



# Stoke Poges Church

St Giles' and St Andrew's

## Mid - Week Communion Service

### The Gathering

#### 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;  
through Christ our Lord  
Amen**

#### The Comfortable Words

Here the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who truly turn to him:  
Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.  
*Matthew 11.28*

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son,  
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.  
*John 3.16*

Hear what St Paul says: This saying is true and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ  
Jesus came into the world to save sinners.  
*1 Timothy 1.15*

Hear what St John says: If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ  
the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.  
*1 John 2.1-2*

## The Confession

As sisters and brothers in God's family, we come together to ask God for forgiveness.

**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**

## The Absolution

May almighty God have mercy upon you,  
forgive you your sins, and bring you to everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## The Gloria

**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 for the third Sunday after Trinity

# The Liturgy of the Word

## Readings

After the epistle we say:

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

For the Gospel we say:

Hear the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ

**Glory to you O Lord.**

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ.**

## The Reflection

*Each week we will hear from a variety of reputable and orthodox teachers from centuries past. Extracts will be read to us from sermons, hymns, theological treatises, Biblical commentaries, letters, prayers and poems ... to deepen our faith. This should remind us that all scripture is God breathed and that it's truths and the lessons learnt from them, through the ages, are still useful for us today.*



*This week's reflection is from the Rt Revd Colin Fletcher, Bishop of Dorchester, on our Gospel passage, Matthew 10.40 - end. Thank you to him and the Diocese of Oxford for making this available to us for streaming.*

Since his ordination in 1975 Bishop Colin has served parishes, people and groups humbly. He currently supports about 200 churches in Oxfordshire. He also has strong links with groups, such as Creation Theatre Company, Oxford Inspires and Bible Reading Fellowship. Nationally he has a remit for the Church of England in connection with chaplaincy in detention/removal centres and also with the police

## The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.  
We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us with power from on high.  
We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

## Prayers of Intercession

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

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you promised through your Son Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith.

We pray for the Church ...

*( and so we pray )*

**Strengthen our bishops and all your Church in the service of Christ,  
that those who confess your name may be united in your truth,  
live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.**

In you O Lord

**do we put our trust.**

We pray for the World ...

*( and so we pray )*

**Bless and guide Elizabeth our Queen;  
give wisdom to all in authority;  
and direct this and every nation in the ways of justice and of peace;  
that we may honour one another, and seek the common good.**

In you O Lord

**do we put our trust.**

We pray for our Community ...

*( and so we pray )*

**Give grace to us, our families and friends, and to all our neighbours,  
that we may serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.**

In you O Lord

**do we put our trust.**

We pray for those in special need ...

*( and so we pray )*

**Comfort and heals all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;  
give them courage and hope in their troubles;  
and bring them the joy of your salvation.**

In you O Lord

**do we put our trust.**

We remember those who have died and pray for the bereaved ...

*( and so we pray )*

**Remembering all who have gone before us in faith, and in communion with all the saints, we commit ourselves, one for another and our whole life to Christ our God;**

**to you O Lord.**

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

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### The Peace

Jesus says, 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives.'

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

### 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 right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; In your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.  
**You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.  
**He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks and said: drink this, all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we offer these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you the sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**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.**

### The Lord's Prayer

Made in God's image, and formed by God's love, let us pray in the Spirit as our Saviour taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom,  
the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

### Breaking of the bread

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.**

As we make our spiritual communion together please meditate on the words of Jesus who says 'I am the bread of life', noting St Augustine's comment on this passage: 'Believe, and you have eaten already.' while we listen to 'And Can it Be'.

Performed by the Choral Scholars of St Martins in the Field, from their homes, and edited together. Written by Charles Wesley ( 1707-1788 )

## Prayer after Communion

*We say together*

**Almighty and eternal God,  
you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith,  
that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory,  
who are three persons yet one God, now and for ever  
Amen**

## The Dismissal

### Blessing

May God, whose glory fills the heavens, cleanse you by his holiness, strengthen you in your ministries and send you to proclaim his word; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen**

Go in the peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Thank you for joining us today.**