



St James's
PICCADILLY

The Eucharist for the Fourth Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday

Sunday 15th March 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: Ar Hyd Y Nos; Words: Jean Holloway (b. 1939)]

**Lord, we come to ask your healing,
teach us of love;**

**all unspoken shame revealing,
teach us of love.**

**Take our selfish thoughts and actions,
petty feuds, divisive factions,
hear us now to you appealing,
teach us of love.**

**Soothe away our pain and sorrow,
hold us in love;
grace we cannot buy or borrow,
hold us in love.**

**Though we see but dark and danger,
though we spurn both friend and stranger,
though we often dread tomorrow,
hold us in love.**

**When the bread is raised and broken,
fill us with love;
words of consecration spoken,
fill us with love.**

**As our grateful prayers continue,
make the faith that we have in you
more than just an empty token,
fill us with love.**

**Help us live for one another,
bind us in love;
stranger, neighbour, father, mother -
bind us in love.**

**All are equal at your table,
through your Spirit make us able
to embrace as sister, brother,
bind us in love.**

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

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.
Let us come to God, who is full of compassion,
ready to listen and forgive.

KYRIE (*MacNamara*)

The cantor sings

When our life is at its strongest.

All sing

When our days are at their longest.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy.

At the first coming of the dawn.

On the life that's newly born.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy.

At the turning of the tide.

On life's ocean deep and wide.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy.

When our powers are nearly done.

At the setting of the sun.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy.

When we come to breathe our last.

When the gates of death are passed.

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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Collect

The priest says

God of love,

passionate and strong,

tender and careful:

watch over us and hold us

all the days of our life;

through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Please sit.

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 1.20-end

A reading from the First Book of Samuel.

In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the Lord.'

The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a Nazirite for all time.' Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the Lord establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord.'

She left him there for the 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 23 (*Stuart Townend*)

Refrain:

***And I will trust in You alone,
And I will trust in You alone,***

*For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

Please remain standing.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2.33-35

The cantor sings

Holy, holy, holy Lord.

All sing

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
holy and mighty,
holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

The reader says

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

The cantor sings and all repeat

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

Jesus's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

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

Holy, holy, holy Lord.

All sing

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
holy and mighty,
holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

Please sit.

SERMON

The Revd Lucy Winkett

A period of silence is kept for personal reflection.

Please stand.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

The Apostles' Creed, used during Lent, is a text first mentioned in 390 AD and has been in continuous use since the 8th century.

A text written, as it were, 'under fire', it was probably handed down in an oral tradition crafted at a time of persecution. Although some of its pre-modern imagery is challenging to modern ears, its spare language and trinitarian emphasis connect us with the ancient wisdom of traditions we have inherited.

In saying the Latin for 'I believe', Credo means something closer to 'I trust' than 'I assent to'. Unlike some other creeds, the Apostles' Creed is written in the first person: we say 'I believe' but we never have to say this alone.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried:
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again:
he ascended into heaven,
and he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
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

God has made us one in Christ:
We meet from north, south, east and west
to share the peace that makes us whole.

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 17.

OFFERTORY HYMN

[Tune: Corvedale; Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863) alt.]

**There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.**

There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in Heaven;
there is no place where earth's feelings
have such kindly judgement given.

There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in the upper home of bliss.
For the love of God is broader
than the measure of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.

But we make God's love too narrow
by false limits of our own;
and we magnify God's strictness
with a zeal he will not own.
If our love were but more simple
we should take God at his word;
and our lives would be all gladness
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

The priest says

Gracious God,
we give back to you what we have been given;
fruits of the earth,
and the hearts of your people
in hope and expectation of a world made new.
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 ...

**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.**

AGNUS DEI

The cantor sings

Agnus Dei

All sing

**qui tollis peccata, peccata mundi
Miserere nobis, miserere nobis,
miserere nobis.**

Agnus Dei

**qui tollis peccata, peccata mundi
Dona nobis pacem,
dona nobis pacem, dona nobis pacem.**

Lamb of God

*that takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.*

Lamb of God

*that takes away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The priest says

Come to this table,
not because you must but because you may,
not because you are strong, but because you are weak.
Come, not because your own goodness gives you the right,
but because you know you need mercy and help.
Come, because you love God and want to love more.
Come and meet Christ, for we are one Body, united with God.

THE COMMUNION

*During Communion, the Lay Singers and Singing Scholars will
sing **All Shall Be Well**, words by Julian of Norwich (1342-
c.1416), from **Revelations of Divine Love**, translated by Alison
Daniell, music by Carol J. Jones (b.1999)*

All shall be well,
You shall see yourself that all things shall be well,
That which is impossible for you is not impossible for me,
I shall keep my word in all things and I shall make all things
well.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Generous God,
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope,
and strengthen our love.**

**Teach us to hunger for the One who is living bread,
and enable us to live by your word and your truth.
Through Christ we pray.
Amen.**

Notices are given by the congregation, wardens and clergy.

HYMN

[Tune: Nun Danket, J. Crüger; Words: Martin Rinkart
(1586-1649) trans. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)]

**Now thank we all our God,
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
hath blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.**

**O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God
eternal now be given,
to Spirit and to Word,
who reign in highest heaven:
our ever faithful God,**

whom earth and heav'n adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

THE BLESSING

The priest says

May Christ walk with you in any wilderness that you know.
And the blessing of God; Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit
be with you and remain with you on this day and for ever.
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. Donations will appear on your bank statement as 'Supported Business'.

For your prayers this week

Parish life and events

All members of our online community.

Congregation members of St James's preparing for Baptism and Confirmation this Easter.

Our partnership with St Bart's, New York

Those who are ill

Michael and Gill

Elizabeth

Alison

Lavinia

Recently departed

Charles, and for Andy, his family and all who mourn him.

Robert, and for his family and friends who mourn him.

Ruby, and for Sue and all the family who mourn her.

Andrew, and for Beverly and all who mourn him.

Ros, and for David, Roland, Miranda, Doric, Becca and all the family who mourn her.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Easter Lilies for Remembrance

Donations are now 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



The names of those being commemorated will be included in the order of service on Easter Day - Sunday 5th April.

To make a donation, please go to:

<https://sjp.churchsuite.com/donate/fund/1vundziy>

or scan the QR code.



Lent Contemplative Space on Zoom

A space for prayer, readings and silence on Fridays through Lent 6-7pm, until 27th March.

All are welcome to join for one or all sessions.

Resources and Zoom link can be found at www.sjp.org.uk/whats-on/lent-contemplative-space



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