



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

♪ Hymn ♪

○ worship the Lord
in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before Him,
His glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience,
and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore Him:
the Lord is His Name!

Low at His feet
lay thy burden of carefulness:
high on His heart
He will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows,
and answer thy prayerfulness,

guiding thy steps
as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter
His courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth
thou wouldst reckon as thine:
truth in its beauty,
and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings
to lay on His shrine.

These, though we bring them
in trembling and fearfulness,
He will accept
for the Name that is dear;
mornings of joy give
For evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling
and hope for our fear.

○ worship the Lord
in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before Him,
His glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience,
and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore Him:
the Lord is His Name!

John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811-1875)

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

**All glory be to God on high!
And peace to His people on the
earth.**

**Lord God, almighty God and
Father,
we give you thanks for your
glory.**

**Lamb of God, only Son of the
Father,
you sit at the right hand of God,
you take away the sins of the
world,
have mercy on us, receive our
prayer.**

**For you alone are the holy one,
for you only are the Lord 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?' ⁶Then 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. ⁷They gave for the service of the house of God. ⁹Then the people rejoiced because these had given willingly, for with single mind they had offered freely to the Lord; King David also rejoiced greatly. ¹⁰Then 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. ¹¹Yours, 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. ¹²Riches 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. ¹³And now, our God, we give thanks to you and praise your glorious name.

¹⁴But 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.

We stand to sing

♪ **Song** ♪

As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after You.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship You.

*You alone are my strength, my shield,
to You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship You.*

I want You more than gold or silver,
only You can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver
and the apple of my eye.

You're my Friend and You're my Brother,
even though You are a King.
I love You more than any other,
so much more than anything.

Martin J. Nystrom (b. 1956) © 1983 Restoration Music Ltd Administered by Sovereign Music UK

Please be seated

The children leave for Young Church.

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. ⁷Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And 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.⁹As it is written,

'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;

his righteousness endures for ever.'

¹⁰He 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. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; ¹²for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. ¹³Through 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, ¹⁴while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. ¹⁵Thanks 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. ²So 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. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For 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

♪ Hymn ♪

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love;
take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King;

take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect, and use
every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine:
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart: it is Thine own;
it shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at Thy feet its treasure-store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for Thee.

Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879)

**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.**

*As the children return from Young Church
we sing*

 **Chant** 

Wait for the Lord,
whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord:
keep watch, take heart!

*Taizé Community, based on Scripture
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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

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy
on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have
mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer 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.

♪ Anthem ♪

♪ Song ♪

He came down that we may have love;
He came down that we may have love;
He came down that we may have love,
hallelujah forevermore.

Cantor: Why did He come?

He came down that we may have peace;
He came down that we may have peace;
He came down that we may have peace,
hallelujah forevermore.

Cantor: Why did He come?

He came down that we may have hope;
He came down that we may have hope;
He came down that we may have hope,
hallelujah forevermore.

Cantor: Why did He come?

He came down that we may have power;
He came down that we may have power;
He came down that we may have power,
hallelujah forevermore.

Cantor: Why did He come?

He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy,
hallelujah forevermore.

Cameroon - Words traditional

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

♪ Hymn ♪

Thine be the glory,
risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where Thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son,
Endless is the victory,
Thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo! Jesus meets us,
risen from the tomb;
lovingly He greets us,
scatters fear and gloom;
let the Church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing;
for her Lord now liveth,
death hath lost its sting:

No more we doubt Thee,
glorious Prince of Life;
life is naught without Thee:
aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors,
through Thy deathless love:
bring us safe through Jordan
to Thy home above:

*Edmond Budry (1854-1932) trans. Richard Hoyle
(1875-1939) © Copyright Control*

¶ 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

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