

The Community of St Stephen Walbrook



Sung Eucharist for Easter 4

The Good Shepherd

12.45pm Thursday 29th April 2021

Celebrant and preacher: Revd Stephen Baxter, Priest-in-Charge

Choir: The Choral Scholars

Director: Gabriella Noble

Organist: Polina Sosnina

Mass setting: Missa Brevis by Zoltan Kodaly (1882-1967)

Image on cover: Wall painting of The Good Shepherd from the church in Dura-Europos, Syria, converted from a house between 233 and 256AD

Introit: Tantum Ergo by Marie-Joseph-Alexandre Deodat de Severac (1872-1921)

Blessing of thurible

Almighty everlasting God, be pleased to bless and to hallow this vessel made to burn incense to the honour and glory of your name, to symbolise the working of your Holy Spirit amongst us and our prayers rising to you. May all who in this life adore your only-begotten Word possess Him in the life to come as their everlasting recompense; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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

Almighty God, who shewest to them that be in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness; Grant unto all them that are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's Religion, that they may eschew those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Epistle: Acts 4:5-12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone."

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel: John 10:11-18

The holy Gospel is written in the 10th chapter of the Gospel according to St John, beginning at the 11th verse.

Glory be to thee, O Lord

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

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.

Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

In the grave they laid Him, Love who had been slain,
Thinking that He never would awake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Jesus' touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

JMC Crum (1872-1958)
Tune: Noel Nouvelet – Old French Melody
Harmony by Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

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: The Lord is my Shepherd by Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Week commencing 3rd 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

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

All welcome to join: please contact 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

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QR code for making donations to the work of the church

