

St Mary's Church, Walkley



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

Harvest Festival

**Eucharist
with
Prayers of Love and Faith
for Tom and James**

5th October 2025

Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley

President: The Revd Dr Beth Keith, Priest in Charge
Preacher: Joe, Reader at St Mary's
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 Confession and Absolution

Minister We confess our sin, and the sins of our society,
in the misuse of God's creation.

We keep a time of silence.

Minister God our Father, we are sorry
for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly,
and acted ungratefully.
Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:

All **forgive us and help us.**

Minister We enjoy the fruits of the harvest,
but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.
Father, in your mercy:

All **forgive us and help us.**

Minister We belong to a people who are full and satisfied,
but ignore the cry of the hungry.
Father, in your mercy:

All **forgive us and help us.**

Minister We are thoughtless,
and do not care enough for the world you have made.
Father, in your mercy:

All **forgive us and help us.**

Minister We store up goods for ourselves alone,
as if there were no God and no heaven.
Father, in your mercy:

All **forgive us and help us.**

President The Lord enrich us with his grace,
and nourish us with his blessing;
the Lord defend us in trouble and keep us from all evil;
the Lord accept our prayers,
and absolve us from our offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

All **Amen.**

We remain standing and we sing.

The Gloria in Excelsis

All **Glory to God in the highest, peace to his people on earth,
Glory to God in the highest, peace to his people on earth,
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship
you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Glory to God in the highest, peace to his people on earth,
Glory to God in the highest, peace to his people on earth,
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of
God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us,
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the
Father: receive, receive our prayer.
Glory to God in the highest, peace to his people on earth,
Glory to God in the highest, peace to his people on earth,
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you
alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with Holy Spirit, in the
glory of God the Father. Amen. In the glory of God the Father,
Amen.**

The Collect

President Let us pray:

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

We sit.

The Reading: Philippians 4 .4 - 9

Reader A reading from the Letter to the Philippians.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual Hymn

We stand and we sing. During the hymn we turn to face the processional cross as the book of the Gospels moves to the middle of the people.

The Gospel Reading: John 6. 25 - 35

Minister Alleluia, alleluia.

Lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are ripe for harvesting.
Gather the fruit for eternal life.

All **Alleluia.**

John 4.35,36

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

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

When they found Jesus on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal."

Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Minister This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

We sit.

Prayers of Love and Faith

President James and Tom, we delight in your desire to dwell more deeply in the grace of Jesus Christ by sealing a covenant of friendship with each other. We pray that, strengthened by the prayers of your family and friends, you may know God's help to live in love and faithfulness.

James Tom, I offer myself to you in love and friendship;
may these words be a seal of my trust and delight in you.
Where you go, I shall go:
I will seek to share your burdens and your joys.
I will pray that you will know God's blessing
and walk with you wherever God calls us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Tom James, I offer myself to you in love and friendship;
may these words be a seal of my trust and delight in you.
Where you go, I shall go:
I will seek to share your burdens and your joys.
I will pray that you will know God's blessing
and walk with you wherever God calls us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Prayers for God's Blessing

President God of generosity and joy,
with you is the well of life and in your light, we see light:
we give you thanks for Tom and James,
for the love and friendship they share,
and for their commitment to one another.
As they come before you this day,
trusting you as the giver of all good gifts,
strengthen their love by your love,
and gladden their hearts with your joy,
that their journey through life
may become a pilgrimage of grace.
By your blessing,
and with you as their companion and guide,
may they rejoice in hope and be sustained in love
all the days of their life and in the age to come,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The congregation pray with James and Tom.

All **O Holy Spirit, giver of light and life,
impart to us thoughts better than our own thoughts,
and prayers better than our own prayers,
and powers better than our own powers,
that we may spend and be spent
in the ways of love and goodness,
after the perfect image of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

We stand.

The Creed

President Let us declare our faith in God,

All **We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

We sit or kneel.

The Prayers of Intercession

Intercessor Lord of the harvest,
All **in your mercy hear us.**

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 The harvest of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Galatians 5.22,23

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 have harvest gifts please do bring them up during the hymn. **As you move behind the altar rail you will be visible on the livestream.** 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. If you would like to give regularly to St Mary's please speak to the Treasurer, or one of the Team Wardens.*

The Harvest Thanksgiving

President Let us give thanks to God, the God of all peoples of the earth.

For the colour and forms of your creation
and our place within it,
we bring our thanks, good Lord:

All **your mercy endures for ever.**

President For our daily food,
and for those whose work and skill
bring your good gifts to us,
we bring our thanks, good Lord:

All **your mercy endures for ever.**

President For the gifts and graces inspired in human minds and hearts;
for insight and imagination,
for the skills of research
which bring healing and fulfilment to the lives of many;
we bring our thanks, good Lord:

All **your mercy endures for ever.**

President For the light and shades of the changing seasons,
and their variety and dependability;
for new life and growth out of barrenness and decay;
we bring our thanks, good Lord:

All **your mercy endures for ever.**

President For new hope and strength in our communities,
especially in your Church and among all you call to serve you,
we bring our thanks, good Lord;

All **your mercy endures for ever.**

President For all in whose lives we see
goodness, kindness, gentleness, patience and humility,
and all the fruit of the Spirit,
we bring our thanks, good Lord:

All **your mercy endures for ever.**

President For the life we have been given,
and for all those whom you have given us to share it,
we bring our thanks, good Lord:

All **your mercy endures for ever.**

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 It is indeed right and good
to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

Through him you have created us in your own image,
and made us stewards of your good creation.

Through him you teach us to exult in the birds of the air,
the lilies of the field, the precious and life-giving crops of the earth.

Through him you free us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to die upon the cross
and to rise again for our salvation.

Through him, you begin your work of new creation,
as we look for a new heaven and a new earth
in which your righteousness dwells.

Therefore, we join with angels and archangels,
and give voice to every creature under heaven,
for ever praising you and singing:

Cantor Holy Holy Holy Lord

All **Holy Holy Holy Lord**

Cantor God of power and God of might

All **God of power and God of might**

Cantor Heaven and earth are full of your glory

All **Heaven and earth are full of your glory**

Cantor Hosanna in the highest

All **Hosanna in the highest**

Cantor Blessed is he who comes

All **Blessed is he who comes**

Cantor In the name of the Lord most High

All **In the name of the Lord most High**

Cantor Hosanna

All **Hosanna**

Cantor Hosanna

All **Hosanna**

Cantor Hosanna in the highest
All **Hosanna in the highest**

President 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.

Minister Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Cantor Dying you destroyed our death
All **Dying you destroyed our death**

Cantor Rising you restored our life
All **Rising you restored our life**

Cantor Lord Jesus come
All **Lord Jesus come**

Cantor Lord Jesus come
All **Lord Jesus come**

Cantor Come again in glory
All **Come again in glory**

President 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 Mary, Mark, John 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.**

We sit or kneel.

The Lord's Prayer

President 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 Breaking of the Bread

President 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.**

The Giving of Communion

President God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

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.

The Prayer after Communion

President Let us pray.

Lord of the harvest,
with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation
and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom:
by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us
and make us generous and wise stewards
of the good things we enjoy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

All **God our creator,
you give us seed to sow and bread to eat:
as you have blessed the fruit of our labour in this eucharist,
so we ask you to give all your children their daily bread,
that the world may praise you for your goodness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Notices

We stand.

The Blessing

President May God our creator,
who clothes the lilies and feeds the birds of the air,
bestow on you his care
and increase the harvest of your righteousness;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
All **Amen.**

The Closing Hymn

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

The Dismissal

Minister Freely you have received, freely give.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Coffee and tea are served after the service, all are welcome.

If you would like to provide feedback on this service please speak a member of the Worship Group, Kath, Catherine, Janet or David. You can also email us worship@stmaryswalkley.co.uk

For more information: stmaryswalkley.co.uk

