



St James's
PICCADILLY

The Eucharist for the Second Sunday of Epiphany

Sunday 18th January 2026
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: Heathlands; Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)]

**Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
Day-spring from on high, be near;
Day-star, in my heart appear.**

**Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.**

**Visit then this soul of mine;
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiance divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.**

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

God of miracle and wonder, for whom nothing is impossible, you long to reveal yourself to us that we might reach out to you and know ourselves to be your own, cherished and chosen.

In silence we pause before you to confess our need for forgiveness and grace.

Silence is kept.

Forgive us if we have been too preoccupied or distracted to notice the extraordinary in the ordinary.

KYRIE (*Ukrainian*)

The cantor sings

Kyrie eleison.

(Lord, have mercy.)

All sing

Kyrie eleison

Kyrie eleison

Kyrie eleison

Christe eleison

Christe eleison

Christe eleison

Kyrie eleison

Kyrie eleison

Kyrie eleison

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 (*Taizé*)

The cantor sings first, then we sing once together and then twice as a 4-part round.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria, Gloria. Alleluia, alleluia.

(Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia.)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Collect

The priest says

Let us pray.

God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free to praise you in Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Please sit.

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 1.1-9

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

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus

Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Listen for what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

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 40 vv 1-11

Response: **Great are the wonders you have done,
O Lord my God.**

Please remain standing.

THE GOSPEL John 1.29-42

The cantor sings and all repeat

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**
all repeat as a round.

The reader says

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

The cantor sings and all repeat

Glory to you O Lord. **Glory to you O Lord.**

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who

ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God." The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!"

The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

The cantor sings and all repeat

Praise to you O Christ. **Praise to you O Christ.**

The cantor sings and all repeat

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**
all repeat as a round.

SERMON

The Revd Daniel Norris

A period of silence is kept for personal reflection.

Please stand.

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

Led by a member of the congregation.

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.

THE PEACE

The priest says

Christ is our peace.
If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.
The old has passed away:
Behold, everything has become new.

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 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 16.

OFFERTORY HYMN

[Tune: Abbot's Leigh, C.V. Taylor; Words John L. Bell (b.1949) & Graham Maule (1958-2019) alt.]

**Jesus calls us here to meet him
as, through word and song and prayer,
we affirm God's promised presence
where God's people live and care.
Praise the God who keeps this promise;
praise the Christ who calls us friends;
praise the Spirit who, among us,
to our hopes and fears attends.**

**Jesus calls us to each other:
found in Christ are no divides.
Race and class and sex and language:
such are barriers God derides.
Join the hand of friend and stranger;
join the hands of age and youth;
join the faithful and the doubter
in their common search for truth.**

**Jesus calls us to this table
rooted firm in time and space,
where the church in earth and heaven
finds a common meeting place.
Share the bread and wine, Christ's body;
share the love of which we sing;
share the feast for saints and sinners
hosted by our Lord and King.**

PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

The priest says

God of light:
look on us in mercy not in judgement;
draw us from hatred to love;
from sorrow to feasting.
Make the frailty of our prayers
a dwelling place for your glory.
Amen.

GATHERING CHANT

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 the Taizé chant ...

Jubilate Deo, jubilate Deo. Alleluia.

(Rejoice in God. Alleluia.)

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 and **BENEDICTUS** (*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.

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

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 **O Almighty God**—the Collect for Epiphany 2 (BCP) set to music by George Barcroft (c.1555-1610)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**God of glory,
you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Redeemer.
Amen.**

Notices are given by the congregation, wardens and clergy.

HYMN

[Angel Voices; Words: Marjorie Dobson (b. 1940)]

**Lord, you call us to your service,
each in our own way.
some to caring, loving, healing;
some to preach, or pray;
some to work with quiet learning,
truth discerning,
day by day.**

**Life for us is always changing
in the work we share.
Christian love adds new dimensions
to the way we care.
For we know that you could lead us,
as you need us,
anywhere.**

**Lord, we set our human limits
on the work we do.
Send us your directing Spirit,
pour your power through,
that we may be free in living
and in giving
all for you.**

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 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 use one of the tap donation points in the
church.*



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 are ill

[Charles](#), [Renu](#), [Lathika](#) and [Theo](#), [Angie](#).

Recently departed

[Eugene](#), and for Pam, Krys and Jon, and all who mourn him.
[William](#), and for Carolyn, and all who mourn him.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

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