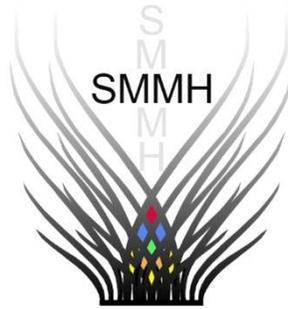


St Michael and All Angels Mill Hill



The fifth Sunday of Easter



Sunday 2nd May 2021

10:30am



**THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**

The Greeting

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

All: Amen.

The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All: He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Father Steven introduces the service

Prayer of Preparation

**All: 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.**

Prayers of Penitence

In a moment of quietness, let us prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries by calling to mind the ways in which we have failed God and our neighbour, and then let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

**All: 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.**

Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon us,
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Kyrie

Lord have mercy

All: Lord have mercy

Christ have mercy

All: Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy

All: Lord have mercy

Gloria

**All: 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.**

Collect

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

First Reading

Acts 8: 26-40

²⁶Then 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.) ²⁷So 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 ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' ³¹He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now 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.

³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As 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?' ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When 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. ⁴⁰But 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.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22 v25-31

R All the ends of the earth shall turn to you, O Lord.

²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.
May your hearts live for ever! **R**

²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord;
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.

²⁸ For dominion belongs to the Lord,
and he rules over the nations. **R**

²⁹ To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.

³⁰ Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord,

³¹ and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it. **R**

Second Reading

I John 4: 7-21

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel



The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

John 15: 1-8

¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide 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.

⁵I 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. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Creed

**All: 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 make our prayer to our heavenly Father.

Lord, in your mercy or Lord, hear us
All: Hear our prayer. Lord, graciously hear us.

Please pray for those who are sick or housebound

We remember by name:

Andrew Bevans, Anil Ameer Subryan, Anna Morison, Anne King, Ashraf Jafari, Beryl, Chandralakha and Scott Singh, Christine, Christopher Brown, Claire, Clifford Brown, Crystal, Devon White, Di Mason, Edd Heimrich, Eddie and Jenny Wardle, Edward, Fr Alan Chidwick, Fr Desmond Tillyer, Helen Cloke, John, Johnny, Julian, Juliana, Lauren Reeves, Liz Lightbown, Margaret Barker, Mark, Mary Akpieyi, Mary Prosser-Haries, Mina and Reginald Apiafi, Pam Harmer, Pamela Ashcroft, Pavol Husar, Peter Merchant, Rachel, Rahema Charles, Ray, Rella Persaud, Remi Babatunde, Saffron Leigh, Sam Theodore, Sandra, Sarah, Shilpa, Susan and Vanessa Husarov, Susan Paterson, Taiwo Odebode, Thelma Martin, Tim, Trina Cowton.

We remember those who have recently departed this life:

Rose Ama Tandoh, Margaret Busby and Jean Kemp.

and all whose anniversaries of death fall at this time:

Muriel Jarvis.

Rest eternal grant them, O Lord;
All: And let light perpetual shine upon them.

May they rest in peace
All: And rise in glory.

Merciful Father,

All: Accept these prayers for the sake of your son our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace

We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you

All: And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

All may exchange a sign of peace



The Preparation of the Altar

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to offer you,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life

All: Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to offer you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

All: Blessed be God forever.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: It is right to give him 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 saying:

**All: 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:
**All: 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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Michael
and all the angels and 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.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us so we pray:

**All: 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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.**

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

All: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

All: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

All: grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Communion

The Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

All: 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.

Notices

The Blessing

The Lord be with you
All: And also with you.

Living God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in all his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.