

# Parish Church of St Alphege Solihull



## Choral Eucharist in Ordinary Time

**25<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

**Bible Sunday**

*A warm welcome to you. In order to worship safely a few elements of the service differ from our usual practice. Each person is asked to remain in their place throughout the service, other than to receive Communion when you will be guided by a steward. The person presiding, as well as brief notes in this order of service, will guide you as we proceed. While the service itself may be filmed for the benefit of those at home, only those leading will appear on film, not the congregation.*

**Please take this order of service away with you and use it for prayer  
at home/recycle it.**

Organ prelude: *Prelude in A minor BWV 543* – JS Bach

## **The Gathering**

*Please stand as able.*

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

**All: Amen**

## **The Greeting**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**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

Brothers and sisters, as we prepare to celebrate, let us call to mind our sins:

**Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly,  
love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.  
Amen.**

## Absolution

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

*Please remain standing as you are able while the choir sings. You are encouraged to pray the words silently along with the music.*

Gloria in excelsis Deo  
et in terra pax  
hominibus bonae voluntatis.

*Glory be to God on high,  
and in earth peace,  
good will toward men.*

Laudamus te, benedicimus te,  
adoramus te,  
glorificamus te,  
gratias agimus tibi propter magnam  
gloriam tuam,  
Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,  
Deus Pater omnipotens.

*We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee,  
we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great  
glory.  
O Lord God, heavenly King,  
God the Father almighty.*

Domine Fili unigenite, Iesu Christe,  
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,  
Filius Patris,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis;  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
suscipe deprecationem nostram.  
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,  
miserere nobis.

*O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus  
Christ:  
O Lord God Lamb of God,  
Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the  
world,  
Receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of  
God the  
Father,  
Have mercy upon us.*

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,  
tu solus Dominus,  
tu solus Altissimus,  
Iesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu:  
in gloria Dei Patris.  
Amen.

*For thou only art holy;  
thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, art the Most High,  
Jesus Christ with the Holy Ghost,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.*

*Music by William Byrd*

## The Collect

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our 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

### First Reading

#### **Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 5-6, 8-12**

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept

when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.' So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, 'Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved.' And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

This is the word of the Lord,

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Gospel**

*Please stand as able. The choir sings the Gospel Acclamation.*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Teach me O Lord the *way of* your statutes,

And I will keep them unto *the* end.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **Matthew 24:30-35**

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see "the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven" with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. 'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

*Please sit.*

**Creed**

*Please stand as able.*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

## **Intercessions**

*Please sit or kneel.*

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

*At the end of each prayer, the intercessor says:*

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer**

*At the end of the final prayer, the intercessor says:*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers,**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour, Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

*The following prayer for the mission of the parish may be used:*

**God of Mission**

**who alone brings growth to your Church,**

**send your Holy Spirit to give**

**Vision to our planning,**

**Wisdom to our actions,**

**and Power to our witness.**

**Help our Church to grow in numbers,**

**in spiritual commitment to you,**

**and in service to our local community,**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

## The Peace

*Please stand as able.*

God is love and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them.

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

*The sign of peace is not physically offered, but only in spoken response. We remain in our places.*

### Offertory Prayer

Gracious and Loving God,  
we give you this offering today.

With it we worship you and give our whole selves to you.

Please now take it and use it for your kingdom and your glory.

**Amen.**

*We now listen to two verses of the hymn 'We have a gospel to proclaim' sung to the tune 'Fulda'. You are welcome to pray the words silently as the choir sings.*

We have a gospel to proclaim,  
Good news for men in all the earth,  
The gospel of a Saviour's name:  
We sing his glory, tell his worth.

Tell of his reign at God's right hand,  
By all creation glorified:  
He sends his Spirit on his Church,  
To live for him, the Lamb who died.

Edward Burns (b 1938)

## Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Wise and gracious God,  
You spread a table before us;  
Nourish your people with the word of life and the bread of heaven.

**Amen.**

## The 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.**

It is indeed right,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
For he is your living Word;  
through him you have created all things from the beginning,  
and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,  
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;  
you raised him from the dead  
and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us  
your holy and life-giving Spirit,  
and made us a people for your own possession.

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:

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus  
Dominus Deus Sabbaoth  
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria Tua  
Osanna in excelsis  
Benedictus qui venit in nomine domini  
Osana in excelsis

*Holy, holy, holy,  
Lord God of Hosts  
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*

*Music by William Byrd (Mass for three  
voices)*

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;  
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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,

we remember his offering of himself

made once for all upon the cross;

we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;

we look for the coming of your kingdom,

and with this bread and this cup

we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,

this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,

and as we eat and drink these holy gifts

in the presence of your divine majesty,

renew us by your Spirit,

inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **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.**

### **The 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.**

## **The Invitation**

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*The celebrant raises paten and chalice and says*

The Body and Blood of Christ.

**Amen.**

## **Agnus Dei**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:  
dona nobis pacem.

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the  
sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the  
sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the  
sins of the world, grant us thy peace.*

*Music by William Byrd*

## **The Giving of Communion**

*Only the priest receives Communion under both kinds (bread and wine). The hosts (bread) for the congregation will be in a closed ciborium (container) which is uncovered just before the congregation receives. The stewards will guide everyone to the right location.*

## Communion Motet

Gloria tibi, Domine,  
Qui natus es de Virgine  
Cum Patre et Sancto Spiritu  
In sempiterna saecula. Amen.

*Glory be to you, O Lord,  
Born of a Virgin,  
With the Father and the Holy Spirit  
World without end. Amen.*

*Music by William Byrd*

## Post Communion Prayer

God of all grace, your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread; who is alive and reigns, now and 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**

## Dismissal

### Notices

*The celebrant will give the details of any particularly important notices and read any Banns of Marriage.*

*Please see the weekly pewslip (available online or via the Parish Office) for a full list of notices.*

### The Blessing

*Please stand as able.*

Christ, who has nourished us with himself the living bread,  
make you one in praise and love,  
and raise you up on the last day;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ.**

Organ Voluntary: *Fugue in A Minor BWV 543* by JS Bach