



Stoke Poges Church

St Giles' and St Andrew's

Mid - Week Communion Service

The Gathering

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you

Alleluia, Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed, Alleluia

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive you your sins,
open your eyes to God's truth,
strengthen you to do God's will
and give you the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Comfortable Words

Here the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who truly turn to him:
Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
Matthew 11.28

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
John 3.16

Hear what St Paul says: This saying is true and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ
Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
1 Timothy 1.15

Hear what St John says: If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ
the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.
1 John 2.1-2

The Confession

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil
And confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

Silence is kept

Father, you raise the dead to life in the Spirit:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you bring pardon and peace to the sinner:
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit, you bring light to those in darkness:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Absolution

May the God of love and power
Forgive you and free you from your sins,
Heal and strengthen you by his Spirit
And raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen

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

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

After the epistle we say:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For the Gospel we say:

Hear the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ

Glory to you O Lord.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you O Christ.

The Reflection

Each week we will hear from a variety of reputable and orthodox teachers from centuries past. Extracts will be read to us from sermons, hymns, theological treatises, Biblical commentaries, letters, prayers and poems ... to deepen our faith. This should remind us that all scripture is God breathed and that it's truths and the lessons learnt from them, through the ages, are still useful for us today.



This week we hear a reflection from Dr Jane Williams on Acts 17.21-31, taken from her book: 'Lectionary Reflections', published by SPCK.

Jane is an eminent theologian, lecturer & author. Currently she is Assistant Dean at St Mellitus College, London and visiting lecturer of Theology at Kings College, London. She co-hosts God Pod with fellow theologians Graham Tomlin & Mike Lloyd, where God, Theology and life are discussed. She will forever hold a warm place in my heart as a supportive guide and teacher, when I trained for Ordination.

The Apostles' Creed

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ

Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures;

He was buried;

He was raised to life on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures;

Afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles:

This we have received, and this we believe.

Amen

Prayers of Intercession

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you promised through your Son Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith.

We pray for the Church ...

(and so we pray)

**Strengthen our bishops and all your Church in the service of Christ,
that those who confess your name may be united in your truth,
live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.**

In you O Lord

do we put our trust.

We pray for the World ...

(and so we pray)

**Bless and guide Elizabeth our Queen;
give wisdom to all in authority;
and direct this and every nation in the ways of justice and of peace;
that we may honour one another, and seek the common good.**

In you O Lord

do we put our trust.

We pray for our Community ...

(and so we pray)

**Give grace to us, our families and friends, and to all our neighbours,
that we may serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.**

In you O Lord

do we put our trust.

We pray for those in special need ...

(and so we pray)

**Comfort and heals all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;
give them courage and hope in their troubles;
and bring them the joy of your salvation.**

In you O Lord

do we put our trust.

We remember those who have died and pray for the bereaved ...

(and so we pray)

Remembering all who have gone before us in faith, and in communion with all the saints, we commit ourselves, one for another and our whole life to Christ our God;

to you O Lord.

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.'

Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here

His Spirit is with us.

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.

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever. From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation. You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your 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.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast. From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross. On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread, he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying:

'Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.'

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said:

'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:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember, Lord, your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace.

Bring us at the last with all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

With joy and faith let us pray as Christ our risen Saviour has taught 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.**

Breaking of the bread

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.**

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

As we make our spiritual communion together please listen to 'Thank you for saving me'.

Songwriter: Martin Smith. © 1994 Curious? Music UK

Prayer after Communion

We say together

**You have opened to us the Scriptures, O Christ,
and you have made yourself known in the breaking of the bread.
Abide with us, we pray,
that, blessed by your royal presence,
we may walk with you all the days of our life,
and at its end behold you in the glory of the eternal Trinity,
one God for ever and ever.
Amen**

The Dismissal

Blessing

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

God the Father,
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen

Go in the peace of Christ, Alleluia, alleluia
In the name of Christ, Alleluia, alleluia.

Thank you for joining us today.