

**St Mary-at-Finchley
Parish Eucharist
10am
Eighth Sunday after Trinity
26th July 2026**

The Gathering

Processional Hymn 478 The God of Abram praise

The God of Abraham praise
who reigns enthroned above;
ancient of everlasting days
and God of love!
Jehovah, great I AM,
by earth and heav'n confessed
we bow before the sacred name
for ever blest.

The God of Abraham praise
at whose supreme command
from earth we rise, and seek the joys
at his right hand:
we all on earth forsake
its wisdom, fame, and pow'r;
the him our only portion make
our shield and tow'r.

The God of Abraham praise
whose all-sufficient grace
shall guide us all our happy days
in all our ways:
he is our faithful friend;
he is our gracious God;
and he will save us to the end,
through Jesus' blood.

He by his name has sworn -
we on his oath depend -
we shall, on eagles' wings upborne,
to heav'n ascend:
we shall behold his face,
we shall his pow'r adore,
and sing the wonders of his grace
for evermore.

The whole triumphant host
give thanks to God on high
'Hail Father, Son and Holy Ghost!'
they ever cry:
Hail Abraham's God and ours!
we join the heav'nly throng,
and celebrate with all our pow'rs
in endless song.

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.

Prayer of Preparation

**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;
Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

Jesus said: Before you offer your gift,
go and be reconciled.
As brothers and sisters in God's family,

we come together to ask our Father for forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

**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.**

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon *you*,
pardon and deliver *you* from all *your* sins,
confirm and strengthen *you* in all goodness,
and keep *you* in life eternal;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis (Mass: Sanger)

**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 Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern
both our hearts and bodies
in the ways of your laws
and the works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection, both here
and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
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

A reading from the first book of Kings (3.5-12)

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David,

because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?’

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, ‘Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119.129-136

Lead me, O Lord, in the path of your commands.

Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore my soul keeps them.

The unfolding of your words gives light;
it imparts understanding to the simple.

With open mouth I pant,
because I long for your commandments.

Lead me, O Lord, in the path of your commands.

Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as is your custom towards those who love your name.

Keep my steps steady according to your promise,
and never let iniquity have dominion over me.

Lead me, O Lord, in the path of your commands.

Redeem me from human oppression,
that I may keep your precepts.

Make your face shine upon your servant,
and teach me your statutes.

My eyes shed streams of tears
because your law is not kept.

Lead me, O Lord, in the path of your commands.

A reading from the letter to the Romans (8.26–end)

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or

famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,
'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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 Matthew (13.31-33, 44-52)

Glory to you, O Lord.

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds,

but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

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.**

Prayers of Intercession

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

at the end

Merciful Father,
accept these prayers

**for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Christ is our peace.
He has reconciled us to God
in one body by the cross.
We meet in his name and share his peace.
The peace of the triune God be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

The Offertory

Offertory Hymn 288 King of glory, king of peace
King of glory, King of peace,
I will love Thee;
and that love may never cease,
I will move Thee.
Thou hast granted my request,
Thou hast heard me;
Thou didst note my working breast,
Thou hast spared me.

Wherefore with my utmost art
I will sing Thee,
and the cream of all my heart
I will bring Thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
Thou didst clear me;
and alone, when they replied,
Thou didst hear me.

Sev'n whole days, not one in sev'n,
I will praise Thee;
in my heart, though not in heav'n,
I can raise Thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort
to enrol Thee:
e'en eternity's too short
to extol Thee.

Prayer at the 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.

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.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also 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.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living
Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be
our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;

as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy
people.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread
and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus
Christ;
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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the
cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the
whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious
ascension,

and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and
thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Mary the God-bearer
and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

Kneel for **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught
us:

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

**We break this bread to share in the
body of Christ. Though we are
many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

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 Holy Communion in this Church
Anybody is welcome to come forward for to receive a
blessing.*

Communion: arr. Geoff Weaver: *Didn't my Lord
deliver Daniel*

Prayer after Communion

Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your word
be deaf to clamour and dispute;

may the tongues which have sung your praise be free
from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your
love
shine with the light of hope;
and may the bodies which have been fed with your
body
be refreshed with the fullness of your life;
glory to you for ever.

Amen

**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.

The Notices

Post-Communion Hymn 519 Thy kingdom come,
O God

1 Thy kingdom come, O God,

thy rule, O Christ, begin;
break with thine iron rod
the tyrannies of sin.

2 Where is thy reign of peace
and purity and love?
When shall all hatred cease,
as in the realms above?

3 When comes the promised time
that war shall be no more,
and lust, oppression, crime
shall flee thy face before?

4 We pray thee, Lord, arise,
and come in thy great might;
revive our longing eyes,
which languish for thy sight.

5 Some scorn thy sacred name,
and wolves devour thy fold;
by many deeds of shame
we learn that love grows cold.

6 O'er lands both near and far
thick darkness broodeth yet:
arise, O Morning Star,
arise, and never set!

The Dismissal

The Lord be with you
And also with you

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
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.

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