



St James's
PICCADILLY

The Eucharist for the Feast of St Peter the Apostle

Sunday 29th June 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: 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, unchanging, 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

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 call to mind the fractured relationships and injustices of
our world;
Let us remember our own part in this and make our confession
in penitence and faith.

KYRIE (*Ukrainian*)

The cantor sings

Kyrie Eleison.

Kyrie Eleison (x3)

Christe Eleison (x3)

Kyrie Eleison (x3)

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 *(Chris O'Hara)*

Sing refrain after the cantor

**Glory, sing glory to God!
Sing glory to God in the highest!
And peace to all people on the earth.**

Lord God, ruler of all, your love renews creation;
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Glory, sing glory to God! ...

Lord Jesus Christ, only child of the Creator,
Lord God, lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Glory, sing glory to God! ...

You are seated in your kingdom, in your kingdom of glory,
receive our prayer, receive our prayer, receive our prayer.

Glory, sing glory to God! ...

For you alone are the Holy One;
for you alone, you alone are the Lord;
for you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory, the glory, the glory of God;
in the glory, the glory, the glory of God;
Creator, Amen;
Creator, Amen.

Glory, sing glory to God!

Sing glory to God in the highest!

And peace to all people on the earth.

And peace to all people on the earth.

And peace to all people on the earth.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Collect

The priest says

God of life and love;

You called your apostle Peter, flawed and passionate,
to be the rock on which you built your church.

Give us the eyes of faith that we may see your church
as you see it, and the courage to make the change we must.
Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 12.1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover.

While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him. The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains

fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, "Fasten your belt and put on your sandals." He did so. Then he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me." Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

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 139 vv.1-7

*Response: **Search me out, O God, and know my heart.***

O God, you have searched me out and known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
You mark out my journeys and my resting place
and are acquainted with all my ways.

For there is not a word on my tongue,
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

You encompass me behind and before
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go then from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

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 Matthew.

The cantor sings

Glory to you O Lord

Glory to you O Lord.

Matthew 16.13-19

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

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 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 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 18.

OFFERTORY HYMN

[[Tune: Sine Nomine, Ralph Vaughan Williams; Words: William Walsham How (1823-1867)]]

**For all the saints, who from their labours rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,**

**and hearts are brave, again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

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

*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 (as a round) ...

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
praise God all creatures here below,
praise God above you heavenly host.
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.**

*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 (*Wetherick*)

The cantor sings

Holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory,

Hosanna in the highest.

The cantor sings

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

All sing

Holy, holy,* holy, ...

*(repeat as a round, 2nd 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

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

*During Communion, the Lay Singers and Singing Scholars will
sing **Janitor Cœli**, words: Vespers hymn attributed to Elpis
(d. 504), wife of Boethius; music: Diego Ortiz*

Janitor cœli, Doctor orbis pariter,
judices sæcli, vera mundi lumina,
per Crucem alter, alter ense triumphans,
vitae senatum laureati possident.

*Doorkeeper of heaven, and teacher of the world,
Judges of the age, true light of the world,
The one through his cross, the other by his triumphant sword,
Possess the crown of life.*

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.

During the final hymn, the clergy and servers will move to the side chapel for the dedication of new artwork: Fearfully and Wonderfully Made (The Essence of Joy), by Ariel Collier.

Please turn and face the chapel.

HYMN

[Tune: Luckington; Words: George Herbert (1593-1633)]

**Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!
The heav'ns are not too high,
his praise may thither fly;
the earth is not too low,
his praises there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King!**

**Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!
The church with psalms must shout,
no door can keep them out;
but, above all, the heart**

**must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King!**

DEDICATION OF SIDE CHAPEL ARTWORK

The priest says

Praise God who made heaven and earth!

Praise God all creation!

Praise God for we ourselves are fearfully and wonderfully made!

Praise God all creation!

Holy and Eternal God, our light and our salvation;
We thank you for the gift of art and artists who call us beyond ourselves to know ourselves, made in your image and blessed by your joy.

Give us the eyes of faith to see ourselves as you see us, made for more love than we can imagine.

Especially in this season, we thank you for the gift and blessing of people who are trans as part of your whole human family.

Give us courage to seek justice and freedom for all, held in your love of universal knowing.

In your name, we bless this work, giving you thanks for the gift of all life on earth.

Amen.

THE BLESSING

The priest says

May God give you grace to follow the light of Christ, wherever you are led and however long the road.

And the blessing of God almighty;
Creator, Christ, and the 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.

From the artist, Ariel Collier

Dear family—blood, chosen, spiritual, and trans women in particular—thank you for being an inspiration in my life. Thank you for showing up as yourselves and showing me how to do the same. Thank you for illuminating my flaws, and the flaws of humanity. Thank you for always leading with Spirit.

Before my mother and I became estranged because of my queerness, she used to tell me that I was “fearfully and wonderfully made,” that “no weapon formed against me shall prosper,” and that “God loves me and knows my heart.” I believed her. I still believe her, despite our differences. I believe the Word. No form of hatred can take this love away. No lawmaker, no politician, no force can challenge the love of universal knowing.”



DONATE ONLINE

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.

Season of Listening - feedback and next steps

TODAY - Sunday 29th June from 1pm- 2pm

All are welcome to come and hear the voice of our community, from the *Season of Listening* focus groups and other sources, on Sunday 29th June in the church.



There will be a presentation by Steven Overman who facilitated the groups, and an opportunity for reflection and discussion about next steps.

We look forward to seeing you and hearing what you have to say. If you're unable to attend in person, the presentation will also be able online. The link is available from David in the Parish Office at administrator@sjp.org.uk

Sanctuary Eucharist at St James's

Tuesday 1st July at 6.30pm (silent prayer from 6pm)

Lucy is celebrating and speaking at this service at St James's to mark 30 years of her ordination in the church.



Please come and join prayers of thanksgiving for three decades of joy, challenge, service and surprise.

Refreshments will be served as usual after the service.

Everyone warmly welcome.

Painted lady butterflies on the Piccadilly railings



This week we celebrate THE HERDS

www.theherds.org/about

visit to London with our own SWARM of painted lady butterflies on the Piccadilly railings.

Thank you to everyone who turned up to our butterfly-making workshop! There is more on the project at: <https://sjpearthjustice.github.io/pages/breathe-project.html#swarm>

THE HERDS are here!

Friday 27th – Sunday 29th June

The Herds is a public art and climate initiative designed to inspire action and renew our bond with the natural world.



Until August 2025, life-size puppet animals from the makers of 'Little Amal' will sweep through city centres on a 12,500 mile journey from the Congo Basin to the Arctic Circle, fleeing climate disaster.

Events and performances by world-class artists will respond as the herds move, bringing together the worlds of the arts and science in an urgent call for climate action.



Whilst in London, The Herds will visit Tower Bridge, Somerset House, St James's Park, Coram's Fields, Camden High Street, Westfield Stratford City, and Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

For further information about this global initiative, please see: www.theherds.org

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made (The Essence of Joy)

Artwork by Ariel Collier in the Side Chapel

For Pride this year, St James's will exhibit new work by the artist Ariel Collier (she/they/we/our) in the Side Chapel.

Collier is a London based conceptual artist, writer, researcher and curator originally from South Florida.

Titled *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made (The Essence of Joy)*, the work references Psalm 139. Collier writes: 'Western portrayals of trans women often rely on narrow images. This piece re-orientates, towards the domestic and intimate—just as God sees the heart.'



My friend, radiant inside and out, reintroduced me to the House of God and continues to nourish my spirit from near and far.'

Collier's work challenges alienation, estrangement and polarisation using multiple mediums and collective organizing to shift global understandings of black queer culture towards our inner worlds, reflections and interconnections.

Collier is also the founder of Home Studio, a nomadic space dedicated to the promotion, empowerment and development of queer and trans global majority artists by hosting workshops, making sessions and exhibitions.

Pride Party at St James's

Saturday 5th July, 11am onwards

Last year, over 6,000 people walked through our gates for a day full of joy and welcome – and we're doing it all again on Saturday 5th July.



Expect drag, dancing, arts & crafts, food, drink, and joyful community along the parade route.

All are welcome – bring your friends and chosen family!

We need your help!

To make this happen, we'll need a big team of volunteers to assist with:

- Set-up and tear-down
- Arts & crafts and face painting stations (all you need to do is hold a stencil and a sponge!)
- Parade-side cheering and welcoming guests

If you're able to help, please email us at:

prideofstjames@sjp.org.uk to get involved.

Pride dinner

Wednesday 9th July at 6.30pm

Everyone is warmly invited to celebrate Pride month at a dinner hosted by Lucy and the Pride of St James's team. Please join other congregation members over a delicious meal in the rectory flat.



Register your interest and any dietary requirements by emailing Kate at prideofstjames@sjp.org.uk by no later than Wednesday 2nd July.

A note on accessibility: there are stairs to the flat and no lift. For those who haven't been to the rectory flat before, the address is 2 Church Place (the dark green door on Church Place opposite Notto Pasta Bar).

Hymns and Pimm's

Sunday 13th July at 3pm in the Southwood Garden

Join St James's Piccadilly Music Scholars for a summer afternoon of music and refreshment as they raise essential funds for their annual summer tour.

Your ticket includes two drinks – soft or alcohol (18 years+ only) – and a strip of raffle tickets. If your number is called, you'll get to choose your favourite hymn from a list of beloved classics and St James's favourites.

The scholars will also perform some of their favourite choral showstoppers throughout the afternoon.



Bring a picnic, something comfy to sit on, and enjoy a joyful afternoon of music, community, and a touch of summer spirit.

Book your tickets today at:

<https://www.sjp.org.uk/whats-on/hymns-and-pimms/>

Walking Boots - from Harpenden to St Albans

Saturday 19th July

Join us, for our next adventure, on a walk through the beautiful Hertfordshire countryside, which will take us from Harpenden to St Albans.

The walk is flat with some undulation along the public footpaths to Wheathampstead and through the Devil's Dyke. We will walk through enchanting countryside and pass by one of the oldest churches in the county. Lunch will be at the John Bunyan Pub at Coleman Green, near where the man himself was said to have lived and preached for a time.



After lunch, we will continue on the Hertfordshire Way to Sandridge and then on to St Albans. This is a 10 -12 mile walk through some bramble, so trousers, good footwear, and long sleeves are advised.

Please contact Mariama curate@sjp.org.uk by Wednesday 9th July at the latest, so we can reserve a table for lunch at the pub at 12.30pm.

Please meet Jen at St Pancras Station having bought tickets for the 9.21am train to Harpenden, arriving at 9.47am. Mariama will meet us at the station and the walk will start at 10am.

For your prayers this week

Parish life and events

All members of our online community.

Lia Shimada who was ordained on 14th June, and those who were ordained yesterday at Petertide (28th June), especially Ben Bloom and Simon Perfect, all from this parish.

Our Pride celebrations next Saturday (5th July).

Those who have asked for our prayers

Meg Stewart

Those who are ill

Dyan, Ella, Anne and family, Steve

Recently departed

Fiona, and for Catherine, Rachael, Amélie and Jake who mourn her.

Fereshteh, and for Elaheh and family who mourn her.

Charles, whose memorial service is on Tuesday (1st July) and for Scott and Kate who mourn him.

Duncan, whose memorial service is on Thursday (3rd July) and for James and Lorna who mourn him.

May they 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 Church of the Province of Myanmar: Stephen Than Myint Oo (Archbishop, and Bishop of Yangon).

Härnösand (Sweden): Teresia Derlén (Bishop),

Lappo (Finland): Matti Salomäki (Bishop).

Confident Disciples: those who work in legal professions William Allen and Simon Billington, to be ordained priest today by the Bishop of Fulham at St Andrew, Holborn.