

**THE PARISH OF
WITNEY**



**St Mary
the Virgin**



Trinity 11
The Eucharist

Sunday 11 August 2024
10.45am

**We warmly welcome everyone
to Saint Mary's Church
in the Parish of Witney.**

We are an inclusive church embracing a hospitable Christianity. Everyone is welcome at this service. If you usually receive communion please join us – or please come forward to receive a blessing.

We are six Church of England churches, some large and some small, serving the town of Witney and the villages round about.

We are here to worship God and to help each other to grow in faith.

We are committed to living our lives in the love, joy and hope of the risen Christ.

You can find us in church, in schools, in hospitals, village halls, supermarkets, nursing homes, up late with the Street Pastors, at the toddler group... wherever people are.

If you are interested in becoming a part of what is happening through the church please speak to one of the welcomers afterwards.

The Procession

As the sacristy bell sounds all stand for the first hymn

Lord, as the day begins
lift up our hearts in praise;
take from us all our sins,
guard us in all our ways:
 our every step direct and guide
 that Christ in all be glorified!

Christ be in work and skill,
serving each other's need;
Christ be in thought and will,
Christ be in word and deed:
 our minds be set on things above
 in joy and peace, in faith and love.

Grant us the Spirit's strength,
teach us to walk his way;
so bring us all at length
safe to the close of day:
 from hour to hour sustain and bless,
 and let our song be thankfulness.

Now as the day begins
make it the best of days;
take from us all our sins,
guard us in all our ways:
 our every step direct and guide
 that Christ in all be glorified!

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926
© 1984 Hope Publishing Company
Music: LITTLE CORNARD, Martin Shaw 1875–1958

The Greeting

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

The service is introduced.

The Penitential Rite

Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess we have failed you as did your first disciples.
We ask for your mercy and your help.

Our selfishness betrays you:
Lord, forgive us.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

We fail to share the pain of your suffering:
Lord, forgive us.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

We run away from those who abuse you:
Lord, forgive us.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

We are afraid of being known to belong to you:
Lord, forgive us.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

May the God of love and power
forgive you ✠ and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by the Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Gloria

We sing the Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

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

The Collect

Let us pray:

O God, you declare your almighty power
most chiefly in showing mercy and pity:
mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace,
that we, running the way of your commandments,
may receive your gracious promises,
and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

We sit for the first reading, 1 Kings 19.4-8. At the end

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

We stand to sing

O for a closer walk with God,
a calm and heavenly frame,
a light to shine upon the road
that leads me to the Lamb!

Where is the blessedness I knew,
when first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul refreshing view
of Jesus, and His Word?

What peaceful hours I once enjoyed!
How sweet their memory still!
But they have left an aching void
the world can never fill.

Return, O holy Dove, return,
sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made Thee mourn
and drove Thee from my breast.

The dearest idol I have known,
whate'er that idol be
help me to tear it from Thy throne,
and worship only Thee.

So shall my walk be close with God,
calm and serene my frame;
so purer light shall mark the road
that leads me to the Lamb.

Words: William Cowper 1731-1800
Music: CAITHNESS Scottish Psalter

We remain seated for the second reading, Ephesians 4.25 – 5.2. At the end

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Reading

We stand to sing the Alleluia which heralds the Gospel (sing twice):



The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end

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

John 6.35, 41-51

The Sermon

We sit for the sermon

All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Intercessions

United in the power of the Trinity,
we offer our prayers and praises to the throne of grace:

Lord, in your mercy
All **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father,
All **accept these prayers,
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Jesus says to his disciples,
'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.
Not as the world gives do I give to you.
Let not your hearts be troubled or afraid.'

cf John 14.27

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Offertory Hymn

We stand as the Offertory Hymn is sung and the gifts of bread and wine are placed upon the Altar. You can give to the work of the Church by signing up to the Parish Giving Scheme, or by using these bank details - Witney PCC, Sort Code 20-97-48, Account Number 00971626. There is also a card reader by the North Door, The bread, wine and money are all gifts from God and our offering of them back to God is a sign of the offering of our lives in the Lord's service.

O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray
that all thy Church might be for ever one,
grant us at every Eucharist to say
with longing heart and soul, "thy will be done."
O may we all one Bread, one Body be,
through this blest Sacrament of unity.

For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;
make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;
draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,
by drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace;
thus may we all one Bread, one Body be,
through this blest Sacrament of unity.

We pray thee too for wanderers from thy fold;
O bring them back, good Shepherd of the sheep,
back to the faith which saints believed of old,
back to the Church which still that faith doth keep;
soon may we all one Bread, one Body be,
through this blest Sacrament of unity.

So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,
may we be one with all thy Church above,

one with thy saints in one unbroken peace,
one with thy saints in one unbounded love;
more blessed still, in peace and love to be
one with the Trinity in Unity.

Words: William Turton 1856-1938
Music: SONG 1 Orlando Gibbons 1583-1625

Preparation of the Table

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to set before you,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
All Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation
All Blessed be God for ever.

Prayer over the Gifts

Let us pray:

Gracious God,
bestow upon your Church
the blessings of unity and peace,
of which these offerings
are the sacramental sign.

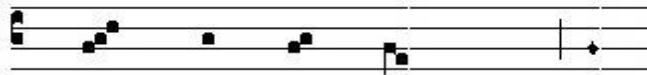
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



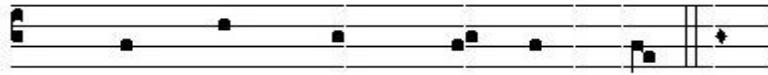
The Lord be with you



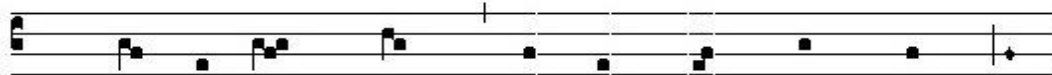
And al-so with you.



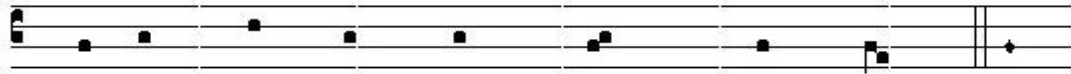
Lift up your hearts.



We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give thanks and praise.

The Eucharistic Prayer

You are worthy of our thanks and praise,
Lord God of truth,
for by the breath of your mouth
you have spoken your word,
and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image
and placed us in the garden of your delight.
Though we chose the path of rebellion
you would not abandon your own.

Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace.
You gave your people the law and taught us by your prophets
to look for your reign of justice, mercy and peace.

As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth,
we echo the song of the angels in heaven,
evermore praising you and singing:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord.
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ

you reveal the power of your love
made perfect in our human weakness.

Embracing our humanity,
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
loving us to the end,
he gave himself to death for us;
dying for his own,
he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all
he 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.

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross,
we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb,
we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high
and we long for his coming in glory.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption,
Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation
be to us ✠ the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
form us into the likeness of Christ
and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Look with favour on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts...

Bless the earth,
heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free
and fill your Church with power from on high.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth
to feast with Mary, the mother of God,
John the Baptist, John the Evangelist, Kenelm,
and all your saints
at the table in your kingdom,
where the new creation is brought to perfection
in 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.

The Lord's Prayer

Through Christ we receive adoption by the Spirit;
as sons and daughters of God we are bold to say:

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 Breaking of the Bread

The Priest breaks the consecrated host

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

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.

Here is the table of the Lord,
we are gathered to his Kingdom meal,
a foretaste of things eternal.
Come, when you are fearful, to be made new in love.
Come, when you are doubtful, to be made strong in faith.
Come, when you are regretful, and be made whole.
Come, old and young,
there is room for all.

We break the bread for the whole world. We invite all who seek God and are drawn to Christ, and all who walk the way of faith to come forward and receive the body and blood of Christ in one kind, as directed by the Sidesperson. Or you are warmly invited to come forward for a blessing – please carry this booklet and bow your head. Gluten-free wafers are available on request.

The Communion

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 failings
have such kindly judgement given.

For the love of God is broader
than the measure of our minds;
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 God will not own.

There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrow of the Head.
There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creation
in that upper house of bliss.

If our love were but more simple,
we should take God at a word;
and our lives would be all gladness
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

Words: F.W. Faber, 1814-1863
Music: CORVEDALE, Maurice Bevan b1921

The Post Communion Prayer

After a period of silence, we stand with the Priest to pray

God of our pilgrimage,
you have willed that the gate of mercy
should stand open for those who trust in you:
look upon us with your favour
that we who follow the path of your will
may never wander from the way of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

All Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him
we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out into the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

The Notices

We sit for the notices

The Blessing

We stand

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Christ, who has nourished us with himself the living bread,
make you one in praise and love,
and raise you up at the last day;
and the ✠ blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you
and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Recessional Hymn

Through all the changing scenes of life,
in trouble and in joy,
the praises of my God shall still
my heart and tongue employ.

Oh, magnify the Lord with me,
with me exalt His name;
when in distress to Him I called,
he to my rescue came.

The hosts of God encamp around
the dwellings of the just;
deliverance He affords to all
who on His succour trust.

Oh, make but trial of His love,
experience will decide
how blest they are, and only they,
who in His truth confide.

Fear Him, ye saints, and you will then
have nothing else to fear;
make you His service your delight,
your wants shall be His care.

☐To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
the God whom we adore,
be glory is it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Words: Nahum Tate, 1652-1715 and Nicholas Brady 1659-1726
Music: WILTSHIRE, George Smart, 1776-1867

Let us bless the Lord!
All Thanks be to God!

***Everyone is welcome to greet one another and enjoy coffee
outside the church after the Eucharist.***

Join Us

Please support Saint Mary's Witney.

Your contributions make possible our ministry in liturgy and worship, community outreach, schools, learning, late night cafe, street pastors, visiting nursing homes and hospitals and other pastoral care. For more information please speak to one of the Ministry Team or Wardens.

Saint Mary's is profoundly grateful to the priests, lay leaders, volunteers, DCC members and friends whose unparalleled energy and determination make thousands of annual services, programmes and events possible. Please visit the parish website and twitter feed to stay in touch.