



St James's  
PICCADILLY

# The Eucharist for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 18th May 2025  
at 11am

With a congregation in the church  
and live on YouTube



*Welcome to St James's Church. Whether you are with us in person or joining us online, you are very welcome.*

*Everyone is warmly invited to receive communion or a blessing so please do come forward at the appropriate time.*

## **ORDER OF SERVICE**

### **OPENING HYMN**

[Tune: Down Ampney: Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1782-1958)  
Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434)]

**Come down, O Love divine,  
seek thou this soul of mine,  
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near,  
within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

**O let it freely burn,  
till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes, in its heat consuming;  
and let thy glorious light  
shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**

**Let holy charity  
mine outward vesture be,  
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;  
true lowliness of heart,  
which takes the humbler part,  
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

**And so the yearning strong,  
with which the soul will long,  
shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling;  
nor can we guess its grace,  
till we become the place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.**

## **OPENING RESPONSE**

*The priest says*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*The priest welcomes everyone and introduces the service.*

**Eternal 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.**

## **PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION**

*The deacon says*

The risen Christ appeared to the disciples  
behind the doors they had locked out of fear.  
Let us make our confession to God,  
acknowledging all that separates us from Christ  
risen from the dead today.

*Silence is kept.*

**Ever-loving God,  
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.**

## **THE ABSOLUTION**

*The priest says*

May the God who is both power and love forgive you  
and free you from your sin;  
give you healing and strength,  
and raise you to new life in Christ.  
**Amen.**

## **THE GLORIA** (*St Augustine*)

*The cantor sings*

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
**Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Glory to God in the highest.  
Peace to God's people on earth.  
**Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Holy One, Heavenly God, our Sovereign and Creator.

**Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

We worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

**Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Jesus Christ, God's only begotten.

Miserere nobis.

**Miserere nobis.**

Lord God, Lamb of God.

**Miserere nobis.**

You take away the sin of the world.

**Miserere nobis.**

You are seated at the right hand of Majesty:  
receive our prayer.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

**Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

For you alone are the Holy One.

**Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

You alone are the Lord.

**Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

You alone are the Most High.

**Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit  
in the glory of the Triune God.

**Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Gloria in saecula saeculorum. Amen.  
**Gloria in saecula saeculorum. Amen.**

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **The Collect**

*The priest says*

Risen Christ,  
your wounds declare your love for the world  
and the wonder of your risen life:  
give us compassion and courage  
to risk ourselves for those we serve,  
to the glory of God.

**Amen.**

## **FIRST READING**

### **Acts 11.1-18**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean,

you must not call profane.’ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

Listen for what the Spirit is saying.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

*During the psalm, the Gospel is carried in procession down the central aisle of the church where it is read among the people. Please turn and face the Gospel as it passes.*

### **PSALM 148 vv.1-6**

*Response: **O praise the name of the Lord.***

Praise the Lord from the heavens;  
praise God in the heights.

Praise God, all you angels;  
praise God, all the heavenly host.

Praise God, sun and moon;  
praise God, all you stars of light.  
Praise God, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord;  
for God commanded and they were created.  
God made them fast for ever and ever;  
and gave them a law which shall not pass away.

## **THE GOSPEL**

*The cantor sings*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*All sing*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*(repeat as a round)*

*The reader says*

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

*The cantor sings*

Glory to you O Lord

**Glory to you O Lord.**



## John 13.31-35

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*The cantor sings*

Praise to you O Christ

**Praise to you O Christ.**

*The cantor sings*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*All sing*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*Please sit.*

## **SERMON**

The Revd Lucy Winkett

*A period of silence is kept for personal reflection.*

**APOSTLES' CREED** (*3<sup>rd</sup> century creed used during Eastertide*)

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

**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.**

**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.**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*The deacon says*

Let us pray for the world, for the church,  
for all in need and for those who have asked for our prayers.

*Please kneel or sit for prayers led by a member of the  
congregation.*

## THE PEACE

*The priest says*

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said 'Peace be with you'.

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

*The deacon says*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*The priest says*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Please share the Peace in a socially distanced way if you are in the building, and in the YouTube chat box if you are online.*

*During the offertory hymn, a collection will be taken. If you have cash, please fill in the Gift Aid envelopes in the pews with the pens available.*

*If you don't have cash, please use the tap donate device in the collection plate, which is set to £5, or the QR code on page 20.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

[Tune: Lauds; Words: Brian Wren (b.1936)]

**There's a spirit in the air,  
telling Christians everywhere:  
"Praise the love that Christ revealed,  
living, working in our world!"**

Lose your shyness, find your tongue,  
tell the world what God has done:  
God in Christ has come to stay.  
Live tomorrow's life today!

When believers break the bread,  
when a hungry child is fed,  
praise the love that Christ revealed,  
living, working, in our world.

Still the Spirit gives us light,  
seeing wrong and setting right:  
God in Christ has come to stay.  
Live tomorrow's life today!

When a stranger's not alone,  
where the homeless find a home,  
praise the love that Christ revealed,  
living, working, in our world.

May the Spirit fill our praise,  
guide our thoughts and change our ways.  
God in Christ has come to stay.  
Live tomorrow's life today!

There's a Spirit in the air,  
calling people everywhere:  
Praise the love that Christ revealed,  
living, working, in our world.

## PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

*The priest says*

Risen Christ Jesus,  
in this bread soon to be broken  
and this wine soon to be poured out,  
may we know you as the fire that burns within us,  
that we may bring light to your world.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING

*All are invited to gather round the altar. Should you need to sit, please use any of the benches or seats around the altar at the front of the church.*

*While moving to the altar, please join in singing ...*

**Halle- halle- halle- lujah!**

**Halle- halle- halle- lujah!**

**Halle- halle- halle- lujah!**

**Hallelujah, hallelujah!**

*The priest leads the Church's Thanksgiving for Creation and Redemption in Christ ...*

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.**

*The priest continues the Church's prayer of thanksgiving ...*

**SANCTUS** (*Williams*)

*Sing each phrase after the cantor*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
Hosanna,  
Hosanna,  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The cantor sings*

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

*All sing after the cantor*

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

*The prayer of consecration continues recalling Christ's command to his disciples at the Last Supper, ending with: "... as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me"*

*The cantor sings*

Great is the mystery of faith.

*All sing after the cantor*

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

*The prayer continues ...*

*At the end of the prayer, sing after the cantor ...*

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

*Silence is kept.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*You are invited to pray in your own language.*

*The priest says*

Let us pray in the words that Jesus gave us.

**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 Bread is broken and the priest says*

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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

*The priest says*

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 Christ died for you,

and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

## **THE COMMUNION**

*During Communion, Lay Singers and Singing Scholars will  
sing **If Ye Love Me**, Words: John 14.15-17; Music: Thomas  
Tallis c.1505-1585*

If ye love me,

keep my commandments,

and I will pray the Father,

and he shall give you another comforter,

that he may 'bide with you forever,

e'en the spirit of truth.

### **A Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

*inspired by Richard of Chichester (1198-1253)*

*Thanks be to you, Christ Jesus,*

*for all the benefits you have given me for all the pains and  
insults you have borne for me.*

*Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,*



*I ask you to be present with me spiritually in my heart.  
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,  
may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly, day by day.  
Amen.*

### **Prayers for use during Communion**

*Christ Jesus, you promised in your gospel  
'I am with you always'. Be with me as part of  
this community today in this Eucharist;  
Hear my prayers for others and for myself.  
May I bind myself to you,  
in communion with all that lives this day,  
knowing that nothing can separate me from your love.  
Amen.*

*O God, help me to trust you,  
and to know that you are with me now.  
Help me to know that all are yours,  
and you are ours, in this Eucharist and for ever.  
Amen.*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**God of life and love,  
we thank you for feeding us with the body  
and blood of Jesus Christ.  
As we have received these gifts of your creation,  
may we go out with joy and gratitude to live as witnesses  
to your hope and justice for the whole earth.  
Amen.**

*Notices are given by the congregation, wardens and clergy.*

**HYMN**

[Tune: Coe Fen; Words: John Mason (c.1645-1694)]

**How shall I sing that majesty  
which angels do admire?  
Let dust in dust and silence lie.  
sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.  
Thousands of thousands stand around  
thy throne, O God most high.  
ten thousand times ten thousand sound  
thy praise, but who am I?**

**Thy brightness unto them appears,  
whilst I thy footsteps trace.  
a sound of God comes to my ears,  
but they behold thy face.  
They sing because thou art their sun.  
Lord, send a beam on me.  
for where heav'n is but once begun  
there alleluias be.**

**How great a being, Lord, is thine,  
which doth all beings keep!  
Thy knowledge is the only line  
to sound so vast a deep.  
Thou art a sea without a shore,  
a sun without a sphere;  
thy time is now and evermore,  
thy place is ev'rywhere.**

## THE BLESSING

*The priest says*

God the Creator;  
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,  
open to you the gates of everlasting life.

**Amen.**

God the Son;  
who in bursting from the grave has overcome  
the forces of death and hell,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit;  
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Christ  
empower you and fill you with peace.

**Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty:  
Creator, Christ and the Holy Spirit  
be with you this Easter and for ever.

**Amen.**

*The deacon says*

Go in the peace of Christ.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**



*In addition to the physical collection, if you do not have cash with you, please scan this QR code with your smartphone to make a one-off or regular donation.*

*Alternatively, please visit [sjp.org.uk/donate](http://sjp.org.uk/donate), or us one of the tap donation points in the church.*



## Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

TODAY - Sunday 18th May at 1pm

Our Annual Meeting of Parishioners and APCM will take place after this morning's 11am Eucharist.



Apart from receiving the audited annual accounts and report, there will be a presentation of the work of SJP during the past year and an opportunity for you to ask questions.

At the Annual Meeting of Parishioners, our churchwardens are re-elected.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, one PCC member's three year term comes to an end: David Loyn is standing for re- election.

In order to vote in the elections, **you must be on the electoral roll and attend the meeting in person or online.**

The papers for the meeting are on the SJP website at [www.sjp.org.uk/governance/](http://www.sjp.org.uk/governance/)

## **Service of Thanksgiving for the life of The Revd Donald Reeves**

Tuesday 20th May at 12noon in church and online

All are welcome to celebrate the life and ministry of former Rector of St James's, The Revd Donald Reeves.

The service will be led by the current Rector, The Revd Lucy Winkett, and the preacher is Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury.



The service will include music by Jonathan Dove, commissioned by Donald whilst he was at St James's.

A reception will be held after the service in the church, and the service itself will be online too.

**'Rise Up: Resistance, Revolution, Abolition' - free tour and curator event at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge**

Wednesday 21st May, 2pm-4.30pm

The St James's congregation is invited to a special tour and conversation with Victoria Avery, co-curator of the exhibition *'Rise Up: Resistance, Revolution, Abolition'* at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge.



The exhibition focuses on racial justice and the Transatlantic Chattel Slave Trade through histories of art and creativity as a form of liberation and resistance. This event is free of charge.

Places are limited! If you would like to attend, please email Ayla: [associaterector@sjp.org.uk](mailto:associaterector@sjp.org.uk)

You can find more information about the exhibition at: [www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/plan-your-visit/exhibitions/rise-up](http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/plan-your-visit/exhibitions/rise-up)

## Season of Listening - update from PCC Communications Sub-Group

We were hoping to get back to you sooner but as usual there's been a lot happening at SJP. We want to assure you that the ideas, concerns and hopes that we heard in the focus groups have been anonymised and shared with the PCC.

Some of your suggestions have already been implemented, whilst others are being considered in a PCC workshop that will be held shortly, before broader engagement with the congregation.

The working group, led by Steven Overman, is eager to share what we've learned with you. We'll be in touch with opportunities to engage in the process and to hear your views, for those who are interested, and a presentation on the Voice of our Congregation will be shared with all.



## For your prayers this week

### Parish life and events

All members of our online community.  
Our partnership with St Bart's New York.

### Those who have asked for our prayers

Meg Stewart

### Those who are ill

Peter, Kelly, Margie, Cornell

### Recently departed

Donald, whose memorial service is on Tuesday (20th May),  
and for Peter and all who mourn him.

*May he rest in peace and rise in glory.*

### As part of the Anglican Communion, and the Diocese of London Prayer Cycle, we pray today for:

The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East:  
Hosam Naoum (Archbishop).

Viborg (Denmark): Henrik Stubkjaer (Bishop).

Confident Disciples: for those retired from paid employment.

The work of Jonathan Rust, Area Director of Mission.

The work of the Area Administrator, Olivia Malhotra,  
and Rebecca Fallon, Area Event Co-ordinator and  
Administration Assistant.

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