

# St Mary's Church, Walkley



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

## **A Memorial Service in Commemoration of the Departed**

**5<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

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

We hope through prayer, silence and candlelight you find space to remember, with joy and sorrow, those who we offer to God those in our hearts at this time. Refreshments will be served after the service to which all are welcome.

**Officiant: Joe, Reader at St Mary's**  
**Reflection: Kath, Reader at St Mary's**  
**Churchwarden on duty: Vicky**

*Before the service 'I will walk in the presence of God' is sung.*

## **The Preparation**

*Minister* In the name of Christ, who died and was raised by the glory of the Father, we welcome you: grace mercy and peace be with you all.

*All* **And also with you.**

*Minister* God our refuge and strength,  
close at hand in our distress;  
meet us in our sorrow  
and lift our eyes to the peace and light of your constant care.  
Help us so to hear your word of grace  
that our fear will be dispelled by your love,  
our loneliness eased by your presence  
and our hope renewed by your promises in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*The minister introduces the service.*

## **The Opening Hymn**

*We stand and we sing number 138 in the purple book.*

*We sit.*

## **The Confession and Absolution**

*Minister* We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden,  
to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

*We keep a time of silence.*

*All* **Almighty God,  
For the times we have seen our way as the only way,  
we ask your forgiveness.  
For the things we have said which have hurt and torn others,  
we ask your forgiveness.  
For when we have turned away  
    from helping those who needed it,  
we ask your forgiveness.  
Bring us back to yourself and cloak us in your love so that we  
may live and love as children of God.  
Amen.**

*Minister* May God our Father forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to the fellowship of his table  
with his saints for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Word of God**

**The Reading:** John 6. 37 - 40

A reading from the Gospel according to Saint John.

Jesus said, 'Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.'

*Reader* This is the word of the Lord.

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

## **The Hymn**

*We stand and we sing hymn number 484 in the green hymn book.*

*We sit.*

## **The Reflection**

*We remain seated as the choir sings 'Calm in the storm'- WGRG  
The Iona Community.*

## **The Act of Remembrance**

*The Paschal Candle, the great candle of Easter, is lit as a sign of the resurrection hope in Christ Jesus.*

*Minister* Almighty God  
we give you thanks  
because Christ our paschal sacrifice  
has made us children of the light,  
rising to new and everlasting life.  
He has opened the gates of heaven  
to receive his faithful people.  
His death is our ransom from death,  
his resurrection is our rising to life.  
The joy of the resurrection renews the whole world,  
while the choirs of heaven sing for ever to your glory.

*All* **Amen.**

*The Choir sings 'For all the saints who'- WGRG The Iona Community during, which you are invited to come to the front to have your candle lit from the Easter Candle.*

*We remain seated to sing:*

**Going home, moving on,  
through God's open door;  
hush, my soul, have no fear,  
Christ has gone before.  
Parting hurts, love protests,  
pain is not denied;  
yet, in Christ, life and hope  
span the great divide.  
Going home, moving on,  
through God's open door;  
hush, my soul, have no fear,  
Christ has gone before,  
Christ has gone before.**

**No more guilt, no more fear,  
all the past is healed:  
broken dreams now restored,  
perfect grace revealed.  
Christ has died, Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again:  
death destroyed, life restored,  
love alone shall reign.  
Going home, moving on,  
through God's open door;  
hush, my soul, have no fear,  
Christ has gone before,  
Christ has gone before.**

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*Once all who wish to come forward to have their candles lit have done so, the names of whose we have been asked to remember will be read out.*

*We keep a time of silence.*

*Minister* Hear us, O merciful Father,  
as we remember in love  
those whom we have placed in your hands.  
Acknowledge, we pray, the sheep of your own fold,  
lambs of your own flock,  
sinners of your own redeeming.  
Enfold them in the arms of your mercy,  
in the blessed rest of everlasting peace,  
and in the glorious company of the saints in light.

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Prayers of Intercession**

*We remain seated or kneel.*

*Intercessor* Hear us, risen Lord,  
*All* **our resurrection and our life.**

*Intercessor* May God in his infinite love and mercy  
bring the whole Church,  
living and departed in the Lord Jesus,  
to a joyful resurrection  
and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom.

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*Minister* Trusting in the compassion of God,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

*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 Closing Hymn**

*We stand and we sing hymn number 313 in the green book.*

## **The Conclusion**

*All* **Lighten our darkness,  
Lord, we pray,  
and in your great mercy  
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,  
for the love of your only Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

*Minister* May God give us  
his comfort and his peace,  
his light and his joy,  
in this world and the next;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among us and remain with us always.

*All* **Amen.**

*Minister* Neither death nor life  
can separate us from the love of God  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

*You are welcome to spend time in quiet contemplation following the service.  
We ask that when you are ready to leave please come and place your candle  
on the table in front of the altar.*

***Coffee and tea are served after the service at the back  
of the church.***

*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)**



## When I'm Gone

When I come to the end of my journey  
And I travel my last weary mile  
Just forget if you can, that I ever frowned  
And remember only the smile  
Forget unkind words I have spoken  
Remember some good I have done  
Forget that I ever had heartache  
And remember I've had loads of fun  
Forget that I've stumbled and blundered  
And sometimes fell by the way  
Remember I have fought some hard battles  
And won, ere the close of the day  
Then forget to grieve for my going  
I would not have you sad for a day  
But in summer just gather some flowers  
And remember the place where I lay  
And come in the shade of evening  
When the sun paints the sky in the west  
Stand for a few moments beside me  
And remember only my best.

Words: Lyman Hancock, 1834-1907