

**THE PARISH OF  
WITNEY**



**St Mary  
the Virgin**



Trinity 9  
**The Eucharist**

Sunday 28 July 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*

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

We sing a love that, wandering, 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 sing the Holy Spirit, full of love,  
who seeks out scars of ancient bitterness,  
brings to our wounds the healing grace of Christ:  
come, radiant love, live in our hearts today.

Words June Boyce-Tillman  
Music: WOODLANDS, Walter Greatorex 1877-1949

## *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.*

Praise and glory to you creator Spirit of God;  
you make our bread Christ's body  
to heal and reconcile  
and to make us the body of Christ.

You make our wine Christ's living sacrificial blood  
to redeem the world.

You are truth.

You come like the wind of heaven, unseen, unbidden.

Like the dawn you illuminate the world around us;  
you grant us a new beginning every day.

You warm and comfort us.

You give us courage and strength beyond our everyday resources.

Be with us Holy Spirit in all we say or think,  
in all we do this and every day.

**Amen.**

## *The Penitential Rite*

As we prepare to celebrate the mystery of God's love,  
revealed in Word and Sacrament,  
let us call to mind our sins:

Like as the hart longs for flowing streams,

so longs my soul for you, O God:  
Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

O send out your light and your truth,  
that they may lead me:

Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ, have mercy.**

May we come to your altar, O God,  
the God of our salvation:

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, 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:

Almighty God,  
who sent your Holy Spirit  
to be the life and light of your Church:  
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,  
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit  
in love and joy and peace;  
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, 2 Kings 4.42-44. At the end*

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn**

*We stand to sing*

O breath of life, come sweeping through us,  
revive Thy church with life and power;  
O Breath of life, come, cleanse, renew us,  
and fit Thy church to meet this hour.

O wind of God, come bend us, break us,  
till humbly we confess our need;  
then in Thy tenderness remake us,  
revive, restore, for this we plead.

O breath of love, come breathe within us,  
renewing thought and will and heart;  
come, Love of Christ, afresh to win us,  
revive Thy church in every part.

O heart of Christ, once broken for us,  
'tis there we find our strength and rest;  
our broken, contrite hearts now solace,  
and let Thy waiting church be blest.

Revive us, Lord! Is zeal abating  
while harvest fields are vast and white?  
Revive, us Lord, the world is waiting;  
equip Thy church to spread the light.

Words: Bessie Head, 1920  
Music: SPIRITUS VITAE, Mary Hammond 1914

*We remain seated for the second reading, Ephesians 3.14-21. At  
the end*

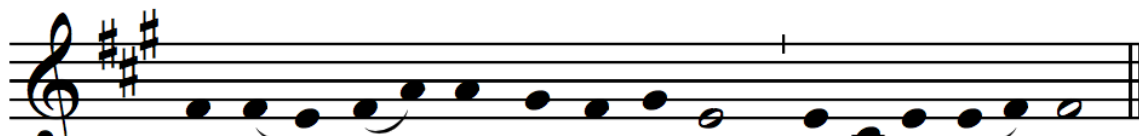
This is the word of the Lord.

*All* Thanks be to God.

### *The Gospel Reading*

*We stand as the Choir sings the Alleluia which heralds the Gospel,*

**Alleluia** *Tone II*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: © 2016 Royce Nickel. Licensed in the Creative Commons by-nc-nd 3.0

*John 6.1-21, and we repeat:*

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.

### *The Sermon*

*We sit for the sermon*

### *The Affirmation of Faith*

Let us affirm our faith in the living God:



**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 the 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.*

Not far beyond the sea, nor high  
above the heavens, but very nigh  
your voice, O God, is heard.  
For each new step of faith we take  
you have more truth and light to break  
forth from your holy word.

The young in Christ your scriptures feed  
with milk sufficient for their need,  
the nurture of the Lord.  
Beneath life's burden and its heat  
the fully grown find stronger meat  
in your unfailing word.

Rooted and grounded in your love,  
with saints on earth and saints above  
we join in full accord:  
to know the breadth, length, depth and height,  
the crucified and risen might  
of Christ, the incarnate Word.

Help us to press on toward that mark,  
and, though our vision now is dark,  
to live by what we see.  
So, when we see you face to face,  
your truth and light our dwelling place  
forevermore shall be.

Words: George B Caird, 1917–1984

Music: CORNWALL, S.S. Wesley

### **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 Saviour.

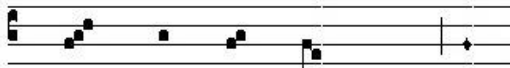
*All* **Amen.**



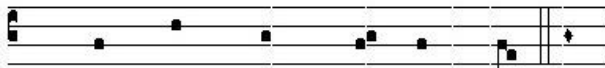
The Lord be with you



**And al-so with you.**



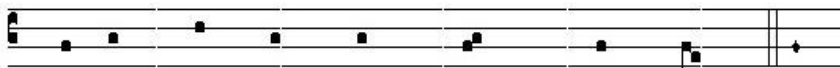
Lift up your hearts.



**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*

Ground of Being, great I Am,  
your breath sweeps through the universe,  
bringing life to life;  
we praise you for your energy  
and your intention for all creation.

In Jesus you displayed your love.  
made known your wisdom,  
and called us to yourself.

You wait and weep and sorrow  
as we prefer self-interest to all that is good  
for us, for others and for our world.

Yet reaching out with open arms  
you draw us to yourself,  
revealing the strength of love  
where we see only weakness.

And so with all who,  
through time, in our time and for all time  
rejoice in your being,  
we join our voices in a song of endless praise:

**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.**

Blessed is Jesus, the Bread of Life:  
on the night when he was betrayed he took bread,  
and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said,  
This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying,  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Blessed is Jesus, the Bread of Life:  
**Dying you destroyed death;**  
**Rising you restored life;**  
**Come to us, Lord Jesus.**

Be with us now,  
+ and breathe your Spirit into this bread and wine.  
May we take them into our lives,  
grow in Christ,  
and be the breath of love  
in our being and becoming.

Calling us to be like you in Christlike living,  
fulfil in us all that you intend,  
as in our lives,  
and in community with Christ,  
we worship you,  
source and ground and purpose of our being,  
now and throughout all ages.

**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*

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

**All Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in 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***

*The Choir sings a motet during the distribution of Communion*

### ***The Communion Hymn***

*We sit or kneel for the following*

The Son of God proclaim,  
the Lord of time and space;  
the God who bade the light break forth  
now shines in Jesus' face.

He, God's creative word,  
the Church's Lord and head,  
here bids us gather as His friends,  
and share His wine and bread.

The Lord of life and death  
with wondering praise we sing;  
we break the bread at His command,  
and name Him God and King.

We take this cup in hope:  
for He, who gladly bore  
the shameful cross, is ris'n again,  
and reigns forevermore.

Words: Basil E. Bridge b. 1927

Music: MOUNT EPHRAIM, Benjamin Milgrove 1713–1810

### ***The Post Communion Prayer***

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



Mother of tenderness, as we have received the gifts of the Eucharist and been united with all you and all eternity, help us to find our purpose in life revealed, to know your streams springing from the font of your divine compassion deepened within us, and to be reassured forever that you find us worthy of your love. So we offer ourselves to you at all times and in all ways in the holy name of Jesus. Amen.

**All Amen.**

**All God of tenderness,  
you fill the hungry with good things  
and send the self-satisfied away empty.  
In this Eucharist you have filled us  
with the word and bread of life  
of your Son, Jesus Christ.  
Make us hunger now for his coming  
in the hearts and homes of all.  
Fill us with his Spirit of service  
and self-forgetting love,  
that, through us, he may come near to all people.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.  
Amen.**

*From Liturgies Alive, Models of Celebration*

*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*

Go to the world! Go into all the earth.  
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,  
baptising as the sign of our rebirth.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Go to the world! Go into every place.  
Go live the Word of Christ's redeeming grace.  
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Go to the world! Go struggle, bless and pray;  
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.  
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,  
for I am with you 'til the age shall end,  
when all the hosts of glory cry 'Amen'  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Words: Sylvia Dunstan (1953-93) © Laudate! 426  
Music: SINE NOMINE, R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

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

***Everyone is welcome to stay for coffee 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.