





3rd July 2022

Third Sunday after Trinity

Thomas the Apostle

*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 and our Preacher is Revd
Linda Fox.*

¶ The Gathering

♪ Hymn ♪

O Lord my God,
when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works
Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars,
I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy power throughout
the universe displayed;

*Then sings my soul,
my Saviour God, to Thee:*

*'How great Thou art! how great Thou art!'
Then sings my soul,
my Saviour God, to Thee;
'How great Thou art! how great Thou art!'*

When through the woods and forest
glades I wander and hear the birds sing
sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain
grandeur, and hear the brook,
and feel the gentle breeze;

And when I think that God,
His Son not sparing, sent Him to die,
I scarce can take it in; that on the cross,
my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin:

When Christ shall come
with shout of acclamation
and take me home —
what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim,
'My God, how great Thou art!'

*Karl Boberg (1859-1940) trans. Stuart K Hine
(1899-1989) © 1953 Stuart K Hine*

We come from scattered lives to meet
with God.
Let us recognize his presence with us.
Silence is kept.

As God's people we have gathered:
let us worship him together.

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

Jesus said to his apostles,
'You are my friends if you obey my
commands.'

Let us now confess our disobedience to
him.

Lord Jesus, in your love you invite us to
be your friends:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, in your joy you choose us to
go out and bear fruit:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, in your power you send us to
be your faithful witnesses:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive you your sins and make you holy
to serve him in the world,
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

Almighty God,
who built your Church upon the
foundation of the apostles and prophets,
with Jesus Christ himself as the chief
cornerstone:

so join us together in unity of spirit by
their doctrine, that we may be made a
holy temple acceptable to you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

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

Habakkuk 2: 1-4

I will stand at my watch-post,
and station myself on the rampart;
I will keep watch to see what he will say
to me,
and what he will answer concerning
my complaint.

²Then the Lord answered me and said:
Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.

³For there is still a vision for the
appointed time;
it speaks of the end, and does not lie.
If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
it will surely come, it will not delay.

⁴Look at the proud!
Their spirit is not right in them,
but the righteous live by their faith.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand to sing

♪ **Song** ♪

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

Men: And I will trust in You alone.

Women: I will trust, I will trust in You.

Men: And I will trust in You alone,

Women: I will trust, I will trust in You.

All: For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.

He guides my ways in righteousness,
and He anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
for You are with me,
and Your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know.

Stuart Townend (b. 1963) © 1996 Thankyou Music.

Please be seated

The children leave for Young Church

Second Reading

Ephesians 2: 19-22

So then you are no longer strangers and
aliens, but you are citizens with the
saints and also members of the
household of God,²⁰built upon the
foundation of the apostles and prophets,
with Christ Jesus himself as the
cornerstone.²¹In him the whole
structure is joined together and grows
into a holy temple in the Lord;²²in
whom you also are built together
spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

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 do not call you servants but friends,
because I have made known to you
everything that I have heard from my
Father.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 20: 24-29

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' ²⁸Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

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

Please be seated

The Sermon

Let us stand to declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit as we sing:

The Creed *t. Hyfrydol*

**We believe in God the Father,
God almighty, by whose plan
earth and heaven sprang to
being,
all created things began.
We believe in Christ the
Saviour,
Son of God in human frame,
virgin-born, the child of Mary
upon whom the Spirit came.**

**Christ, who on the cross
forsaken,
like a lamb to slaughter led,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
he descended to the dead.
We believe in Jesus risen,
heavens king to rule and reign,
to the Fathers side ascended
till as judge he comes again.
We believe in God the Spirit;
in one Church, below, above:
saints of God in one
communion,
one in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Saviour, Lord and
friend,
we shall rise with him in glory
to the life that knows no end.**

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

We are fellow-citizens with the saints
and of the household of God,
through Christ our Lord, who came and
preached peace to those who were far
off and those who were near.

The peace of the Lord be always
with you

and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

♪ Hymn ♪

Blessèd Thomas, doubt no longer,
see the wounds in hand and side,
now behold the risen Saviour
Who for thee has bled and died,
and from death's dark pit arising,
lives in body glorified.

Here behold the love victorious,
over death triumphant now,
see the feet where nails were driven,
and thy faith in him avow;
for He lives, the world's redeemer,
unto whom all knees shall bow.

Thomas looked upon the master:
was it then indeed the Lord?
were those wounds no phantom
tokens?

did the sight with truth accord?
scarce believing, joy unbounded,
leapt to greet the Saviour's word.

Prostrate falling, Thomas worshipped,
'O my master, Lord and God',
here in truth was Christ the Saviour
who the path of suffering trod,
and, to ransom souls unnumbered,
broke in pieces Satan's rod.

Thomas, sight has now convinced thee,
faith within thy heart has stirred;
blessèd more those faithful servants,
trusting in the Saviour's word,
who, though vision is denied them,
still believe, and own Him Lord.

Grant, O Father, that among them
we Thy servants may be known,
and the ground be ever fruitful
where the seed of faith was sown,

till at length in heaven's glory,
faith and vision are but one.

*George Timms (1910-1997) © Canterbury Press
Norwich*

**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 (E)

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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.**

It is indeed right and good
that we should give you thanks, praise
and glory, almighty and everlasting God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
For after his resurrection he sent out his
apostles and evangelists to preach the
gospel to all nations and lead us in the
way of truth.

Himself the chief cornerstone, he
founded his Church upon the apostles
firmly to stand for ever as a sign of your
holiness upon earth and a living witness
to all of the way that leads to heaven.

And so with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven
we lift our voices and join in their
unending hymn of praise:

**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.**

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.

Jesus Christ is Lord:
**Lord, by your cross and
resurrection you have set us
free.
You are the Saviour of the
world.**

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 the Blessed Virgin Mary,
St Thomas, St Matthew 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.
Amen.**

Please be seated

*As the children return from Young Church
we sing*

♪ Chant ♪

Bless the Lord, my soul,
and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul,
who leads me into life.

*Taizé Community, based on Scripture
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The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into
one, as our Saviour taught us,
so we pray

**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,
give us your 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** ♪

♪ **Hymn** ♪

How deep the Father's love for us,
how vast beyond all measure,
that He should give His only Son
to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss;
the Father turns His face away,
as wounds which mar the chosen One
bring many souls to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
my sin upon His shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there,
until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life:
I know that 'it is finished.'

I will not boast in anything,
no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer;
but this I know with all my heart,
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Stuart Townend (b. 1963) © 1995 Thankyou Music

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching
and fellowship, united in prayer and the
breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in 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

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam:
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice;
ye lights of evening, find a voice:
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou fire so masterful and bright,
that givest us both warmth and light:
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And all ye folk of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and on Him cast your care!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship Him in humbleness;
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

W.H. Draper (1855-1933)

¶ The Dismissal

The Blessing

God, who has prepared for you a city
with eternal foundations,
bring you, with all the saints,
to the eternal and triumphant joy of that
city;

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.

To him who is able to keep us from
falling and to present us without blemish
before the presence of his glory with
rejoicing,

**to the only God, our Saviour
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
be glory, majesty, dominion and
authority, before all time and
now and for ever.**

Amen.

Please take this service sheet with you.



So then you are no longer strangers and
aliens, but you are citizens with the
saints and also members of the
household of God

Ephesians 2: 19

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