

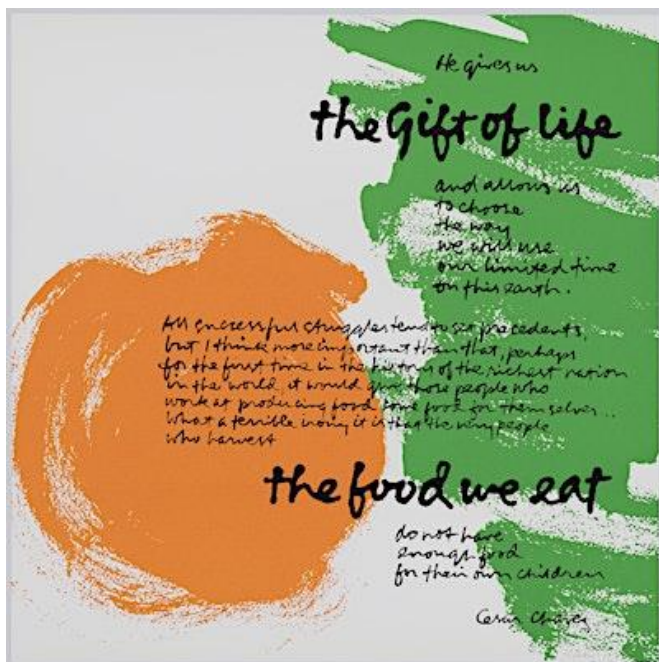


St James's
PICCADILLY

A Bethany Eucharist

Being with Jesus, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus

Tuesday of Holy Week
15th April 2025 at 6.30pm



Cover illustration: Corita Kent, *the gift of life the food we eat*, 1973.

ORDER OF SERVICE

The Gathering

Music for Reflection

*Ali will sing **Open The Eyes Of My Heart** by Paul Baloche (b. 1962), and arranged by Pete Yarde Martin.*

In the name of God beyond us,
God beside us,
and God within us.

Amen.

Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Welcome

We gather here today to be present in the beginning of this Holy Week. Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus (whom he had raised from the dead), Mary, and Martha. There they gave a dinner for him.

For Jesus, Bethany was a resting place, a place where he could be free for a while from the demands of the crowd, the squabbling and obtuseness of the disciples, the confrontations with the authorities, the questioning of his identity.

With Mary, Martha and Lazarus, his friends, he could simply be himself. They welcomed him into their home and their shared table provided him with a place of retreat.

Not far away lay the cave tomb where he had found Lazarus and raised him from death, and ahead stretched the road to Jerusalem - and the cross.

But on this night, six days before that fatal and world changing Passover, he came to his friends' home as a place of retreat, and Mary, Martha and Lazarus welcomed him offering him hospitality, food and company.

Let us, like Christ, share in food and fellowship alongside one another.

Preparing for the Meal

Generous and compassionate God
whose Son shares our humanity,
knowing the pain of loss,
the pleasure of friendship, food and drink,
and the foreboding of a dark road ahead;
may we who share with each other tonight at this table
find sustenance and support in our journeying.

*In the absence of Martha, please serve each other.
We take a little time to enjoy the food and drink.*

Please return to your seats when Michael begins playing ...

Music for Reflection

*Michael will play **L'Enharmonique** by Jean-Philippe Rameau.*

The Liturgy of the Word

The Gospel

John 12 vv 1-19

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.

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well, since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and were believing in Jesus.

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took

branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting,
'Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—
the King of Israel!

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:
'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.

Look, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!

His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when
Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things
had been written of him and had been done to him. So the
crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of
the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. It
was also because they heard that he had performed this sign
that the crowd went to meet him. The Pharisees then said to
one another, 'You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has
gone after him!'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection - Debbie

Music for Reflection

Joy (Nick Cave)

Prayers - Elijah

After Each prayer we sing the response . . .

Through our lives and by our prayers, your kingdom come.

Thanksgiving

Lord Jesus, we give thanks that, in the midst of ill feeling and misunderstanding there were people at Bethany who welcomed you.

We give thanks that, down the ages, there have been people who, in their homes, have offered havens of welcome and understanding in the midst of strife.

We give thanks for those who have opened their hearts and homes to us when we have needed to find refuge.

May our hearts and homes be like that home in Bethany,
places of understanding for the misunderstood,
places of healing for the hunted,
places of healing for the suffering.

**Lord Jesus,
make yourself at home in us.
Thank you that you take us as you find us -
please come in.**

The Peace

God calls us to peace:
in God's justice is our peace.

Christ calls us to be God's people:
in Christ is our peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Poem

How to be Alone (excerpt) by Pádraig Ó Tuama.

It all begins with knowing
nothing lasts forever,
so you might as well start packing now.
In the meantime,
practice being alive.
There will be a party
where you'll feel like
nobody's paying you attention.
And there will be a party
where attention's all you'll get.
What you need to do
is to remember
to talk to yourself
between these parties.

And,
again,
there will be a day,
– a decade –
where you won't
fit in with your body
even though you're in
the only body you're in.

You need to control
your habit of forgetting
to breathe.

Remember when you were younger
and you practiced kissing on your arm?
You were on to something then.

Sometimes harm knows its own healing
Comfort knows its own intelligence.
Kindness too.
It needs no reason.
There is a you
telling you another story of you.
Listen to her.

Music for Reflection

*Michael will play **La Fille aux Cheveux de Lin** by Claude Debussy.*

The Eucharist

After the preparation of the table for the Eucharist, the priest says ...

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We left them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give thanks and praise.

God, we have been gathered by you, caught in your net,
summoned to your table.

As we open ourselves to your generous hospitality,
let your Spirit move among us and be present in the food we
share, so that this bread and wine become for us the living
presence of Jesus.

That so with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,

we may proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The priest continues ...

Blessed are you, O God,
and blessed are your messengers and prophets
who have proclaimed liberty to the captives and good news to
all who are poor.

Blessed is your son Jesus,
who came to make known your mysteries,
to seek out and save what is lost in this life,
and to heal and bring wholeness by the forgiveness open to all,
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.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup.
Remembering the eternal self-giving of Christ,
we proclaim the mystery of God's presence among us in this
bread and wine.

Made one with you eternal God,
we offer these gifts of your creation,
and with them, ourselves, as we are,
so that you can make us who we can be.
And now, all honour and glory be yours, eternal God,
through all ages and in all time, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Silence is kept.

The Lord's Prayer

**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.
Keep us from temptation,
and deliver us from evil.
Amen.**

The Communion

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.**

He whom the universe could not contain,
is present with us in this bread.

The One who redeemed us and called us by name
now meets us in this cup.

So take this bread and this wine.

In them God comes to us so that we may come to God
and be as one.

Amen.

Bread, Wine, and Anointing

*We pass the bread to one another around the circle saying ...
"The Body of Christ, keep you in eternal life".*

*We pass the wine to one another around the circle saying ...
"The blood of Christ".*

*We pass the bowl of oil to one another, anointing our
neighbour's hands with a blessing ... "The Lord bless you and
keep you".*

Music for reflection

*Ali will sing **Running Up That Hill** (Kate Bush).*

Post-Communion Prayer

Jesus, as we start out once again
from this brief retreat at Bethany
to follow you on the road,

on the way of the cross,
with the shadow of darkness behind and ahead,
we are apprehensive.

We are still not sure of ourselves.

Help us to trust in you.

On our journey we are often afraid,
we often seek the safe options,
we often fudge the difficult answers.

On our journey we often try to hide our real selves
from others, from ourselves
and from you.

Help us to trust in you.

We, who dare to say we are following you,
know how faltering are our footsteps,
how delicate our discipleship,
how feeble our faith.

Help us to trust in you.

For still you call us by name
and invite us into your company, onto your road.

So give us the courage and the commitment we need:

help us to look out for one another on the road;

show us how we may share

the duty and the joy of being your disciples,

knowing that, in the end,

it is you who have gone before us,

you who accompany us all the way,

you who will meet us on the road

and say our name.

Amen.

Hymn

[Tune: Southwell; Words: Synesius of Cyrene, Bishop of Ptolemais, tr. Allen William Chatfield]

Lord Jesus, think on me,
And purge away my sin,
From worldly passions set me free,
And make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
With care and woe oppressed;
Let me your loving servant be,
And taste your promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
Amid the battle's strife;
In all my pain and misery,
Please be my health and life.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
Nor let me go astray;
Through darkness and perplexity,
Point to the heav'nly way.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
And grant me this desire,
That I, with mind and limbs set free
May join the heav'nly choir.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
That when the flood is past,
I may th'eternal brightness see
And share your joy at last.

The Blessing

May the strength of God sustain us;
may the power of God preserve us;
may the hands of God protect us;
may the way of God direct us;
may the love of God go with us this night and forever;
and the blessing of God Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

**In your peace we go to our homes;
in your love we will take our rest;
in your light may we rise tomorrow to follow you afresh.
In the name of Christ.
Amen.**

Music for Reflection

*Ali will sing **Sing Hosanna** (anon.)*

The next Sanctuary Eucharist is **St Pancras, Euston Road** on **Tuesday 22nd April**, starting with 30 minutes of reflection and prayer at 6pm, followed by the service at 6.30pm.



If you'd like to make a donation towards St James's work, cash may be left in the basket on the refreshments table.

Card donations may be made using the tap donation points at the back of the church or this QR code.

Three Musical Meditations on Christ

Wednesday 16th April 6.30pm

A meditative concert for Holy Week, with music by Rachel Chaplin and spoken word presented by Lucy Winkett.

This hour-long meditative concert features celebrated gospel



singer Alison Beck and a 7-piece ensemble of piano, string quintet & trumpet. Further information and tickets available at www.sjp.org.uk/whats-on/three-musical-meditations-on-christ/

Maundy Thursday Eucharist with foot washing and the Watch

Thursday 17th April at 6.30pm

This service includes the opportunity to have your feet washed, following the example of Jesus and the disciples at the Last Supper.



During the service, a procession moves out of the church into the garden to echo the gospel accounts of Jesus's journey from the Last Supper to the Garden of Gethsemane.

Back in the church, silent meditation until 10pm will be held around a symbolic Garden of Gethsemane. Please come and go quietly as you wish during this time.

Good Friday - The Three Hours service

Friday 18th April 12noon till 3pm



The three hours service from 12 noon until 3pm will include addresses from the clergy, hymns, chants, readings, and silence.

Instrumental music will aid our meditation. Please feel free to come and go quietly during the service.

Vespers and All Night Vigil

Holy Saturday 19th April from 7.30pm

Join us at 7.30pm for a meditative service (based on the ancient liturgy of Vespers) which will include a chance to offer a poem, some thoughts, a reading, to share with others. Please bring something to read or share if you would like to.



A bring-and-share meal follows. We will also prepare bread together which will be baked overnight to use for the Dawn Eucharist.

At 10pm the ancient night prayer of Compline is said together. The doors are locked at 10.30pm for the all-night vigil. If you would like to take part, please bring a sleeping bag and sign up in advance by emailing David in the Parish office at administrator@sjp.org.uk

Hospitality on Holy Saturday after Vespers and on Easter Day after the Dawn Eucharist

Following the 7.30pm Vespers service on Saturday we have a wonderful bring and share meal, down in the Church Hall and in church, for anyone who would like to join.

Please bring yourself and any food you like - to be shared at a long table for everyone to eat and chat together. If you are new to this, please just come along - everyone is welcome whether you can bring food or not. Each year there's always enough and what matters is at this time of year we come together to share in hospitality, especially when so much in our lives might be feeling overwhelming.

Please bring food downstairs to the Church Hall at 7pm, before the Vespers service begins at 7.30pm. If you're staying overnight and need a sleeping bag, we may be able to help. Please ask Debbie at: springlering@hotmail.com

The Easter Breakfast will be served at 7.30am, with a vegan option included. Everyone is welcome whether you've been at the over-night Vigil or come for the Dawn Eucharist at 6.15am.

If stairs are not possible for you, we will bring breakfast to you! It's a moving and special time and we hope you'll come if you can. If you have any questions or worries about Saturday and Sunday hospitality, don't hesitate to ask Ayla associaterector@sjp.org.uk or Debbie.

Easter Dawn Eucharist

Sunday 20th April 6.15am

A special service that begins in the early morning light. The church gates open at 6am for the Dawn Eucharist at 6.15am. We will gather outside around the Easter fire and light the paschal candle before processing into the church. Once there, the most ancient song of the church, the Exultet, is sung, and all of us renew our baptism vows around the font.



We then return outside for the Eucharist using the bread that will have risen overnight. Breakfast together at 7.30am.

Parish Eucharist for Easter

Sunday 20th April at 11am in church and on YouTube

We celebrate the joy of Easter with flowers, trumpets, choir, and the Alleluia Chorus from Handel's Messiah!



SAVE THE DATE: Pilgrimage for the Feast of St Pancras

Sunday 11th May 12.45pm

After the service on Sunday 11th May, join the St James's pilgrimage to St Pancras Euston Road. We will travel by foot, or tube or bus and St Pancras are welcoming us for lunch.

This is a good chance to get to know St Pancras if you haven't been before, as this will be our home for a year during the Wren Project construction.



Meet in the courtyard at St James's at 12.45pm on the day.

Evensong is at 3pm at St Pancras for those who would like to stay

...

Easter Eggs for our guests experiencing homelessness and Lilies for remembrance

This year, our guests at FEAST and Sunday Breakfast Club will receive **Real Easter Eggs** produced by The Meaningful Chocolate Company. We will also give away eggs in Piccadilly Circus after the Easter Dawn service.



If you'd like to make a contribution towards the cost of the Easter eggs for our homeless guests, please go to www.sjp.org.uk/support-us

Donations are also being accepted towards the cost of the floral decoration of the church at Easter.

If you would like to **sponsor a white lily** in memory of someone you love who has died, please email David in the parish office with the name(s) at administrator@sjp.org.uk

To make a donation, please go to www.sjp.org.uk/support-us



The names of those being commemorated will be included in the order of service on Easter Day - Sunday 20th April.