



Welcome

The Feast of St Matthew

21 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

**Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
Bright seraphs, cherubim, and
thrones,
Raise the glad strain, Alleluia!
Cry out, dominions, principedoms,
powers,
Virtues, archangels, angels' choirs,
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**2. O higher than the cherubim,
More glorious than the seraphim,
Lead their praises, Alleluia!
Thou Bearer of the eternal Word,
Most gracious, magnify the Lord,
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**3. Respond, ye souls in endless rest,
Ye patriarchs and prophets blest,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Ye holy Twelve, ye martyrs strong,
All saints triumphant, raise the song,
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**4. O friend, in gladness let us sing,
Supernal anthems echoing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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.*

O almighty God, whose blessed Son called
Matthew the tax-collector to be an
apostle and evangelist: give us grace to
forsake the selfish pursuit of gain and the
possessive love of riches that we may
follow in the way of your Son Jesus Christ,
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

Proverbs 3.13-18, read by Arabella

13Happy are those who find wisdom,
and those who get understanding,

14for her income is better than silver,
and her revenue better than gold.

15She is more precious than jewels,
and nothing you desire can compare with her.

16Long life is in her right hand;
in her left hand are riches and honour.

17Her ways are ways of pleasantness,
and all her paths are peace.

18She is a tree of life to those who lay
hold of her; those who hold her fast are
called happy.

At the end:

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

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 4.1-6, read by Margaret

¹Since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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.*

**Come, let us join our cheerful songs
with angels round the throne;
ten thousand thousand are their
tongues,
but all their joys are one.**

**2 'Worthy the lamb that died,' they
cry,
'To be exalted thus;'
'Worthy the lamb,' our lips reply,
'For he was slain for us.'**

**3 Jesus is worthy to receive
honour and power divine;
and blessings, more than we can
give,
be, Lord, for ever thine,**

**4 Let all creation join in one
to bless the sacred name
of him that sits upon the throne,
and to adore the lamb.**

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
Matthew (9, 9-13)

All Glory to you, O Lord.

9As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him.

10And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples.

11When the Pharisees saw this, they said

to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' 12But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 13Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

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***

**O worship the King all glorious
above;
O gratefully sing his power and his
love;
our shield and defender, the ancient
of days,
pavilioned in splendour and girded
with praise.**

**2 O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
his chariots of wrath the deep thunder clouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.**

**3 Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.**

**4 Frail children of dust and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end!
Our maker, defender, Redeemer, and friend.**

**5 O measureless might, ineffable love,
while angels delight to hymn thee above,
thy ransomed creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall sing to thy praise.**

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 separate 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 separate
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.*

Post Communion Prayers:

Almighty God, who on the day of
Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the
apostles with the wind from heaven and in
tongues of flame, filling them with joy and
boldness to preach the gospel: by the
power of the same Spirit strengthen us to
witness to your truth and to draw
everyone to the fire of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.***

**I Thou, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light!**

**2 Thou, who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
let there be light!**

**3 Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move on the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light!**

**4 Holy and blessed three,
glorious Trinity,
wisdom, love, might;
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide
let there be light!**

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

All Thanks be to God.

‘What’s On’ this week

Tonight

7.30pm A night at the musicals **

Tuesday 23 September

1.30pm TCUK Trustees’ meeting

4pm TCUK AGM

5pm Thank God it’s Theatre **

Wednesday 24 September

1.10pm Holy Eucharist

1.45pm Tea and Cake – *all welcome*

Thursday 25 September

1pm Lunchtime Concert

Friday 26 September

1pm Lunchtime concert

Saturday 27 September

7.30pm Mozart Festival Closing Concert **

Sunday 28 September

11.00 Parish Sung Eucharist

for the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Please note that there are extensive road closures around central London and you may need to adjust your route

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

www.actorschurch.org