

St Mary's Church, Walkley



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

The Third Sunday of Lent Eucharist

8th March 2026

Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley

**President: The Revd Canon James Wilson
Preacher: The Revd Canon Dr Alan Billings
Team Warden: David**

The Gathering and Opening Hymn

We stand and we sing the opening hymn. Children aged 8 and under are welcome to join our Diddy Disciples taking place in the hall. Please gather at the back of church. If you are aged 4 or under, please bring an adult with you. You'll be back for the peace.

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.

Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

We sit.

The Reading: Romans 5. 1 - 11

Reader A reading from the Letter to the Romans.

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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: 95

President O come, let us sing to the Lord; ♦
let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.

All **Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving ♦
and be glad in him with psalms.**

President For the Lord is a great God ♦
and a great king above all gods.

All **In his hand are the depths of the earth ♦
and the heights of the mountains are his also.**

President The sea is his, for he made it, ♦
and his hands have moulded the dry land.

All **Come, let us worship and bow down ♦
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

President For he is our God; ♦
we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

All **O that today you would listen to his voice: ♦
‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
on that day at Massah in the wilderness,**

President ‘When your forebears tested me, and put me to the proof, ♦
though they had seen my works.

All **‘Forty years long I detested that generation and said, ♦
“This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do not know my ways.”**

President ‘So I swore in my wrath, ♦
“They shall not enter into my rest.”’

We stand.

The Gospel Reading: John 4. 5 - 42

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 John.

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

So Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, “If

you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds

true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour." Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

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.*

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.

Merciful Lord,
grant your people grace to withstand the temptations
of the world, the flesh and the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God;
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.

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

