

St Mary's Church, Walkley



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

The First Sunday of Lent Eucharist

2nd February 2026

Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley

President: The Revd Dr Canon Alan Billings

Preacher: Kath, Reader at St Mary's

Team Warden: Janet

The Gathering and Opening Hymn

We stand and we sing the opening hymn:

Tune: Gerontius

**O Jesus Christ, in human flesh
you practised heaven's care,
besieged by need, betrayed by greed,
sustained by faith and prayer.**

**Before you spoke, before you healed,
before you broke the bread,
in crowds, as in the quiet place,
you felt for where God led.**

**Not to escape, but to prepare,
to fathom and fulfil,
you let your heart and hands be tuned,
in silence, to God's will.**

**So we, responding to your call
to walk your chosen way,
admit our need to learn from you
to love and work and pray.**

**Then send your Spirit to inspire
our cautious hearts and hands,
till work and prayer are rooted deep
in love which understands.**

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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 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.

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.

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

We sit.

The Reading: Romans 5. 12 - 19

Reader A reading from the Letter to the Romans.

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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: 32

President Happy the one whose transgression is forgiven, ♦
and whose sin is covered.

All **Happy the one to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, ♦
and in whose spirit there is no guile.**

President For I held my tongue; ♦
my bones wasted away through my groaning all the day long.

All **Your hand was heavy upon me day and night; ♦
my moisture was dried up like the drought in summer.**

President Then I acknowledged my sin to you ♦
and my iniquity I did not hide.

All **I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,' ♦
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.**

President Therefore let all the faithful make their prayers to you
in time of trouble; ♦
in the great water flood, it shall not reach them.

All **You are a place for me to hide in;
 you preserve me from trouble; ♦
 you surround me with songs of deliverance.**

President ‘I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; ♦
I will guide you with my eye.

All **‘Be not like horse and mule which have no understanding; ♦
 whose mouths must be held with bit and bridle,
 or else they will not stay near you.’**

President Great tribulations remain for the wicked, ♦
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

All **Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; ♦
 shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

We stand.

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 4. 1 - 11

Minister Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
Blessed are those who have endured temptation;
they have stood the test and will receive the crown of life.

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

Psalm 95.3, 8

Minister Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.’ But he answered, ‘It is written,

“One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.” ’

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you”,
and “On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.” ’

Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." '

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

"Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him." '

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

Romans 5.1,2

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 exchange the peace through smiles, waves and handshakes
with those around us, as you feel comfortable.*

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. If you would like to give regularly to St Mary's please speak
to the Treasurer, or one of the Team Wardens.*

Tune: Ellers or Eventide

**Christ our Redeemer knew temptation's hour
in desert places, silent and apart;
and three times over met the tempter's power
with God's word written, hidden in his heart.**

**He makes not bread what God has made a stone,
he at whose bidding water turns to wine:
we are not meant to live by bread alone
but as God speaks the word of life divine.**

**He will not ask the fickle crowd's acclaim,
nor flaunt the Sonship which is his by right,
nor seem distrustful of the Father's Name
who bids us walk by faith and not by sight.**

**He seeks no kingdom but by cross and grave,
for love of sinners spurning Satan's throne:
his triumph seen in those he died to save
who, to his glory, worship God alone.**

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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 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 saying:

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 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;

President 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.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President 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.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President 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.

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 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.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President 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.**

We sit or kneel.

The Lord's Prayer

President Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom
and teach us to 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 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.

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.

The Prayer after Communion

President Let us pray.

Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith,
increase our hope,
and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
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 Christ give us grace to grow in holiness,
to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow him;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us 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.

Tune: Saint Theodulph (All glory, laud and honour)

**O Spirit filled Christ Jesus,
in fasting and in prayer
you went into the desert
and you were tempted there.
O Jesus, like us, tempted
to glory, wealth, and pow'r,
make us, like you, unyielding,
strong in temptation's hour.**

**O source of living water
athirst at your own well,
you promised to the woman
a gift no tongue can tell.
Christ, lead us to the fountain,
that we may be immersed.
Give us the living water,
that we may never thirst.**

**Christ, when you saw you brother,
you healed his blinded eyes
from isolation's darkness
you summoned him to rise.
O Jesus, heal our blindness
with clarity of sight
lead us from sin and evil
to walk the way of light.**

**Christ, when you came to sorrow
to Lazarus, your friend,
you loosed the linen binding
and gave him life again.
Now see the chains that bind us
and all humanity
from sin and every bondage
untie us, set us free!**

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The Dismissal

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

For more information: stmaryswalkley.co.uk

