



Sunday 21 May 2023  
ASCENSION SUNDAY

Year A 23/20

Welcomer The Churchwardens  
Reader Sam Seabrook  
Interceder Jane Falcioni  
E Min Hilary Roden  
Coffee Isabel Nisbet  
**Music:**  
Entry AM504 Summoned by the God  
Gradual Taize In the Lord I'll be ever t.  
Font RS425 Now in the name  
Conf1 Bell 28 God's eye be within us  
Conf2 NMP254 I am a new creation  
Offertory AM366 Living God, your word  
P-Comm AM748 O Jesus I have promised  
Final AM678 In Christ alone  
Mass Mass of All Nations, Iona

# ST JAMES

## Islington N1 8PH

**Collect** Father God, you took Jesus from our sight so that he could receive glory at your right hand in heaven: At our own homecoming may we follow him and find our hope, our joy and our peace in the heavenly places; where you reign as Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

### CONFIRMATION 2023

What a great pleasure it is to be able to present these eight candidates to Bishop Joanne this morning! From richly diverse backgrounds they have been a tremendous group to work with and we do hope that this service of affirmation and commitment will enable them to take their place in the evolving ministry at St James'. This is a very exciting time of transition and their skills and their enthusiasm come at just the right time!



**A WORLDWIDE FAMILY** As part of the pictorial 'Review of the Year' (as many of the events of 2022/3 as we have managed to capture on camera, now available on the Church website) we talked about the 'churn' in our membership, people leaving central London for work or family reasons. So it is very good to know many of them keep fond memories of St James'! Today we are delighted to welcome back Kerry Sabine, now living in Wanstead, so that we can meet Abigail. We

### WELCOME to everyone in Church today, especially those visiting for the first time.

- Please ask the nearest person to you in the pews if there is anything you need. There is a carpeted area in the south aisle for our smallest children. A full service booklet is available and the T-loop system works well.
- A collection of money is taken during Mass. We are very grateful for your kind support.
- At the time of communion, please feel free to come forward to the front of Church - either to receive communion or a blessing. Jesus invites everyone, you too!
- Finally, do stay for a drink after Mass if you can and say hello before you leave. If you would like to keep in touch, please fill in a white Contact Card and we'll respond asap.

*St James' Islington: discovering how to live like Jesus in the 21st century*

also had a surprise phone call on Tuesday from Michelle Lewis, Kingsley's daughter in law, who moved to Florida ten years ago. She hopes to make it back to St James' later in the year. And among all those with us at the launch of the organ on the 7th May was Tim Martin, now living near Haywards Heath. Out of sight maybe, but not out of mind.

**AGM** With all that is happening this month it wasn't a great surprise that the attendance at our AGM last Sunday was a bit thinner than usual. But we were delighted to re-elect Isabel and Hilary as our Churchwardens and Vicky Bellamy, Norah Hodge and Ken Thompson as additional PCC members. We are very grateful for their support.

### THIS WEEK

Sun ASCENSION SUNDAY 8am Mass. 10am PARISH MASS, SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CONFIRMATIONS.  
Tues No 8.30am Morning Prayer or 9am Mass. 7-9pm Corsican Brass.  
Wed 10am Mass. 11.30am Kip Meek. 7-9pm 'Sing' rehearsal.  
Thurs 6pm Evening Prayer. 6.15pm Office Hour. 7-9pm Cantallini.  
Fri 11am Rhidian Jones (our chief organ consultant) test drives the new organ. 2-4.30pm Rhidian and Isabel rehearsal.  
Sun 28 PENTECOST 8am Mass. 10am PARISH MASS, SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BAPTISM OF CONNIE CLARKE.

### Calendar and Daily prayer themes

PACK UP for the street community always very grateful for these items:  
Instant coffee  
Biscuits  
(in packets rather than in tins)  
Tinned soup Sugar

Sun 21 ASCENSION SUNDAY For our eight Confirmation candidates  
Mon 22 DEL Easter 6 Eddie Jenkyns; Grace and Elrose Joseph; Miranda Jules  
Tues 23 Feria Eva, Roy, Jerome and Zuri Kasella; Beryl Lloyd  
Wed 24 John and Charles Wesley Charlotte, Josh, Olivia and Alfie Kennedy  
Thurs 25 Ven Bede Kingsley Lewis and Pauline McGovern; Isabel Nisbet  
Fri 26 St Augustine of Canterbury Paula, Gianni and Giandre Morrison  
Sat 27 Feria Sergio and Cecilia Munoz; Toni Parker; Jessica and Tayah Phillips  
Sun 28 PENTECOST SUNDAY Jade Nicholson, John, Charlie, Henry, Rosie

### PRAYER BOARD/NOTICES Requests for prayer welcome

- BIRTHDAYS** Many Happy Returns tomorrow to Mae Dennison who will be 8 and to Kris Hyde; on Wednesday to Laura Roden; and on Saturday to Bp Joanne and to Lisa Follett - both of whom are in Church today!
- NEW ARRIVAL** We send our warmest congratulations to Catriona and Daniel Wilkinson on the safe arrival on Holles James, weighing in at a smidgeon under 9lbs.
- CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES** Please continue to pray for Mohammad Bagheri, Thomas G, Karensa Greenaway, Eva Kasella, Rebecca Lee, Jade Nicholson, Anneke Pol and Belle Williams, being confirmed today.
- BANNS OF MARRIAGE** Between James Julius Michael Carrell and Alice Lydia Young, both single and of this parish with a QC with St Mary's, Brent Pelham, Hertfordshire; and between Elliot John Hart and Sarah Louise Hassell, both single and of this parish with a QC with St Francis', Welwyn Garden City. These are for the 3rd TOA.
- SICK** Elizabeth Batchelor, Peter Freeth, Kris Hyde, Hayley Jenkins, John, Kingsley Lewis, John Scott, Charlie Sharpe, Julia Taylor, Arthur Ward, Revd Marjorie Ward and Mary Whalley.
- INDOOR MEMBERS** Annie Bryan, Vivien Carlton, Kingsley Lewis (Bridgeside Lodge) and Wendy Fisher Gordon.
- ANNIVERSARIES** Today: Margaret Osborne (1993); 22nd: Joseph Daley (2001); John Willis (2019); 24th: Geoff Prendergast (2012); 25th: Alison Nisbet (2002); 26th: Dave Collins (2020); 27th: Harry Walker (2007), Sheila Chapman (2007).
- INTERNATIONAL LINKS** *In the US:* Fr Travis Smith, Rector of Holy Comforter, Angleton and Mth Suzanne Smith, Rector of Grace Church, Alvin, Texas. *In Japan:* Fr Sebastian and Yuki Naniwa, now transferred to a university chaplaincy in Tokyo.
- PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE** We pray for the release of *Peter Jouvonal*, held by the Taliban since December 2021 and for all political prisoners.



Open from  
12 noon each  
Monday.



Parish Priest: Fr John Burniston 1a Arlington Square, N1 7DS 020 7226 4108 | 07989 281123  
email: vicar@stjamesislington.org | www.stjamesislington.org | Administrator: admin@stjamesislington.org  
Churchwardens: Hilary Roden and Isabel Nisbet | Hall Bookings: hallatstjames@gmail.com | 07392 694961



PARISH MASS  
for Easter 7  
May 21st 2023  
together with Confirmation

as streamed from  
St James' Church  
Islington N1



May God bless every £1 we give so that St James' will be here, not just for today and for tomorrow, but for the future he wants to create.

**We give thanks for each of those whom God has called to Confirmation today**



MOHAMMAD  
BAGHERI

**Mohammad is 31 years old and was originally from Iran. He was a Muslim when he came to the UK as a refugee in 2008. Mo has just begun his training as a server at St James' Church.**

It was in February 2022 that I first began attending St James' Church. I was amazed by the love and kindness I was shown by the congregation. I felt a strange sense of elation. It is difficult to describe how much better I felt. Now I know that it was the Holy Spirit coursing through me that caused this miraculous feeling of well being

After my first attendance, I knew that my life would never be the same again. The more I have learned about Christianity the happier I have become. My life has been transformed. Accepting Jesus Christ in my heart has given me hope.

After the successful completion of my baptism preparation course, I was baptised on 5 June 2022. This was an amazing experience. I really felt like I was being reborn. Now I'm delighted to be getting confirmed at St James' on May 21st.

**Sponsor:** John Roden, St James' Church, Islington



THOMAS

**Thomas was born in France and is a writer and film maker. He is currently updating the St James' website.**

One of the most heart-breaking things you can hear is "*I wish I'd had a chance to tell them how much I loved them*". When people feel this, it's usually too late. Love is everywhere in our Book. It's also everywhere in our Church, both invisible and unmissable. There's the love of God. The love we receive and the love we give. The love for reading and learning, for singing and sharing. Getting Confirmed is the opportunity to tell the Church how much we love it. And how much value the love we're receiving.

**Sponsor:** Eddie Jenkyns, St James' Church, Islington



KARENSA  
GREENAWAY

**Karensa was born in Islington and has roots in the Montserrat community. She is a social worker and lives with her daughter Amariah.**

From an early age I have always been a believer in the Most High, being born into a Pentecostal family. Every Sunday after Sunday school I would observe the congregation involvement and togetherness in worshipping by the clapping of hands, personal testimonies, the sounds of musical instruments such as tambourines

and organ while praising the Most High. I found it fascinating listening to some members of the congregation speaking in tongues which was an indication that the Holy Spirit had filled the person's body.

I questioned my role within the Pentecostal church and I didn't attend as regularly. In 2013 I attended St James' Church and was warmly welcomed by Fr John and other members of the congregation. My daughter was baptised there and we both made our First Communions, valuing the importance of learning about the Word of God.

I have always had a relationship with God and would like to develop my spiritual relationship and more grounded in knowing more of God. I decided that being confirmed will further my faith and will enable me to build an even stronger relationship with our Lord. To continue to thank him, worship him, love him, committing myself to ways which pleases him and developing my knowledge of his teachings.

The preparation sessions were informative and helped me to understand several challenges that are faced within the Church of England and their role within parliament, schools, and wider communities and also listening to the views and opinions of others about their spiritual path. I am looking forward to being confirmed by the Bishop of Stepney, maturing my faith in the future at St James' and becoming more involved in services on a Sunday.

**Sponsor:** Pansy Harris-Gayle, Outreach Church of God, Cameron Hill District, Maggotty, St Elizabeth, Jamaica



EVA  
KASELLA

**Eva was born in Tanzania, is married to Roy and has two children, Jerome and Zuri. Eva works in catering.**

There are several reasons why I've committed myself to getting confirmed in the Church. Growing up in East Africa, Church was a key part in the dynamics of the family unit, however in our household my grandfather was the only person who was committed to Church life. Throughout my early childhood memories, he never missed Church and was a key member of the Choir and Committee. Seeing this on a weekly basis laid not only physical but mental and spiritual foundations within me, and over the years I have been convicted to pursue a relationship with Christ and the Church, to not only be an influence to my children but to those who I might inspire to do the same.

**Sponsor:** Roy Kasella, St James' Church, Islington



JADE  
NICHOLSON

**Jade was baptised with her mother Lisa and her brother Sonny in 2015 and made her First Holy Communion the following year. She has three children Charlie, Henry and Rosie with her partner John.**

I am truly grateful to be doing my Confirmation today. I feel this was naturally the next step in my journey after being baptised and having my Holy Communion here along side Fr John. I am also very happy I have the chance to do this here with him today before he retires later this year.

My children and I have been lucky enough to be a part of St James' Church for many years now. This Church is special to us and holds a lot of wonderful memories for me and my family. My children have been baptised here and enjoy attending Sunday School.

After my preparation classes I feel confident in myself and my religion to help educate and guide my children in our Christian path and look forward to our future.

I am honoured to be part of such a warm and welcoming family here at St James' Church.

**Sponsor:** Lisa Follett, St James' Church, Islington



REBECCA  
LEE

**Rebecca is married to Rob and they have two daughters, Evelyn and Alice. She works in a local architectural practice.**

Throughout my life, my faith has been a source of comfort and strength to me, and I have been on a journey to discover what it means to be a Christian in a modern world. As part of this journey, I have sought out a church community that is inclusive and celebrates diversity, including people of different faith traditions, communities, and sexual orientations. By finding St James' Church, I have found a community that aligns with my values and beliefs, and this has been a crucial step in my spiritual exploration.

The Confirmation process has been an opportunity for me to deepen my understanding of what it means to be a Christian. It has provided me with a chance to reflect on my beliefs and to publicly affirm my commitment to my faith, with the support of the Church community. I am committed to continuing to learn, grow, and serve others in my faith journey, and I am confident that the Confirmation process will be an integral part of this ongoing process of personal and spiritual growth."

**Sponsor:** Caroline Conway



ANNEKE  
POL

**Anneke is Australian and has lived in London for a year and a half. She lives with her partner Simon just over the border in Hackney and is a lawyer.**

I am requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation to continue to grow in my faith and develop my connection to our living God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We have been prepared to receive the sacrament by Fr John and I feel honoured that the community at St James' considers me worthy to be part of their congregation. I was gifted with grace at my baptism and this sacrament will confirm this gift.

To receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit through Confirmation would be humbling. My faith journey has brought me through many trials and tribulations. Continuously, I turn to Jesus to heal and guide me in my life. I have learned to trust that God is with me and carries me when I feel weak. I want to deepen my faith and grow in spiritual wisdom throughout my lifetime. I will continue to strive to have an open mind and an open heart to fulfil God's will for my life and acknowledge that I am a child of God.

**Sponsor:** Cecilia Munoz, St James' Church, Islington



BELLE  
WILLIAMS

**Belle Williams has lived in Islington all her life. With her partner Tom she has three children Poppy, Pearl and Bow. She works as an HR and Finance Assistant.**

I grew up in a Catholic household. My parents weren't particularly religious but my grandparents were. I was christened and did my first Holy Communion in Catholic Churches and although I didn't go to Church often or go to a Church school, having a religion has been something I have always been proud of.

My two older daughters were both christened in a Catholic Church but I had started to feel distant to the strict Catholic views on things. After attending St James' Church for some of my friends children's Christenings and Holy Communions I really enjoyed the services and felt a connection to the Church.

I started attending in 2018 and got my youngest daughter Christened in St James and my older two daughters made their first Holy Communions there as well. I also did my Holy Communion again alongside them! Being confirmed is something I have always wanted to do and I am glad it will be possible before Fr John retires.

**Sponsor:** Sam Seabrook, St James' Church, Islington

*We warmly welcome Bishop Joanne and all our guests as we celebrate the Confirmation of eight members of our Church family today.*

*All stand for the 1st Hymn during which the Sanctuary party processes into Church, followed by the Confirmation candidates and their sponsors.*

**Hymn: AM504 Summoned by the God who made us** [t AM315 Abbots Leigh]

**Summoned by the God who made us, rich in our diversity gathered in the name of Jesus, richer still in unity. Let us bring the gifts that differ and, in many, varied ways, sing a new Church into being, one in faith and love and praise.**

**Trust the goodness of creation, trust the Spirit strong within, dare to dream the vision promised as it grows from what has been. Let us bring the gifts that differ and, in many, varied ways, sing a new Church into being, one in faith and love and praise.**

**Bring the hopes of every nation; bring the art of ev'ry race, weave a song of peace and justice; let it sound through time and space. Let us bring the gifts that differ and, in many, varied ways, sing a new Church into being, one in faith and love and praise.**

**Draw together at one table all the human family; shape a circle ever wider and a people ever free. Let us bring the gifts that differ and, in many, varied ways, sing a new Church into being, one in faith and love and praise.**

(Words: Delores Dufner)

**Bishop** Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**  
There is one body and one Spirit.  
**There is one hope to which we were called:**  
one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
**one God and Father of all.**  
Peace be with you  
**and also with you.**

*The Bishop welcomes the congregation and introduces the service, ending with a period of silence and the Collect:*

**Collect:** **Father God, you took Jesus from our sight so that he could receive glory at your right hand in heaven: At our own homecoming may we follow him and find our hope, our joy and our peace in the heavenly places; where you reign as Lord for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES**

**Vicar** Bishop Joanne, as a sign of our growth in Christ, it gives me great pleasure to present to you Mohammad, Thomas, Karensa, Eva, Rebecca, Jade, Anneke and Belle as candidates for Confirmation.

Bishop Have you been baptised in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit?

Candidates **I have.**

Bishop Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?

Candidates **I am.**

Bishop Faith is the gift of God to his people. In Confirmation we share in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit first sent by the Lord to his apostles at Pentecost and now being given to those called to adult service in the Church. People of God, will you welcome these candidates and uphold them in their new life in Christ?

People **With the help of God, we will!**

Bishop May God who has given you the desire to follow Christ, give you strength to continue in the way. **Amen.**

*The Candidates return to their places*

Sit **THE WORD OF GOD**

*1st Reading: (Acts 1: 6-14)* So when the disciples had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Remain seated for the Taize Chant:

Sung twice

In the Lord I'll be e - ver thank - ful, in the Lord I will re - joice! Look to God, do not be a - fraid; lift up your voi - ces: the Lord is near, lift up your voi - ces: the Lord is near.

(Words and Music Taize Community)

*Silence - a time to reflect on what we have heard.*

Let us stand and welcome the Gospel.

We sing:

Al - le - lu - ia! Your words, O Lord, are spi - rit and life. Al - le - lu - ia! O - pen our hearts to your word.

We say together:

**Go, make disciples of all the nations; I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.**

We sing once more: **Alleluia! Your words, O Lord...**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Good News of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**Glorify to you, O Lord**

(St John 17: 1-11) After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sit

### THE SERMON

Rt Revd Dr Joanne Woolway Grenfell

During the song the Vicar leads the candidates and the Bishop to the Font.

Song:

**Now in the name of him, who sent  
to preach by word and sacrament,  
upon each candidate we pray  
the strength of God in every day.**

[t AM262 Melcombe]

**Our names are written in his hand;  
he leads us to the promised land.  
We rise in wonder from the flood  
and love becomes our livelihood.**

**With Noah through disaster born,  
with Moses from the river drawn,  
with Jonah from the sea released,  
we celebrate this glorious feast.**

**This water is a seal and sign  
of costly love that makes us clean;  
this love we see in Christ portrayed  
who rose triumphant from the dead.**

**We sing our thanks that old and young  
now to the Church of Christ belong.  
This is the covenant of grace;  
we seek his Spirit in this place.**

(Words: Fred Kaan)

The congregation turns to face the Font. Bishop Joanne addresses the candidates

### The Decision

Bishop

We all wander far from God and lose our way.  
Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home.  
So I ask:

Do you turn away from sin?  
**I do.**

Do you reject evil?  
**I do.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?  
**I do.**

Do you trust him as Lord?  
**I do.**

The bishop addresses the whole congregation

Let us affirm together our common faith in Jesus Christ

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?  
**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?  
**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the  
people of God and makes Christ known I the world?  
**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

*The candidates come forward to the font and sign themselves with water.*

Bishop Almighty God, we thank you for your fellowship in the household of faith with all who have been baptised in your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, **Amen.**

*The congregation turns to face east as the candidates go to the place of Confirmation. The sponsors stand behind their respective candidates. A soloist sings the John Bell song: 'God's eye be within you'. The congregation repeats the song, replacing 'you' with 'us'.*

**God's eye be within us, God's foot be before us,  
God's spirit be round us to shield and restore us,  
God's freedom to choose us, God's justice to fuse us,  
God's purpose to liberate and transform us and use us.**

(Words and Music: John Bell)

*The Bishop extends her hands towards those to be confirmed and says*

Almighty and ever-living God, you have given these your servants new birth in baptism by water and the Spirit, and have forgiven them all their sins. Let your Holy Spirit rest upon them: the Spirit of wisdom and understanding; the Spirit of counsel and inward strength; the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness; and let their delight be in the fear of the Lord. **Amen.**

*The congregation sits, praying in silence as each candidate is presented to the Bishop by their sponsor,*

Bishop Joanne, I present N. for Confirmation.

*The bishop addresses each person by their Christian name*

N, God has called you by name and made you his own.

*The bishop lays her hands on the head of each, saying*

Confirm, O Lord, your servant N. with your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Immediately after the candidate has been confirmed the Bishop anoints them with the Oil of Chrism, a sign of their incorporation into the Community of Christ the anointed one, and of their membership of the royal priesthood of the Church.*

N., by this holy anointing and God's love for you,  
be sealed with the Holy Spirit  
from now and through all eternity. Amen.

*After all the candidates have been confirmed the Bishop invites the congregation to pray for all those on whom hands have been laid:*

**Defend, O Lord, these your servants  
with your heavenly grace,  
that they may continue yours for ever,  
and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more  
until they come to your everlasting kingdom. Amen.**

*The candidates return to their places and sit. The Cantor sings the next song as a solo and the congregation sings it a second time together.*

Song **I am a new creation, no more in condemnation,  
here in the grace of God I stand. [NMP254]  
My heart is overflowing, my love just keeps on growing,  
here in the grace of God I stand.  
And I will praise you, Lord, and I will praise you, Lord,  
and I will sing of all that you have done.  
A joy that knows no limit, a lightness in my spirit,  
here in the grace of God I stand.** (Words: Dave Bilborough)

*The congregation now stands. The Bishop addresses the whole congregation*

**Stand THE COMMISSIONING OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY**

Bishop On this special day when we draw these eight candidates more closely into the life of the Church I ask you all to rededicate your lives in the worship and service of God:

Will you continue in the apostle's teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread and the prayers?  
**With the help of God, we will.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?  
**With the help of God, we will.**

Will you proclaim, by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?  
**With the help of God, we will.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself?  
**With the help of God, we will.**

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society, by prayer for the world and its leaders, by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?  
**With the help of God, we will.**

May God dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace. **Amen.**

## WELCOME AND PEACE

Bishop There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
By one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.  
**We welcome you in the fellowship of faith;**  
**We are children of the same Heavenly Father;**  
**We welcome you.**

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you.  
If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father. Alleluia

The peace of the Lord be always with you,  
**and also with you.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*We greet one another. During the preparation of the altar, the Offertory Hymn is sung and a collection taken. Those most recently confirmed form the Offertory procession. By custom, the cash collection today will be given to the Bishop of Stepney's Discretionary Fund.*

Offertory Hymn: **AM366 Living God**

[t AM337 Blaenwern]

*Living God, your word has called us,  
summoned us to live by grace,  
make us one in hope and vision,  
as we gather in this place.  
Take our searching, take our praising,  
take the silence of our prayer,  
offered up in joyful worship,  
springing from the love we share.*

*Living God, your love has called us  
in the name of Christ your Son,  
forming us to be his body  
by your Spirit making one.  
Working, laughing, learning, growing,  
old and young, and black and white,  
gifts and skills together sharing,  
in your service all unite.*

## THE PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR

Bishop As the grain once scattered in the fields  
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,  
**so Lord, may your whole Church**  
**soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth**  
**into your kingdom. Amen.**

God of wisdom, may the light of your eternal Word, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, lead us in holiness and guide us to glory; we ask this in his name. Amen.

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Bishop The Lord be with you  
All **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.**

Bishop It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ the King of glory.

Born of Mary his mother,  
Jesus came to rescue the whole human race.  
Dying for us, he defeated death  
and overcame the power of sin.

By the glory of his resurrection  
he opened the way to life eternal and by his ascension,  
gave us the sure hope that where he is, we may also be.

Now the universe can celebrate with unbounded joy  
and so with the choirs of angels and archangels  
we sing for ever this hymn of everlasting praise:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My  
In God's name is com - ing the One whom we call Bles - sed. Ho -



heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord,  
sann - a in the high - est. Praise and thanks to God.

Sit/Kneel



Lord you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us  
the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith.



You a-lone are ho-ly and you, a-lone are Lord, and



you a-lone are the Most High; Je-sus Christ our Lord.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection  
and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

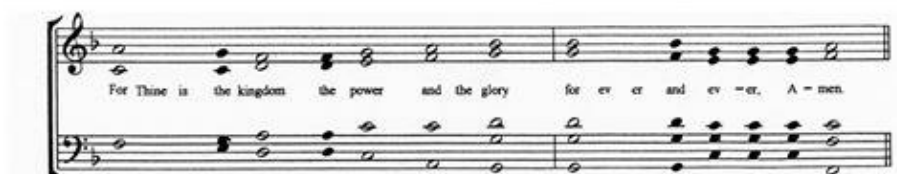
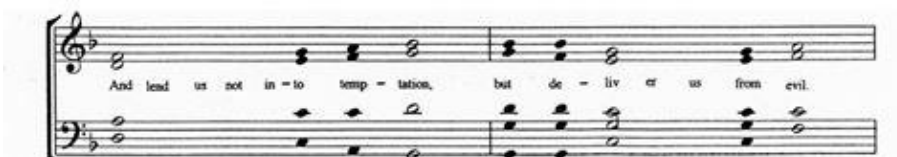
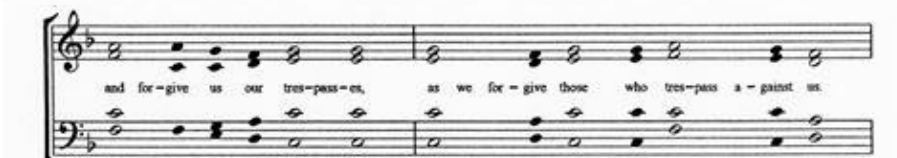
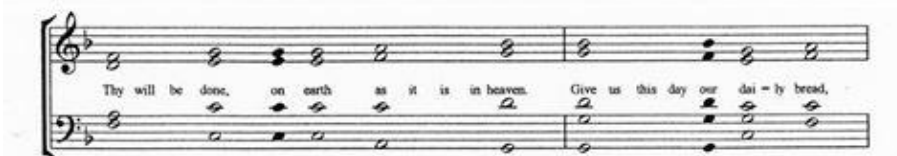
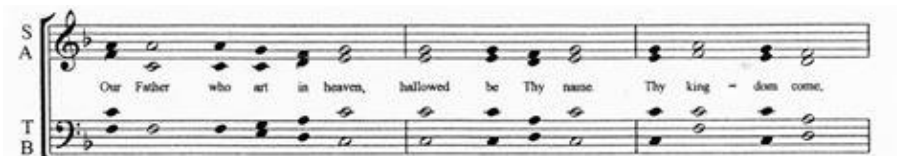
We bring before you this bread and this cup  
and thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of Mary the Mother of God,  
St James, St Peter and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through him from whom all good things come,  
Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer**  
Kiev Lord's Prayer, arr David Stancliffe

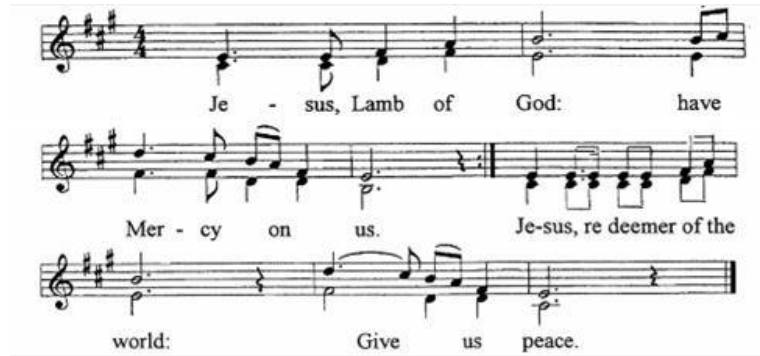
Bishop Believing in the promises of God,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:



## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Bishop We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.  
All **Though we are many we are one body,  
because we all share the one bread.**

### Lamb of God



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have  
Mer - cy on us. Je - sus, re deemer of the  
world: Give us peace.

Bishop Come and kneel at the table of the Lord, not because you are strong but because you are weak. Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you the right to come, but because you need mercy and help. Come, because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more. Come, because he loves you, and gave himself for you.

Lift up your hearts and minds above the cares and fears and let this bread and wine be to you to the token of the grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, all meant for you if you will accept them in humble faith; for Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*Those who have been confirmed - together with their sponsors and families – should make their way to the place of communion before the rest of the congregation. We sing the Communion hymn sitting.*

Hymn: **AM748 O Jesus I have promised** [t AM748 Wolvercote]

**O Jesus I have promised  
to serve thee to the end;  
be thou for ever near me,  
my Master and my friend:  
I shall not fear the battle  
if thou art by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway  
if thou wilt be my guide.**

**O let me hear thee speaking  
in accents clear and still,  
above the storms of passion,  
the murmurs of self-will;  
O speak to reassure me,  
to hasten or control;  
O speak and make me listen,  
thou guardian of my soul.**

**O Jesus, thou hast promised,  
to all who follow thee,  
that where thou art in glory  
there shall my servant be;  
and, Jesus, I have promised  
to serve thee to the end:  
O give me grace to follow,  
my Master and my friend.**

**O let me see thy foot-marks,  
and in them plant my own;  
my hope to follow duly  
is in thy strength alone:  
O guide me, call me, draw me,  
uphold me to the end;  
and then in heav'n receive me,  
my Saviour and my friend.**

(Words: John Bode)

Junior Music Group: Canon in D Johann Pachelbel

Communion Antiphon:

By sharing the cup of the Lord's suffering we become the friends of God.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Bishop God our Father,  
you have raised our humanity in Christ  
and have fed us with the bread of heaven:  
mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual blessings,  
we may set our hearts in the heavenly places;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Father, we dedicate ourselves to serve you faithfully  
and to follow Christ,  
to face the future with him,  
seeking his special purpose for our lives.  
Send us out now to work and to witness  
freely, gratefully and hopefully,  
in the power of the Holy Spirit,  
and for the honour and glory of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Banns of Marriage and the Community Notices follow.

Meeting the Bishop: members of our Sunday School speak to Bishop Joanne about her role in the Church today.

Stand

## THE BLESSING

The Confirmation candidates come forward and receive a lit candle from the Bishop.

Bishop God has delivered you from the dominion of darkness and given us a place with the saints in light. You have received the light of Christ: walk in that light all the days of your life.  
**Shine as a light in the world,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

Bishop Christ our ascended King pour upon you the abundance of his gifts and bring you to reign with him in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the light and peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Final Song: **AM678 In Christ alone**

***In Christ alone my hope is found,  
he is my light, my strength and song;  
this corner-stone, this solid ground,  
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
when fears are stilled and strivings cease!  
My comforter, my all in all,  
here in the love of Christ I stand.***

***In Christ alone my faith grows strong,  
his words of comfort fill my heart;  
I know I've stayed away too long,  
never from him will I depart.  
I pledge today my heart and mind:  
he grants me grace, a love so kind.  
My Lord, my God, my brother true,  
here in the faith of Christ I stand.***

***In Christ alone, my self revealed,  
he is the one who makes me new.  
Born of our flesh, this God concealed,  
died on the cross for all that's true.  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
up from the grave he rose again.  
Now I am his and he is mine,  
here in the peace of Christ I stand.***

The Bishop, following the Churchwardens, leads the new Confirmation candidates outside St James'.  
The congregation follows, turning left onto the grass adjacent to Prebend Street for the launching of the Ascension Sunday helium balloon.

***No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
this is the power of Christ in me;  
from life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No powers of hell, no scheme of man,  
can ever pluck me from his hand;  
till he returns or calls me home,  
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!***

(Words: Stuart Townend and Keith Getty, adapted JB)

*Please do stay for Refreshments and cake!*

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