



Welcome

Holy Cross Day

14 September



actorschurch



St. Paul's Covent Garden

Please switch off all mobile phones.

BEWARE: *We do occasionally suffer from theft: take care of your belongings*

Accessibility

Large Print versions of the Order of Service are available.

Gluten free wafers are available.

Hearing loop installed; collect a receiver from the back of church.

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We stand as the Altar Party enters and sing the hymn.

**Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

**1. Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain**

**2. Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. Refrain**

**3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. Refrain**

**4. So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain**

The Priest goes to the Lectern and says:

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

All Amen.

Priest The Lord be with you.

All and also with you.

The priest introduces the service and then leads the congregation in prayer:

**Almighty 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.**

The priest invites the congregation to seek God's mercy and grace. We say together:

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*The Priest announces the **Absolution** to which all reply: **Amen**.*

*The **Gloria** is sung from the separate music sheet.*

*The prayer of the day – the **Collect** – is sung.*

Almighty God, who in the passion of your blessed Son made an instrument of painful death to be for us the means of life and peace: grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer for his sake; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

*We sit for the **first** and **second readings**.*

First Reading

Exodus 32.7-14, read by James

⁷At the top of Mount Sinai, the LORD said to Moses, 'Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said,

“These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!”

⁹The LORD said to Moses, ‘I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are.

¹⁰Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.’

¹¹But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, ‘O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹²Why should the Egyptians say, “It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth”? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people.

¹³Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, “I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever.”’ ¹⁴And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

At the end:

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Timothy 1.12-17, read by Jennifer

¹²I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into

the world to save sinners – of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

At the end:

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All Thanks be to God.

*We stand to sing the **hymn** and turn towards the Gospel book.*

**1 “Take up thy cross,” the Saviour said,
“If thou wouldst My disciple be;
Deny thyself, the world forsake,
And humbly follow after Me.”**

**2 Take up thy cross, let not its weight
Fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
His strength shall bear thy spirit up,
And brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.**

**3 Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,
Nor let thy foolish pride rebel;
Thy Lord for thee the cross endured,
And saved thy soul from death and hell.**

**4 Take up thy cross then in His strength,
And calmly sin’s wild deluge brave,
’Twill guide thee to a better home,
It points to glory o’er the grave.**

**5 Take up thy cross and follow Christ,
Nor think til death to lay it down;
For only those who bear the cross
May hope to wear the glorious crown.**

All remain standing as the Gospel is read

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you

Priest Hear the Gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to John
(3, 13-17)

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to Nicodemus: ¹³'No one has
ascended into heaven except the one who
descended from heaven, the Son of Man.

¹⁴'And just as Moses lifted up the serpent
in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man
be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him
may have eternal life.

¹⁶'For God so loved the world that he
gave his only Son, so that everyone who
believes in him may not perish but may
have eternal life.

¹⁷'Indeed, God did not send the Son into
the world to condemn the world, but in
order that the world might be saved
through him.'

At the end:

Priest This is the Gospel of the
Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

*We sit for the **Sermon**.*

*We stand to say the **Creed**.*

**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 of 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 **Prayers of Intercession** follow.*

At the end:

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

*The Priest introduces the **Peace**:*

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always

All And also with you

Priest Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We sing a **hymn** as the Altar is prepared for the **Eucharistic Prayer**. A **collection** is taken during the **hymn***

**1 The royal banners forward go,
The cross shines forth in mystic glow;
Where he in flesh, our flesh who made,
Upon the glorious tree is laid**

**2 There whilst he hung, his sacred side
By soldiers spear was opened wide,
To cleanse us in the precious flood
Of water mingled with his blood.**

**3 Fulfilled is now what David told
In true prophetic song of old,
How God the sinner's king should be;
For God is reigning from the tree.**

**4 O tree of glory, tree most fair,
Ordained those holy limbs to bear,
How bright in purple robe it stood,
The purple of a Saviour's blood.**

**5 To thee, eternal Three in One,
Let homage meet by all be done,
As by the cross thou dost restore,
So rule and guide us evermore.**

Priest Blessed are you Lord God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Priest Blessed are you Lord God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer. Fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Priest Pray my sisters and brothers that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God the Almighty Father.

All May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hand, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Church.

*The Priest adds the prayer over the gifts to which we reply **Amen***

Priest The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Priest Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise...

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues until we sing **Sanctus** and **Benedictus** from the music sheet.*

*The **Eucharistic Prayer** continues until...*

Priest: Great is the mystery of faith

All: Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again

The Eucharistic Prayer continues until

Priest ...for ever and ever

All: Amen

**Our Father, who art in heaven
hallowed be thy name
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass
against us
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil
For thine is the kingdom
the power and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen**

Priest 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**

*The **Agnus Dei** is sung from the music sheet*

Priest Jesus is the Lamb of God who
 takes away the sin of the
 world, blessed are those who
 are called to his supper.

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

*The congregation approaches the altar to receive
Communion.*

*All those who are in good standing with their
own Church are invited to receive Communion.*

*Those who prefer to ask for a Blessing are
invited to bow their heads at the Altar rail or
bring this booklet as a sign to the Priest.*

*Please remain seated to sing the **hymn***

**I And now, O Father, mindful of the
love that bought us, once for all, on
Calvary's tree,
and having with us him that pleads
above,
we here present, we here spread
forth to thee
that only offering perfect in thine
eyes,
the one true, pure, immortal
sacrifice.**

**2 Look, Father, look on his anointed
face, and only look on us as found in
him;
look not on our misusings of thy
grace,
our prayer so languid, and our faith
so dim:
for lo, between our sins and their
reward
we set the Passion of thy Son our
Lord.**

**3 And then for those, our dearest
and our best, by this prevailing
presence we appeal:
O fold them closer to thy mercy's
breast,
O do thine utmost for their souls'
true weal;
from tainting mischief keep them
white and clear,
and crown thy gifts with strength to
persevere.**

**4 And so we come: O draw us to thy
feet, most patient Saviour, who canst
love us still;
and by this food, so awful and so
sweet,
deliver us from every touch of ill:
in thine own service make us glad
and free,
and grant us never more to part
from thee.**

Post Communion Prayers:

Faithful God, whose Son bore our sins in his body on the tree and gave us this sacrament to show forth his death until he comes: give us grace to glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our hope, who reigns as Lord, now and for ever.

Amen.

We say together:

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
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.

Any Banns of marriage and notices are given.
and then the Priest says:

Priest The Lord be with you.

All And also with you

*The **Blessing** is given to which all reply: **Amen***
*We sing the **hymn** and turn to face the West*
*End for the **dismissal**.*

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me
most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

3 See from His head, His hands, His
feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 His dying crimson, like a robe,
Spreads o'er His body on the tree;
Then I am dead to all the globe,
And all the globe is dead to me.

5 Were the whole realm of nature
mine,
That were a offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Priest. Go in peace to love and serve
the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

‘What’s On’ this week

Today

4pm Choral Evensong, *with the choir of St. Paul’s*

Wednesday 17 September

1.10pm Holy Eucharist

1.45pm Tea and Cake – *all welcome*

7pm PCC meeting

Friday 19 September

Please note that the church and grounds are close for a private event until

7pm & 9pm Musicals by Candlelight **

Saturday 20 September

7pm & 9pm Musicals by Candlelight **

Sunday 21 September

11.00 Parish Sung Eucharist

for the Feast of St. Matthew

7.30pm A Night at the Musicals **

Tickets for all paid events at St. Paul’s can be obtained via our website

www.actorschurch.org