

# The Community of St Stephen Walbrook



**Sung Eucharist for Easter 5**

**I am the True Vine**

**12.45pm Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

**Celebrant:** Revd Stephen Baxter, Priest-in-Charge

**Preacher:** Phillip Dawson, Ordinand

**Choir:** The Choral Scholars

**Director:** Gabriella Noble

**Organist:** Polina Sosnina

**Mass setting:** Mass in C Major, K.220, "Spatzenmesse" (*"Sparrow Mass"*)

**Image on cover:** Icon of Christ the True Vine, Athens, sixteenth century

***Introit: The Call by Richard Lloyd (1933-2021)***

***The Welcome***

**Almighty God,  
unto whom all hearts be open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love thee,  
and worthily magnify thy holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen**

***The choir sings the Kyrie***

Lord have mercy  
Christ have mercy  
Lord have mercy

**The Ministry of the Word**

The Lord be with you  
**And with thy spirit**

Let us pray

***The Collect***

O almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men; Grant unto thy people, that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Epistle: Acts 8:26-end***

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides

me?’ And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

‘Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.’

The eunuch asked Philip, ‘About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?’ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup> As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, ‘Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?’ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

### ***The Gospel: John 15:1-8***

The holy Gospel is written in the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Gospel according to St John, beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse.

**Glory be to thee, O Lord**

‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This is the gospel of the Lord

**Praise be to thee, O Christ**

***Address***

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

*The choir sings*

***The Offertory Hymn***

*No collection will be taken during the service, however we would be very grateful if you would make a donation to the work of the church at the end of the service by cash or contactless payment.*

At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
Praise to our victorious King:  
Who hath washed us in the tide  
Flowing from his piercèd side;  
Praise we him whose love divine  
Gives the guests his blood for wine,  
Gives his body for the feast,  
Love the Victim, Love the Priest.

Mighty Victim from on high,  
Powers of hell beneath thee lie;  
Death is broken in the fight,  
Thou hast brought us life and light.  
Now thy banner thou dost wave,  
Conquering Satan and the grave.  
See the prince of darkness quelled;  
Heaven's bright gates are open held.

Paschal triumph, Paschal joy,  
Only sin can this destroy;  
From sin's death do thou set free,  
Souls re-born, dear Lord, in thee.  
Hymns of glory, songs of praise,  
Father, unto thee we raise.  
Risen Lord, all praise to thee,  
Ever with the Spirit be.

*From a Latin Breviary hymn*

*Tr Robert Campbell (1814-68)*

*Tune: Salzburg – Melody from J Hintze (1622-1702); Harmony JS Bach (1685-1750)*

***Intercessions***

### ***Invitation to Confession***

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to almighty God.

### ***The Confession***

**Almighty God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
maker of all things, judge of all men:  
we acknowledge and bewail  
our manifold sins and wickedness,  
which we, from time to time,  
most grievously have committed,  
by thought, word and deed,  
against thy divine majesty,  
provoking most justly thy wrath  
and indignation against us.  
We do earnestly repent,  
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;  
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us;  
the burden of them is intolerable.  
Have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may ever hereafter  
serve and please thee in newness of life,  
to the honour and glory of thy name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

### ***The Absolution***

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
who of his great mercy  
hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that  
with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him:  
have mercy upon you;  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins;  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness;  
and bring you to everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### ***The Comfortable Words***

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

*(St. Matt. xi. 28)*

So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

*(St. John iii. 16)*

### ***The Prayer of Humble Access***

**We do not presume**

**to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord,**

**trusting in our own righteousness,**

**but in thy manifold and great mercies.**

**We are not worthy so much as to gather up**

**the crumbs under thy table.**

**But thou art the same Lord,**

**whose property is always to have mercy:**

**grant us therefore, gracious Lord,**

**so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ,**

**and to drink his blood,**

**that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,**

**and our souls washed through his most precious blood,**

**and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

### **The Ministry of the Sacrament**

The Lord be with you

**And with thy spirit**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them up unto the Lord**

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God

**It is meet and right so to do**

It is very meet, right and our bounden duty,

that we should at all times, and in all places,

give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father,

almighty, everlasting God.

Therefore, with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we laud and magnify thy glorious name,  
evermore praising thee, and singing:

***The choir sings the Sanctus***

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna in the highest.

***The Prayer of Consecration***

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death, until his coming again:

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood:

Who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake 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.

Likewise after supper he took the cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy and lively sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee, that all we, who are partakers of this holy communion, may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father almighty, world without end. **Amen**



And now as our Saviour Christ hath commanded and taught us, we are bold to say

**Our Father, which art in heaven  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done,  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that 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.**

***The distribution of Holy Communion***

*You are warmly invited to receive the bread of communion.  
Please sanitise your hands at the back of the church and then gather socially  
distanced around the altar either kneeling or standing.*

***The choir sings the Agnus Dei***

Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

***Prayer after Communion***

Almighty and ever-living God, we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us, who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of the most precious death and passion of thy dear Son. And we most humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

## ***The Blessing***

The peace of God, which passeth 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 Ghost, be amongst you and all those whom you love, today and always. **Amen.**

## ***Anthem: Vinea mea electa by Lodovico Grossi da Viadana (1560-1627)***

Vinea mea electa, ego te plantavi:  
quomodo conversa es in amaritudinem,  
ut me crucifigures et Barrabbam dimitteres.

Sepivi te, et lapides elegi ex te,  
et ædificavi turrim.

*O vineyard, my chosen one. I planted thee.  
How is thy sweetness turned into bitterness,  
to crucify me and take Barabbas in my place?*

*I protected thee; I took the hard stones away from thy path,  
and built a tower in thy defence.*

**Week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at St Stephen Walbrook**

**Monday**

1pm - Video recording of Choral Classics available on website

**Tuesday**

Audio file of Start:Stop reflection released on website

**Wednesday**

9am - Morning Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer by conference call.

All welcome to dial in:

Free dial-in on 0330 9981 320 - access code: 464351#

**Thursday – Ascension Day**

12.15-12.35pm – Choral Classics – music & readings with The Choral Scholars

12.45-1.30pm – Sung Eucharist

6.30 – 7.30pm – Time & Space – opportunity for chat closing with Compline

All welcome to join: please contact [priest@ststephenwalbrook.net](mailto:priest@ststephenwalbrook.net) for link.

**Saturday**

Video of Sung Eucharist released on website

**Morning and Night are available every day through the London Internet Church section of the church's website: <https://ststephenwalbrook.net/internet-church/>**

**Contact:**

Website: <https://ststephenwalbrook.net>

Email: [priest@ststephenwalbrook.net](mailto:priest@ststephenwalbrook.net)

Phone: 07739658327

QR code for making donations to the work of the church

