



St James's
PICCADILLY

The Eucharist for the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Season of Creation

Sunday 8th September 2024
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 welcome to receive Communion or a blessing, so please do come forward when invited.

Prayers for the Season of Creation have been adapted from the Anglican Church of Australia.

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING HYMN

[Tune: St Denio; Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908)]

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.**

**Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.**

OPENING RESPONSES

The priest says

For the beauty of the earth

Thanks be to God.

For the wonder of creation

Thanks be to God.

For the astonishing gift of life itself

Thanks be to God.

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

And also with you.

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

Let us acknowledge before God the damage we have done to
our planet home, trusting in the promise of forgiveness to all
who truly repent.

KYRIE (*Zimbabwean*)

The cantor sings

Lord have mercy on us.

**Lord have mercy on us,
Lord have mercy on us.**

**Christ have mercy on us,
Christ have mercy on us.**

**Lord have mercy on us,
Lord have mercy on us.**

Silence is kept.

**Merciful God, we are ashamed.
We have despoiled what you have made.
In our greed to possess, we have taken what is not ours,
dealing death, poisoning the well of life.
We have forgotten how to live with your creation.
Choosing instead to live as if there is no tomorrow,
we have stolen from our children and grandchildren.
We turn back to you, ready to change,
open to your leading and longing for hope.
Cleanse our betrayal.
Turn to us.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
teach us humility and bring us home.
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 (*Argentinian*)

The cantor sings

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high.

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high.

And on earth peace to the people in whom God is well
pleased.

**And on earth peace to the people in whom God is well
pleased.**

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high.

**And on earth peace to the people in whom God is well
pleased.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Collect

The priest says

God our judge and redeemer,
teach us to be open to your truth
and to trust in your love,
that we may live each day
with confidence in the salvation
which is given through
Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Amen.

FIRST READING

James 2.1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Listen for what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 125

Response: You have opened a new way into your presence.

They who trust in God are like Mount Zion,
Which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.
The Hills stand about Jerusalem;
So does God stand round about the people,
from this time forth for evermore.

The Sceptre of the wicked shall not hold sway over the land
allotted to the just,
So that the just shall not put their hands to evil.
Show your goodness, O God, to those who are good
And to those that are true of heart.

As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,
God will lead them away with the evildoers;
But peace be upon Israel.

THE GOSPEL

Mark 7.24-end

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to you O Lord.

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre.
He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was
there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose
little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about
him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the
woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged
him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her,
'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the
children's food and throw it to the dogs.' But she answered

him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

The Revd Dr Ivan Khovacs

A period of silence is kept for personal reflection.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(from the Iona Community)*

**We believe in God,
maker and sustainer of all life.
We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,**

born of a woman, servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.
A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.
He descended into the earth to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven,
to be everywhere present,
and his kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of resurrection and of eternal life.
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

Peace to you from God, eternal Creator:
Peace to you from Christ, who is our peace:
Peace to you from the Holy Spirit,
the giver and sustainer of all life.

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 function 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 17.

OFFERTORY HYMN

[Tune: How great thou art; Words: Karl Boberg (1859-1940)
trans. Stuart K. Hine (1899-1989)]

**O Lord, my God, when I, in awesome wonder,
consider all the works thy hand has made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed:**

Refrain:

***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:**

**When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation,
and take me home - what joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, 'my God, how great thou art!'**

PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

The priest says

Holy God,
Holy and strong,
Holy and immortal,

Give us the bread of everlasting life,
And make us branches of the true vine.

Amen.

GATHERING (*Taizé*)

*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 ...

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

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.

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS (HEW)

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

The cantor sings

Holy, holy, holy Lord.

Holy, holy, holy Lord

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory,

Hosanna in the highest.

The cantor sings

Blessed is the one.

Blessed is the one

who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest.

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.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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
This is the table of Christ.
It has been made ready for those who love God,
and those who want to love more.
So come; you who have much faith and you who have little.
You who have been to this sacrament often
and you who have not been for some time.
You who have tried to follow Christ
and you who have failed.
Come. It is Christ who asks us to meet him here.

THE COMMUNION

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 bread of heaven.
Hear our prayer for all your hurting world,
that we may grow together in unity and go out with joy,
as witnesses to your generosity and love.
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

Go in peace and with courage, singing God's song.
Join the chorus of possibility and renewal.
Grieve what is lost.
Nurture what remains.
Restore what will be,
sowing seeds that will bring life to future generations.

And the blessing of God almighty;
Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you now and always.

Amen.

The deacon says

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.



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, or us one of the tap donation points in the church.



Inspiration: The Influences That Have Shaped My Life

Autumn Lecture Series at St Martin-in-the-Fields

The theme for this year's Autumn Lecture Series at St Martin-in-the-Fields is **Inspiration**. The line-up includes an eclectic range of speakers who will be talking about the influences that have shaped their lives.

The series, run in partnership with the Church Times, begins on **Monday 9th September at 7pm**, when **The Revd Lucy Winkett**, the poet **Ruth Padel**, and the theologian and writer **Dr Claire Gilbert** will talk about music, poetry, and revelation.

Further information about the lecture series can be found at: www.stmartin-in-the-fields.org/congregational-life/lectures/



St James's 2024 Retreat: Recharge, Refresh, Reflect

Join us from 13th-15th September for a spiritual retreat at the Wychcroft Resource & Retreat Centre near Redhill in Surrey.



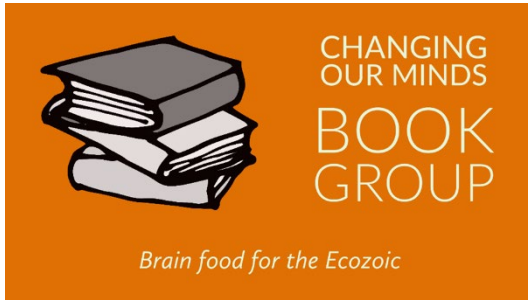
This is an opportunity to deepen faith and build community. The theme will focus on parables and creation, and there will be opportunities to pray, eat, and socialise together too.

You can attend for the full retreat, or join for a day, but **please note that there are no more residential places available.**

For more information and the registration form, please go to www.sjp.org.uk/whats-on/parish-retreat

Changing our Minds Book Group

15th & 22nd September; 6th, 20th, & 27th October
at 6pm on Zoom



Come and join our online Ecozoic Book Group for what promises to be a season of lively ecumenical discussions!

We will be exploring in more depth some of the themes raised by the *Changing Our Minds* series of conversations with academics, theologians and indigenous thinkers from Northern America and Australia.

On 15th & 22nd September we will discuss *Christian Animism* by Shawn Sanford Beck.

On 6th, 20th, & 27th October we will discuss *The Powers that Be: a theology for a new millennium* by Walter Wink.

Further information at www.sjp.org.uk/earth-justice/changing-our-minds-book-group

Celebrating and Honouring the Legacy of Quobna Ottobah Cugoano

Recognising this key figure in Black British history and his baptism at St James's Church 251 years ago, The Revd Dr Ayla Lepine met with curator and art historian Alayo Akinkugbe for a conversation about the justice, beauty and hope expressed in Che Lovelace's paintings in the narthex and Cugoano's memorial tablet near the font here at St James's.

A recording of the conversation is available to watch on our YouTube channel at:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=ybNKqVkJkHA



We also honoured Cugoano in our Sanctuary Eucharist on Tuesday 20th August. The livestream of the service is available at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=3kNqf5QElyE

An interview about Cugoano, heritage and inspiration with Novelette Aldoni-Stewart, Chair of the Church of England's Contested Heritage Committee, is available to watch at:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=OiiXuzMvv_8

House of Tammam, One Dress

Lucy Tammam is a local couturier, environmental activist and friend of St James's - some of us will recall her amazing fashion show with Emeli Sandé and Anna Lapwood here at St James's in 2021.



Lucy's new project is a collaboration with Stop Ecocide International. The amazing *One Dress* will tour across the world raising awareness of species extinction. To support this project, you can 'sponsor' small embroideries of diverse plant species from many different threatened ecosystems which will be sewn into the dress.

To see more on this inspiring initiative, go to:

www.tammam.co.uk/onedress

Season of Creation

Churchwarden Dee's eco-tip of the week - homemade paraben-free moisturiser for face and body

Equipment

Small jars or tins with lids, plus wooden spoon or chopsticks.
Greaseproof or parchment paper to line containers.

Preparation

Wash the small jars or tins in soapy water, rinse but don't dry.
Put them on an oven tray and sterilise them in the oven at



100C for 15 minutes. Plastic lids can be washed and boiling water poured over them.

Ingredients

120ml of Olive or Almond oil
60 ml of coconut oil
60 ml of beeswax pellets
1 teaspoon of Vitamin E oil
2 tablespoons of shea butter (for dry skin, otherwise optional)
Essential oils to your preference

Method

1. Put the beeswax in a glass jar or jug and put in a saucepan.
2. Fill the saucepan with a few inches of water and place over a medium heat. As the beeswax starts to melt, stir occasionally.
3. Once the beeswax is nearly melted, add the remaining ingredients except the Vitamin E oil and stir to combine. Turn off the heat and add the vitamin E oil.
4. Fill the containers from the jug. The liquid will be very hot!
5. Add a few drops of essential oil per container if preferred.
6. Close the lids and allow to cool. I put the jars in the fridge to finish off. The moisturiser can be stored for up to 6 months.

For your prayers this week

Parish life and events

All members of our online community.

[Amanda](#) and [Sean](#) whose wedding was on Saturday (7th September).

[Lily-Rose](#) and [Lola-Grace](#) being baptised on Saturday (14th September) and for Natalie and Noel.

Our social outreach programmes: guests and volunteers at FEAST and Sunday Breakfast, and all involved with our International Group.

Our partnership with St Pancras, Euston Road.

Those who have asked for our prayers

[Meg Stewart](#), [Rita](#) and her family, [Joan](#)

Those who are ill

[David](#), [John](#)

Recently departed

[Tora](#), and for [Zaira](#) who mourns him

[Antonia](#), whose memorial service is on Tuesday (10th September), and for [Peter](#) and [Priya](#) who mourn her

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

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