



**22nd May 2022**

**Sixth Sunday after  
Easter**

**Stewardship Sunday**

*We welcome you to St Matthew's Church  
this morning and pray you are blessed as  
we worship the Lord together.*

*If you are with us for the first time please  
fill in one of our Welcome Cards  
Thank you.*

*Please join in the words in **bold print**.*

*Don't forget to silence your mobile!*

*Our Celebrant is Revd Linda Fox.  
Our Preacher is Revd Simon Foster.*

## **¶ The Gathering**

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

*We remain standing to pray together*

**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.**

*Please be seated*

**The Confession and  
Absolution**

**Invitation to confession**

God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ  
to save us from our sins,  
to be our advocate in heaven,  
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and  
faith, firmly resolved to keep God's  
commandments and to live in love and  
peace with all.

**Almighty God,  
our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence,  
through weakness,  
through our own deliberate  
fault.**

**We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son  
Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve  
you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your  
sins, confirm and strengthen you in  
all goodness, and keep you in life  
eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*Please stand*

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and 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.**

**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;  
you are seated at the right hand  
of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

## **The Collect**

*A period of silent prayer*

God of truth,  
help us to keep your law of love  
and to walk in ways of wisdom,  
that we may find true life  
in Jesus Christ your Son.  
**Amen.**

## **¶ The Liturgy of the Word**

Let us prepare ourselves for the Word  
of God as it comes to us in the reading  
of Holy Scripture.

**Our hearts and minds are open.**

*Please be seated*

## **First Reading**

*1 Chronicles 29.5b-7, 9-14*

Who then will offer willingly,  
consecrating themselves today to the  
Lord?' <sup>6</sup>Then the leaders of ancestral  
houses made their freewill-offerings, as  
did also the leaders of the tribes, the  
commanders of the thousands and of  
the hundreds, and the officers over the  
king's work. <sup>7</sup>They gave for the service  
of the house of God. <sup>9</sup>Then the people  
rejoiced because these had given  
willingly, for with single mind they had  
offered freely to the Lord; King David  
also rejoiced greatly. <sup>10</sup>Then David  
blessed the Lord in the presence of all  
the assembly; David said: 'Blessed are  
you, O Lord, the God of our ancestor  
Israel, for ever and ever. <sup>11</sup>Yours,  
O Lord, are the greatness, the power,  
the glory, the victory, and the majesty;  
for all that is in the heavens and on the  
earth is yours; yours is the kingdom,  
O Lord, and you are exalted as head

above all. <sup>12</sup>Riches and honour come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might; and it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all. <sup>13</sup>And now, our God, we give thanks to you and praise your glorious name.

<sup>14</sup>'But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to make this freewill-offering? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated*

## **Second Reading**

*2 Corinthians 9.6-15*

The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. <sup>7</sup>Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. <sup>9</sup>As it is written,

'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;

his righteousness endures for ever.'

<sup>10</sup>He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup>You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; <sup>12</sup>for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many

thanksgivings to God. <sup>13</sup>Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, <sup>14</sup>while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. <sup>15</sup>Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Gospel**

Let us stand to greet the Gospel of Christ.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord. No one comes to the Father except through me.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Matthew 6.1-4, 19-21*

Jesus said, 'Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. <sup>2</sup>So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup>But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>19</sup>Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup>but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Stewardship Presentation**

Let us stand to declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

### **The Nicene Creed**

**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.**

*Please be seated*

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

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

**Amen.**

# ¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

*Please stand*

## The Peace

Christ is our peace.  
He has reconciled us to God  
in one body by the cross.  
We meet in his name and share  
his peace.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness,  
the power, the glory, the  
splendour,  
and the majesty;  
for everything in heaven  
and on earth is yours.  
All things come from you,  
and of your own do we give  
you.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer (D)

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and  
praise.**

Almighty God, good Father to us all,  
your face is turned towards your world.  
In love you gave us Jesus your Son  
to rescue us from sin and death.  
Your Word goes out to call us home  
to the city where angels sing your

praise. We join with them in  
heaven's song:

**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.**

Father of all, we give you thanks  
for every gift that comes from heaven.

To the darkness Jesus came  
as your light.

With signs of faith and words of hope  
he touched untouchables with love and  
washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.

**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

The crowds came out to see your Son,  
yet at the end they turned on him.  
On the night he was betrayed  
he came to table with his friends  
to celebrate the freedom of  
your people.

This is his story.

**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;  
he took bread, gave thanks,  
broke it and said:

This is my body, given for you all.

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;

he took the cup, gave it and said:

This is my blood, shed for you all  
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this in remembrance of me.

This is our story.

**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate the cross on which Jesus died to set us free. Defeating death he rose again and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is our story.

**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Send your Spirit on us now that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and hearts on fire.

May we and all who share this food offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

**Blessing and honour and  
glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

We praise the Father,  
and pray in the words of Christ himself

**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.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many,  
we are one body,  
because we all share in one  
bread.**

### **Agnus Dei**

**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.**

### **Giving of Communion**

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus  
Christ which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink in remembrance that  
Jesus died for you, and lives in you, and  
feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

**We do not presume  
to come to this your table,  
merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own  
righteousness,  
but in your manifold and  
great mercies.  
We are not worthy  
so much as to gather up the  
crumbs under your table.**

**But you are the same Lord  
whose nature is always  
to have mercy.  
Grant us therefore, gracious  
Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear  
Son Jesus Christ  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be  
made clean by his body  
and our souls washed through  
his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore  
dwell in him and he in us.  
Amen.**

*Communicant members of any Christian  
Church are invited to receive Holy  
Communion. If you wish to receive a  
blessing please bow your head.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

Eternal Father,  
we thank you for nourishing us  
with these heavenly gifts:  
may our communion strengthen us in  
faith, build us up in hope,  
and make us grow in love;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of  
your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our  
souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of  
your Spirit to live and work  
to your praise and glory.  
Amen.**

## **Notices**

### **¶ The Dismissal**

#### **The Blessing**

The peace of God,  
which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds  
in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;  
and the blessing of God almighty, the  
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be  
upon you and remain with you, and all  
those whom you love and all those for  
whom you pray this day and  
for evermore.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ.**

**Amen.**

*Please take this service sheet with you.*



Each of you must give as you have made  
up your mind, not reluctantly or under  
compulsion, for God loves a cheerful  
giver.

*2 Corinthians 9.7*

**Copyright acknowledgement:**

*Some material included in this service is copyright: © 1989*

*National Council of the Churches of Christ, USA*

*Some material included in this service is copyright: © The*

*Archbishops' Council 2000*

*Greeting (General) © The Archbishops' Council 2002*

*Collect (1st after Trinity, Additional) © The Archbishops'*

*Council 2004*

*Copyright © 2012, WGRG, Iona Community, Glasgow,*

*G2 3DH, Scotland. [wgrg@iona.org.uk](mailto:wgrg@iona.org.uk); [www.wgrg.co.uk](http://www.wgrg.co.uk).*

*Reproduced by permission.*

Words reproduced under CCL No 5686

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE,

Licence #A-739265 All rights reserved