

# St Mary's Church, Walkley



**The Church on the Road:**  
*Inclusive, Eucharistic, a safe place to be with God*

## **Mothering Sunday Eucharist**

**10<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley**

**President: The Revd Canon Dr Alan Billings  
Preacher: The Revd Canon James Wilson  
Churchwarden on duty: Janet**

## **The Gathering and Opening Hymn**

*We stand and we sing the opening hymn.*

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

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Greeting**

*President* Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you.

*All* **and also with you.**

## **The Prayer of Preparation**

*All* **Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **The Confession and Absolution**

*Minister* Let us call to mind our sin, our failure to value the love of others and  
our failure to love as Christ has loved us.

*We keep a time of silence.*

*All* **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 eleison, led by the cantor.  
It is sung through twice.*

*Cantor* Kyrie eleison,  
*All* **Kyrie eleison.**

*Cantor* Christe eleison,  
*All* **Christe eleison.**

*Cantor* Kyrie eleison,  
*All* **Kyrie eleison.**

*President* May the God of love  
bring us back to himself,  
forgive us our sins,  
and assure us of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*All* **Amen.**

## **The Collect**

*President* Let us pray for grace to keep Lent faithfully.

God of love,  
passionate and strong,  
tender and careful:  
watch over us and hold us  
all the days of our life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*All* **Amen.**

*We sit.*

## **The Reading: Colossians 3. 12 - 17**

*Reader* A reading from the Letter to the Colossians.

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

*Reader* This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*We remain seated as we say the psalm. We keep a brief pause at the diamond and between each verse.*

## **The Psalm: 34. 11 - 20**

*President* Come, my children, and listen to me; ♦  
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

*All* **Who is there who delights in life ♦  
and longs for days to enjoy good things?**

*President* Keep your tongue from evil ♦  
and your lips from lying words.

*All* **Turn from evil and do good; ♦  
seek peace and pursue it.**

*President* The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous ♦  
and his ears are open to their cry.

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

*President* The righteous cry and the Lord hears them ♦  
and delivers them out of all their troubles.

*All*            **The Lord is near to the brokenhearted ♦  
and will save those who are crushed in spirit.**

*President* Many are the troubles of the righteous; ♦  
from them all will the Lord deliver them.

*All*            **He keeps all their bones, ♦  
so that not one of them is broken.**

*We stand.*

### **The Gospel Reading: Luke 2. 33 - 35**

*Minister* Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.  
This child is the light to enlighten the nations  
and the glory of your people Israel.

*All*            **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

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

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

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

*Minister* This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **The Sermon**

*We stand.*

## **The Creed**

*President* Let us declare our faith in God,

*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.**

*We sit or kneel.*

## The Prayers of Intercession

*Intercessor* God of love,  
*All* **hear our prayer.**

*Or another response is used.*

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

*We stand.*

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### The Peace

*President* Praise God who loves us.  
*All* **Praise God who cares.**

*President* Through the prophet Isaiah, God says,  
'As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you.'

*All* The peace of the Lord be always with you,  
**and also with you.**

*Minister* Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We remain in our seats, sharing the peace through waves to those around us.*

## The Offertory Hymn

*We stand and we sing as the altar is prepared. If you would like to support St Mary's, donations can be made after the service at the back of church using the collection plate or contactless card giving station.*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

*President* The Lord is here.

*All* **His Spirit is with us.**

*President* Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*President* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*President* Blessed are you, Lord God,  
our light and our salvation;  
to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things  
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.

In the fullness of time you made us in your image,  
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels  
and all the powers of heaven  
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

*All* **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.**

*President* How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.  
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,  
you embraced a people as your own.  
When they turned away and rebelled  
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,  
to be the living bread,  
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,  
and with a love stronger than death  
he opened wide his arms on the cross.



On the night before he died,  
he came to supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.  
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,  
he gave you thanks, 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.

*Minister* Jesus Christ is Lord:  
*All* **Lord, by your cross and resurrection  
you have set us free.  
You are the Saviour of the world.**

*President* Father, we plead with confidence  
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;  
we remember his dying and rising in glory,  
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you  
these gifts of your creation;  
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,  
form us in the likeness of Christ,  
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.  
Reveal her unity, guard her faith,  
and preserve her in peace.

Bring us at the last with Mary, Mark, John and all the saints  
to the vision of that eternal splendour  
for which you have created us;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
by whom, with whom, and in whom,  
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.**

*We sit or kneel.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*President* As God's children, and heirs with Christ  
we cry in the Spirit, 'Abba', Father.

*All* **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.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*President* Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup

*All* **we proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.**

*The Agnus Dei may be said as the bread is broken.*

*All* **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 Giving of Communion**

*President* 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.**

*All* **Most merciful Lord,  
your love compels us to come in.  
Our hands were unclean,  
our hearts were unprepared;  
we were not fit  
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.  
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,  
and share your bread with sinners.  
So cleanse and feed us  
with the precious body and blood of your Son,  
that he may live in us and we in him;  
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,  
may sit and eat in your kingdom.  
Amen.**

*The president will give instructions on how to come forward for communion and on returning to our seats. All are welcome to come to front for the bread and wine or a blessing. If you would like a blessing please keep your arms folded across your chest at you approach the front.*

*We are now able to receive the wine as well as the bread. The president will dip the wafer in the wine before giving it to you. Gluten free wafers are available, please ask at the altar. During the distribution we sing and music is played.*

Tune: Sussex (Father hear the prayer we offer)

**God of Eve and God of Mary,  
God of love and mother-earth,  
thank you for the ones who with us  
shared their life and gave us birth.**

**As you came to earth in Jesus,  
so you come to us today;  
you are present in the caring  
that prepares us for life's way.**

**Thank you that the Church, our Mother,  
gives us bread and fills our cup,  
and the comfort of the Spirit  
warms our hearts and lifts us up.**

**Thank you for belonging, shelter,  
bonds of friendship, ties of blood,  
and for those who have no children,  
yet are parents under God.**

**God of Eve and God of Mary,  
Christ our brother, human Son,  
Spirit, caring like a Mother,  
take our love and make us one!**

Fred Kaan, 1929-2009  
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## **The Prayer after Communion**

*President* Let us pray.

Loving God,  
as a mother feeds her children at the breast  
you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life:  
help us who have tasted your goodness  
to grow in grace within the household of faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*All* **God of our pilgrimage,  
you have fed us with the bread of heaven.  
Refresh and sustain us  
as we go forward on our journey,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **The Notices**

*We stand.*

## The Blessing

*President* May God, who gave birth to all creation, bless us:  
may God, who became incarnate by an earthly mother, bless us:  
may God, who broods as a mother over her children, bless us.  
May almighty God bless us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Closing Hymn

*We remain standing and we sing during which we turn to face the back of church as the ministers process.*

## The Dismissal

*Minister* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*All* **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Please be mindful of those who prefer to keep their distance from others at the moment.*

For more information: [stmaryswalkley.co.uk](http://stmaryswalkley.co.uk)

