



St James's  
PICCADILLY

# The Eucharist for the Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Marking Pride Weekend



**Sunday 5th July 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: Woodlands; Words: J. Boyce-Tillman (b. 1943)]

**We sing a love that sets all people free,  
that blows like wind, that burns like scorching flame,  
enfolds like earth, springs up like water clear.  
Come, living love, live in our hearts today.**

**We sing a love that seeks another's good,  
that longs to serve and not to count the cost,  
a love that, yielding, finds itself made new.  
Come, caring love, live in our hearts today.**

**We sing a love, unflinching, unafraid  
to be itself, despite another's wrath,  
a love that stands alone and undismayed.  
Come, strength'ning love, live in our hearts today.**

**We sing a love that, wand'ring, will not rest  
until it finds its way, its home, its source,  
through joy and sadness pressing on refreshed.  
Come, pilgrim love, live in our hearts today.**

**We seek a burning, fiery, Holy One,  
that seeks out shades of ancient bitterness.  
Transfigure these as Christ in every heart,  
come, joyful love, live in our hearts today.**

## 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  
Kyrie Eleison  
Kyrie Eleison

Christe Eleison  
Christe Eleison  
Christe Eleison

Kyrie Eleison  
Kyrie Eleison  
Kyrie Eleison

*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 our redeemer,  
look on this wounded world  
in pity and power;  
hold us fast to your promises of peace  
won for us by your Son,  
our Redeemer Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **FIRST READING**

### **1 Corinthians 13**

A reading from the Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not

irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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: Song of Solomon 2 vv8-13**

*Response: **Come to me and I will give you rest.***

**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 11.16-19, 25-end**

Jesus said, "But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in

heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy,  
and my burden is light.”

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 Ayla Lepine

*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 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 18.*

## **OFFERTORY HYMN**

[Tune: Christ, be our light; Words: Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957)]

**Longing for light, we wait in darkness.**

**Longing for truth, we turn to you.**

**Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.**

*Refrain:*

***Christ, be our light!***

***Shine in our hearts,  
shine in the darkness.***

***Christ, be our light!***

***Shine in your church gathered today.***

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled.**

**Longing for hope, many despair.**

**Your word alone has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice.**

**Longing for food, many are hungry.**

**Longing for water, many still thirst.**

**Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.**

**Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone.**

**Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come.**

## **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 on 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 (Something Inside) So Strong, by Labi Siffre (b. 1945).*

The higher you build your barriers

The taller I become.

The further you take my rights away

The faster I will run.

You can deny me, you can decide  
To turn your face away.  
No matter 'cause there's

*Something inside so strong.  
I know that I can make it,  
Though you're doing me wrong, so wrong.  
You thought that my pride was gone, oh no.  
There's something inside so strong.  
Oh, something inside so strong.*

The more you refuse to hear my voice (away-a)  
The louder I will sing.  
You hide behind walls of Jericho (away-a)  
Your lies will come tumbling.  
Deny my place in time, you squander wealth that's mine,  
My light will shine so brightly it will blind you.  
Because there's

*Something inside so strong ...*

Brothers and sisters  
When they insist we're just not good enough,  
Well we know better,  
Just look 'em in the eyes and say:  
"We're gonna do it anyway,  
We're gonna do it anyway."

*Something inside so strong ...*

## 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: Traditional Irish melody; Words: June Boyce-Tillman]

We shall go out with hope of resurrection.  
We shall go out, from strength to strength go on.  
We shall go out and tell our stories boldly,  
tales of a love that will not let us go.  
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;  
we'll dream our dream of hurts that can be healed;  
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united  
within the vision of a Christ who sets us free.

We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken;  
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed;  
we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,  
expressive love alive in every heart.  
We'll share our joy with those who are still weeping,  
raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,  
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story  
including all within the circles of God's love.

## 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.**



*If you would like to support the ministry of St James's, please scan this QR code to make a one-off or regular donation.*

*Alternatively, please visit [sjp.org.uk/donate](http://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.  
For LGBTQ+ people and our Pride of St James's group.  
Our work towards Earth Justice.  
Casper who is being baptised today (5 July), and for his family.

### Those who are ill

[Jane](#)

### Recently departed

[Stephen](#), and for all who mourn him.  
*May he rest in peace and rise in glory.*

## Pride of St James's

The Pride of St James's group is a community of Queer folk from all over London and beyond who share their love of empowering each other in faith and friendship.

We hold a regular series of events including services, panel discussions, socials, and film nights.

If you'd like to get involved or for more information about the group and our activities, please email:

[prideofstjames@sjp.org.uk](mailto:prideofstjames@sjp.org.uk)



## Pilgrimage to St Pancras

During the construction phase of the Wren Project, St James's church building will be temporarily unavailable for Sunday worship. From the first part of 2027 into 2028, St James's congregation will be worshipping on a Sunday morning at St Pancras Euston Road.

Every Sunday at 11am from the first months of 2027 (precise date tbc), the St James's community will gather, as it does here, in a different building for a time.

There is a programme of events and gatherings to prepare us for this pilgrimage, and as part of this, you are warmly invited to go to a service at St Pancras from time to time over the coming months so that it is a place we know before we go.

Please do join the Sunday morning service at 11am or the Sanctuary Eucharist at 6.30pm on Tuesdays. Closest tube stations are Euston and Kings Cross/St Pancras.



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