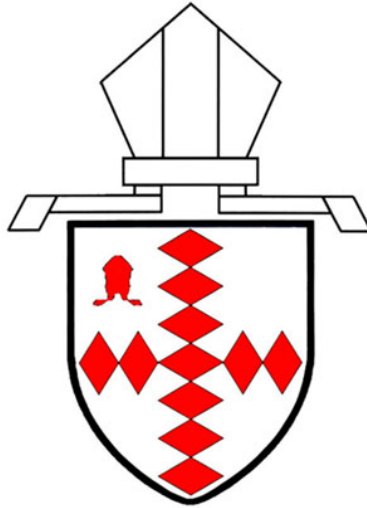


*Croydon Episcopal Area, Diocese of Southwark*



**Service of Confirmation  
at Holy Communion**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 6.00pm**

**St Matthew's, Park Hill**

This evening we welcome Bishop David Atkinson, and the families and friends of those who are to be confirmed at this service. We also welcome those from St John's, West Wickham. Please remember all those being confirmed today in your prayers throughout this coming week.

**St Matthew's, Park Hill**

Riana Nihilson  
Jaeden Mugisha  
Sam Eskandari

**St John's, West Wickham**

Charlotte Faint

**Welcome to St Matthew's**

During the service  
Please ensure your **mobile phone** is turned off.

A **collection** for the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Fund  
(Registered Charity Number 1075122) will be taken. Please give generously.

Christians of all denominations are welcome to receive Communion  
if you usually do so in your own church.

*Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included in  
this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000*

*Words reproduced under CCL No 5686*

*Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, Licence #A-739265 All rights reserved*



## Welcome and Notices

*Please stand*

### ♪ Hymn ♪

Living God, Your word has called us,  
summoned us to live by grace,  
make us one in hope and vision,  
as we gather in this place.

Take our searching, take our  
praising,  
take the silence of our prayer,  
offered up in joyful worship,  
springing from the love we share.

Living God, Your love has called us  
in the name of Christ Your Son,  
forming us to be His body,  
by Your Spirit making one.  
Working, laughing, learning,  
growing,  
old and young and black and white,  
gifts and skills together sharing,  
in Your service all unite.

Living God, Your hope has called us  
to the world that you have made,  
teaching us to live for others,  
humble, joyful, unafraid.  
Give us eyes to see your presence,  
joy in laughter, hope in pain.  
In our loving, in our living,  
give us strength that Christ may reign.

*Jan Berry (b. 1953) © 1999, Kevin Mayhew Ltd*

## ¶ The Greeting

*The bishop introduces the service*

Blessed be God, Father, Son and  
Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be his kingdom, now and for  
ever. Amen.**

There is one body and one Spirit.  
**There is one hope to which we were  
called;**

one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
**one God and Father of all.**

Peace be with you  
and also with you.

## Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God in heaven,  
peace to those who love him well;  
on the earth let all his people  
speak his grace, his wonders tell:  
Lord, we praise you for your glory,  
mighty Father, heaven's king;  
hear our joyful adoration  
and accept the thanks we bring.

Only Son of God the Father,  
Lamb who takes our sin away,  
now with God in triumph seated -  
for your mercy, Lord, we pray:  
Jesus Christ, most high and holy,  
Saviour, you are God alone  
in the glory of the Father  
with the Spirit: Three-in-One!

*Michael Perry Words © 1982 The Jubilate Group  
(admin. Hope Publishing Company)*

## The Collect

O God, the protector of all who trust  
in you, without whom nothing is  
strong, nothing is holy:  
increase and multiply upon us your  
mercy; that with you as our ruler and  
guide we may so pass through things  
temporal that we lose not our hold on  
things eternal;

grant this, heavenly Father,  
for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## ¶ **The Liturgy of the Word**

### **First Reading**

*Colossians 1.1-14*

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,  
<sup>2</sup>To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

<sup>3</sup>In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>4</sup>for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, <sup>5</sup>because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, <sup>6</sup>the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. <sup>7</sup>This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow-servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, <sup>8</sup>and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

<sup>9</sup>For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup>so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good

work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. <sup>11</sup>May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

### ♪ **Song** ♪

Father God, I wonder how I managed  
to exist without the knowledge of  
your parenthood and your loving care.  
But now I am your child,  
I am adopted in your family and I can  
never be alone 'cause Father God,  
you're there beside me.

*I will sing your praises,  
I will sing your praises,  
I will sing your praises,  
for evermore. Repeat*

*Ian Smale © 1984 Kingsway's Thankyou Music*

### **The Gospel**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

You have the words of eternal life.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

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

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## Luke 10.25-37

A lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' <sup>26</sup>He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' <sup>27</sup>He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.' <sup>28</sup>And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.'

<sup>29</sup>But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?'

<sup>30</sup>Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup>Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup>So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup>But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. <sup>34</sup>He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. <sup>35</sup>The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." <sup>36</sup>Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' <sup>37</sup>He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

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

*Please be seated*

## The Sermon

### ¶ The Liturgy of Initiation

#### Presentation of the Candidates

*The bishop asks the candidates for confirmation*

Have you been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit?

**I have.**

Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?

**I am.**

*Testimony by one of the candidates.*

*The bishop addresses the whole congregation*

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome these candidates and uphold them in their life in Christ?  
**With the help of God, we will.**

#### The Decision

*A large candle is lit. The bishop addresses all the candidates*

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

**I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

**I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

**I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

**I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

**I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

**I come to Christ.**

May God, who has given you the desire to follow Christ, give you the strength to continue in the Way.

**Amen.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, sovereign God of all, to you be glory and praise for ever. You are our light and our salvation. From the deep waters of death you have raised your Son to life in triumph.

Grant that all who have been born anew by water and the Spirit, may daily be renewed in your image, walk by the light of faith, and serve you in newness of life; through your anointed Son, Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit we lift our voices of praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The Bishop invites the candidates to sign themselves with a cross as a reminder of their baptism.*

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all who have been baptized into

your name.

Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **Profession of Faith**

*The bishop addresses the congregation*

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess

together with these candidates the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

## Confirmation

*The bishop and candidates gather at the place of confirmation.*

*The bishop stands before those who are to be confirmed and says*

Our help is in the name of the Lord  
**who has made heaven and earth.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
**now and for ever. Amen.**

*The bishop extends his hands towards those to be confirmed and says*

Almighty and ever-living God,  
you have given these your servants  
new birth in baptism by water and the  
Spirit, and have forgiven them all  
their sins.

Let your Holy Spirit rest upon them:  
the Spirit of wisdom and  
understanding;

the Spirit of counsel and inward  
strength;

the Spirit of knowledge and true  
godliness;

and let their delight be in the fear of  
the Lord.

**Amen.**

*The bishop addresses each candidate by name*

N, God has called you by name and  
made you his own.

*He then lays his hand on the head of each, saying*

Confirm, O Lord, your servant with  
your Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Commission

Those who are baptized are called to  
worship and serve God.

Will you continue in the apostles'  
teaching and fellowship,  
in the breaking of bread,

and in the prayers?

**With the help of God, I will.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil,  
and, whenever you fall into sin,  
repent and return to the Lord?

**With the help of God, I will.**

Will you proclaim by word and  
example the good news of God in  
Christ?

**With the help of God, I will.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all  
people,  
loving your neighbour as yourself?

**With the help of God, I will.**

Will you acknowledge Christ's  
authority over human society,  
by prayer for the world and its  
leaders, by defending the weak, and  
by seeking peace and justice?

**With the help of God, I will.**

May Christ dwell in your hearts  
through faith,

that you may be rooted and grounded  
in love and bring forth the fruit of the  
Spirit.

**Amen.**

## ¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

*Please stand*

### The Peace

God has made us one in Christ.

He has set his seal upon us

and, as a pledge of what is to come,  
has given the Spirit to dwell in our  
hearts.

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

Let us offer one another a sign  
of God's peace.

## ♪ Hymn ♪

Amazing grace (how sweet the  
sound)

that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am  
found;

was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my  
heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace  
appear

the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils  
and snares

I have already come;

'tis grace has brought me safe  
thus far,

and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to  
me,

His word my hope secures;

He will my shield and portion  
be

as long as life endures.

When we've been there a  
thousand years,

bright shining as the sun.

we've no less days to sing

God's praise

than when we first begun.

*John Newton (1725-1807)*

**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 (B)**

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.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise  
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ,  
your living Word, through whom  
you have created all things;  
who was sent by you in your great  
goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he  
took flesh; as your Son, born of the  
blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and  
went about among us;

he opened wide his arms for us on the  
cross; he put an end to death by dying  
for us; and revealed the resurrection  
by rising to new life;

so he fulfilled your will and won for  
you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks  
because by water and the Holy Spirit  
you have made us a holy people in  
Jesus Christ our Lord,  
you raise us to new life in him  
and renew in us the image of  
your glory.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious  
name, forever praising you and  
singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of  
your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest,  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name  
of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest,  
Hosanna in the highest.**



Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of St

Matthew and all the saints, may praise and glorify you forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Trusting in the compassion of God, 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**

**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.

## Invitation to Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called  
to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive  
you, but only say the word, and I  
shall be healed.

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

## ♪ Song ♪

Purify my heart,  
let me be as gold and precious silver.  
Purify my heart,  
let me be as gold, pure gold.

*Refiner's fire,  
my heart's one desire  
is to be holy,  
set apart for You, Lord.  
I choose to be holy,  
set apart for You, my Master,  
ready to do Your will.*

Purify my heart,  
cleanse me from within  
and make me holy.  
Purify my heart,  
cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

*Brian Doerksen (b.1965) © 1990 Mercy/Vineyard  
Publishing/CopyCare*

## Prayer after Communion

*Silence is kept.*

Eternal God,  
comfort of the afflicted and healer of  
the broken,  
you have fed us at the table of life

and hope:  
teach us the ways of gentleness and  
peace, that all the world may  
acknowledge the kingdom of your Son,  
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.

## ♪ Hymn ♪

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;  
hold me with Thy powerful hand:  
Bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain  
whence the healing stream doth  
flow;  
let the fiery cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong Deliverer,  
be Thou still my Strength and  
Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's  
destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side;  
songs and praises,  
I will ever give to Thee.

*William Williams (1717-1791)  
trans. Peter Williams (1727-1796)*

## **Giving of a Lighted Candle**

*The bishop gives each of the newly confirmed a lighted candle.*

*When all have received a candle, the bishop says*

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.**

## **¶ Dismissal**

### **The Blessing**

The God of all grace,  
who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,  
establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith;  
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please take this service sheet with you.*