee shop
Wed 29 Mar		
9:30-12:00 10:30-12:30 12:15-13:00 13:15-15:00	All Hallows' Hall All Hallows All Hallows All Saints	coffee shop open to the public Midweek Eucharist All Saints School rehearsal
Thurs 30 Mar		
9:00-9:30 10:00-10:30 13:30-15:00	Zoom All Saints All Saints	Morning Prayer Holy Communion All Saints School Easter service
Fri 31 Mar		
9:30-12:00 18:15-19:15 19:30-20:30	All Hallows' Hall All Saints All Hallows	coffee shop AS choir practice AH choir practice
Sat 1 Apr		
9:30-12:00 9:30-10:30 10:30-12:30	All Hallows' Hall All Hallows All Hallows	coffee shop MU Corporate Communion open to the public
Sun 2 Apr	Palm Sunday	
8:00-8:30 9:15-10:15	All Saints All Saints	Eucharist Eucharist

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Eucharist

Come and sing: Stainer - Crucifixion