

# St Mary-at-Finchley

Parish Eucharist

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026

### The Gathering

**Stand** *A hymn is sung as the choir, servers and clergy enter*

**Processional Hymn** 293 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

Lead us, heav'nly Father, lead us  
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;  
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,  
for we have no help but thee;  
yet possessing ev'ry blessing  
if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:  
all our weakness thou dost know;  
thou didst tread this earth before us,  
thou didst feel its keenest woe;  
lone and dreary, faint and weary,  
through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending,  
fill our hearts with heav'nly joy,  
love with ev'ry passion blending,  
pleasure that can never cloy:  
thus provided, pardoned, guided,  
nothing can our peace destroy.

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

**Amen.**

## **The Greeting**

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

## **Prayers of Penitence**

God shows his love for us  
in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
Let us then show our love for him  
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

In the wilderness we find your grace;  
you love us with an everlasting love.

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

There is none but you to uphold our cause;

our sin cries out and our guilt is great.

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

Heal us, O Lord, and we shall be healed;  
restore us and we shall know your joy.

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

May the Father of all mercies  
cleanse *us* from *our* sins,  
and restore *us* in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **The Collect**

*'Let us pray'.*

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
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.  
**Amen.**

## *The Liturgy of the Word*

## Readings

Sit

### **A reading from the prophet Ezekiel (37.1-14)**

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.'

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 130**

### **Out of the depth I cry to you, O Lord.**

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my supplications!

### **Out of the depth I cry to you, O Lord.**

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,

Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you,

so that you may be revered.

### **Out of the depth I cry to you, O Lord.**

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,

and in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord

more than those who watch for the morning,

more than those who watch for the morning.

### **Out of the depth I cry to you, O Lord.**

O Israel, hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love,

and with him is great power to redeem.

It is he who will redeem Israel

from all its iniquities.

### **Out of the depth I cry to you, O Lord.**

## **A reading from the letter to the Romans (8.6-11)**

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (11.1-45).

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that

he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this

for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit* Sermon  
***Preacher Deji Makanjuola***

*Stand* 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 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.**

***Kneel*            Prayers of Intercession**

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

***These responses may be used***

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

***(or)***

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

***and at the end***

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

**Amen.**

## *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

### **Stand    The Peace**

Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

### **The Offertory**

*A Hymn is sung as the elements of bread and wine are brought to the altar and the gifts of the people are collected.*

#### **Offertory Hymn 356** O breath of life

O Breath of life, come sweeping through us,  
revive your church with life and pow'r;  
O Breath of Life, come, cleanse, renew us,  
and fit your church to meet this hour.

O Breath of love, come breathe within us,  
renewing thought and will and heart;  
come, Love of Christ, afresh to win us,  
revive your church in ev'ry part.

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

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

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.

**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.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## **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.**

It is indeed right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near  
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.  
The power of the life-giving cross  
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world  
and the triumph of Christ crucified.  
He is the victim who dies no more,  
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,  
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,  
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,  
for ever 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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
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, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
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.**

### ***Kneel* The Lord's Prayer**

Standing at the foot of the cross as our Saviour taught us we are bold to say

**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.**

### ***Breaking of Bread***

Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.**

### ***Agnus Dei***

**Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
grant us peace.**

## **Giving of Communion**

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*Communicant members of all Christian Churches are welcome to receive  
Communion, anyone is welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.*

Anthem: Loosemore – O Kord increase our faith

### ***Kneel* Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

*The Post Communion prayer is said.*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us  
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters  
we do also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

**God of our pilgrimage, you have fed us  
with the bread of heaven.  
Refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **The Notices**

### *The Dismissal*

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

Christ crucified draw you to himself,  
to find in him a sure ground for faith,  
a firm support for hope,  
and the assurance of sins forgiven;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*The ministers and people depart.*

## **Recessional Hymn 81 Christ triumphant**

Christ triumphant ever reigning,  
Saviour, Master, King,  
Lord of heav'n, our lives sustaining,  
Hear us as we sing:  
*Yours the glory and the crown,*

*the high renown,  
the eternal name.*

Word incarnate, truth revealing,  
Son of Man on earth!  
Power and majesty concealing  
By your humble birth:

Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,  
Victim crucified!  
Death is through the Cross defeated,  
Sinners justified:

Priestly King, enthroned for ever  
High in heaven above!  
Sin and death and hell shall never  
Stifle hymns of love:

So, our hearts and voices raising  
Through the ages long,  
Ceaselessly upon you gazing,  
This shall be our song:

*M Seward*

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