



St James's
PICCADILLY

The Eucharist for Maundy Thursday

Thursday 2nd April 2026
at 6.30pm

With a congregation in the church
and live on YouTube



Welcome to St James's Church. For those who are gathering in the building, during the Eucharist there will be foot-washing for all who want to join in. At the end of the service the altars will be ceremonially stripped.

Those who do not wish to stay for the Watch that follows, are invited to leave quietly after this. We will then process outside, mirroring the journey to the Garden of Gethsemane picking up a lighted candle on the way and will place them in bowls of sand as we arrive back in church. The Watch will then begin.

Silence is kept in church with readings every half an hour at 8.30pm, 9pm, 9.30pm, and 10pm.

INTROIT

*St James's Lay Singers and Singing Scholars sing **Thou Knowest, Lord**, words from the Book of Common Prayer Funeral Service; music by Henry Purcell from Funeral Music for Queen Mary.*

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts;
shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayer;
but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty.

O holy and most merciful Saviour,
thou most worthy Judge eternal,
suffer us not, at our last hour,
for any pains of death, to fall from thee.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

[Tune: Rhuddlan; Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969) alt.]

**God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your pow'r;
crown your ancient Church's story;
bring her bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour.**

**Heal your children's warring madness;
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

**Lo, the hosts of evil round us
scorn your Christ, assail his ways.
Fears and doubts too long have bound us;
free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days.**

OPENING RESPONSES

The priest says

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

The priest introduces the service.

All say

**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

O God,
you know our foolishness
and our sins are not hidden from you:
let not the floods overwhelm us
nor the depths swallow us up;
hear us O God,
for you are full of compassion,
ready to listen and forgive.

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 of mercy and truth forgive you and set you free.
May you take God's forgiveness to heart and be at peace.
Amen.

THE GLORIA (*Peruvian*)

Sing after the cantor:

**Glory to God, Glory to God, glory in the highest!
To God be glory for ever.
Alleluia, Amen. Alleluia, Amen. Alleluia, Amen.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God, glory to Christ Jesus!
To God be glory for ever.
Alleluia, Amen. Alleluia, Amen. Alleluia, Amen.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God, glory to the Spirit!
To God be glory for ever.
Alleluia, Amen. Alleluia, Amen. Alleluia, Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Collect

The priest says

Let us pray.

Eternal God,

your son Jesus Christ was obedient to the end,
and drank the cup prepared for him.

May we who share his table,
watch with him through the night of suffering,
and be faithful.

Amen.

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 11.23-26

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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.

HYMN

[Tune: O Waly, Waly; Words: Frederick Pratt Green]

**An upper room did our Lord prepare
for those he loved until the end:
and his disciples still gather there,
to celebrate their risen friend.**

**A lasting gift Jesus gave his own:
to share his bread, his loving cup.
Whatever burdens may bow us down,
he by his cross shall lift us up.**

**And after supper he washed their feet
for service, too, is sacrament.
In him our joy shall be made complete
sent out to serve, as he was sent.**

**No end there is! We depart in peace,
he loves beyond our uttermost:
in ev'ry room in our Father's house
he will be there, as Lord and host.**

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 13.1-17, 31b-35

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

Glory to you O Lord.

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' Jesus

said to him, 'One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.' For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.'

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

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.

The foot-washing begins with the clergy and team washing each other's feet.

You are invited to come to have your feet washed. Please remove shoes, socks and move either to the side chapel, or to the front of the church on the left.

During the foot washing, the Lay Singers and Scholars will sing:

Ubi Caritas - Gregorian chant

Ubi Caritas - Ola Gjeilo

After a period of silence, please join in singing a congregational Taizé chant:

Ubi caritas et amor,

Ubi caritas Deus ibi est.

(Where love and charity are found, God is there.)

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

Christ is our peace, reconciling us to God
in one body by the cross.
We meet in Christ's name to share the peace
that passes all understanding.

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 with your neighbours 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 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 19.*

OFFERTORY HYMN

[Tune: Picardy; Words: from the 4th Century Liturgy of St James translated by Gerard Moultrie, (1829-1885)]

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.**

**King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture -
in the body and the blood -
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heav'nly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.**

**At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim with sleepless eye
veil their faces to the presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry -
alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord most high.**

PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

The priest says

At the eucharist we are with the crucified and risen Christ.
We know that as Christ was with them in the upper room,
so he is with us now.

Until the kingdom comes, let us celebrate this feast!

Blessed are you O God of the universe,
you bring forth bread from the earth;

Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you O God of the universe,
you create the fruit of the vine;

Blessed be God forever.

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 ...*

Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom,

Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom.

(repeated)

*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

The cantor sings

Holy, holy, holy Lord.

Holy, holy, holy Lord.*

God of heaven and earth adored.

Ceasing never, God for ever,

Holy Lord.

*(repeat as a round, second part starting at *)*

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

Praise to you Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death,

rising you restored our life.

Come, O Christ.

Come, O Christ, in glory.

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

After you have received Communion, please return to your seat in silence, in preparation for the stripping of the altar.

*During Communion, the Lay Singers and Singing Scholars sing **Agnus Dei**, music by William Byrd (c.1540-1623) from the Mass for Four Voices (c.1592).*

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata, peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata, peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

*O Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.*

CEREMONIAL STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

PROCESSION TO THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

We make the journey to the 'Garden of Gethsemane' singing the hymn 'My song is love unknown'. This starts from the front of the centre aisle and is led by the clergy; please come out into the aisle at the beginning of the hymn.

We sing as we go. Everyone takes a lighted candle from the wardens and servers when they reach the back of the church before going outside. When we come back into the church, please remove the candle holder and place your candle in the bowls in front of the altar and return to your place for the Vigil.

Please place your candles from the inside of the bowls outwards.

HYMN

[Tune: Love Unknown; Words: Samuel Crossman (c.1624-1684) alt.]

**My song is love unknown,
my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown,
that they might lovely be.
O who am I, that for my sake,
my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?**

**He came from his blest throne,
salvation to bestow;
but folk made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know.
But O, my friend, my friend indeed,
who at my need his life did spend!**

**Sometimes they strew his way,
and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King:
then 'Crucify!' is all their breath,
and for his death they thirst and cry.**

**Why, what hath my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise.**

They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
the Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes,
that he his foes from thence might free.

In life, no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death, no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home;
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

Here might I stay and sing.
no story so divine;
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend.

*Following the hymn, we then sing congregational chants as we
move in procession through the garden and courtyard...*

O Lord hear my prayer,
O Lord hear my prayer,
when I call answer me.
O Lord hear my prayer,
O Lord hear my prayer,
come and listen to me.

Stay with me,
remain here with me.
Watch and pray.
Watch and pray.

The Watch continues in the main body of the church for those who wish to stay. It will begin with silence and then readings and chants, each half hour, until 10pm.

If you would like to leave now, please do so in silence.



If you would like to support the ministry of St James's, please scan this QR code with your smartphone to make a one-off or regular donation.

Alternatively, please visit sjp.org.uk/donate, or use one of the tap donation points in the church. Donations will appear on your bank statement as 'Supported Business'.



CHANTS AND SONGS FOR USE DURING THE WATCH

**Our darkness is never darkness in your sight:
the deepest night is clear as the daylight.**

**The Lord is my light,
my light and salvation:
in God I trust;
in God I trust.**

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

**Within our darkest night,
you kindle the fire that never dies away,
that never dies away.**

Holy Week and Easter at St James's

Join us for a Holy Week pilgrimage as we walk the way of the cross together from sorrow to Easter joy. Everyone is welcome at all of our events and services.

Good Friday - 3rd April 12noon - 3pm

The Three Hours: prayer at the foot of the cross, with Scripture, silence, poetry and music

7.30pm: J.S. Bach's St John Passion

Performed by the Oxford Bach Soloists - tickets at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

Holy Saturday - 4th April

7.30pm: Vespers and community meal

10pm: Compline followed by all-night Vigil

Easter Sunday - 5th April

6.15am: Dawn Eucharist in the Southwood Garden

11am: Sung Eucharist with St James's Music Scholars and Lay Singers. Preacher: The Revd Dr Ayla Lepine

Sunday 12th April

11am: Sung Eucharist

Preacher: The Revd Canon Dr Stephanie Spellers, St Bart's, NYC



3pm: Choral Evensong for Eastertide with St James's Music Scholars and Lay Singers.

Preacher:
The Revd Lucy Winkett