

Parish Church of St. Alphege, Solihull



The Eucharist for the Feast of St. Alphege

4th May 10.30am

Order of Service

Setting: Coronation Mass – W.A. Mozart

The Gathering

Processional Hymn – HON 87

The Greeting

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

All **Amen.**

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

All **and also with you.**

Deacon Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

Prayer of Preparation

All **Almighty God,
you pour out your spirit of grace and of supplication
on all who desire it.
Deliver us, when we draw near to you,
from cold hearts and wandering minds,
that with steady thoughts and kindled passion
we may worship you in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

Deacon Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

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.

President 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.

All Amen.

Please stand to sing the Gloria.

*Choir Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.*

**All Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.**

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father.
**All Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.**

We worship you,
All Glory in the highest.

Give you thanks
All Glory in the highest.

Praise you for your glory.
**All Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.**

*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,*
All Have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer,
All Receive our prayer.

*Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.*
**All Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.**

*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 glory of God the Father.*
**All Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.
Amen.**

Music by Peter Jones

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Merciful God,
who raised up your servant Alphege
to be a pastor of your people
and gave him grace to suffer for justice and true religion:
grant that we who celebrate his martyrdom
may know the power of the risen Christ in our hearts
and share his peace in lives offered to your service;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading – Acts 4.5-12

At the end of the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 84: For God my spirit longs

FOSTER

SM

1. For God my spi - rit longs with - in his courts to come,
while in my heart I hear the songs that speak to me of home.

Music: MYLES BIRKET FOSTER (1851-1922)

PSALM 84

God our eternal home

- FOR GOD my spirit longs
within his courts to come,
while in my heart I hear the songs
that speak to me of home.
- 2 The sparrow builds her nest,
the swallow lays her young:
may my long home be with the blest
who hear God's praises sung.
- 3 My journey be with those
whose pilgrim feet have trod
where water in the desert flows,
a highway home to God.
- 4 To him, when life is past,
my song shall still be praise;
our Sun and Shield while time shall last,
and to eternal days.

Timothy Dudley-Smith

Second Reading – 1 John 3.16-end

At the end of the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Please stand as able.

The Choir and Congregation sing the Gospel Acclamation.



Please stand as able.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;

I was dead, and behold I'm alive for evermore.

All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end of the Gospel reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Let us declare our faith
in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Please sit or kneel.

The following response may be used:

Saviour, we hear your call.

All Help us to follow.

The prayers may end with:

God of mercy,

All You know us and love us
and hear our prayer:
keep us in the eternal fellowship
of Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.

Please stand.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

We stand.

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples
and said, 'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

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

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of God's peace.

Offertory Hymn – As we offer cheerful praises

1.

As we offer cheerful praises
in this ancient holy shrine,
round this table where we worship,
meeting Christ in bread and wine,
let us thank God for our patron,
Alphege, martyr, saint, divine.

2.

Lo, a thousand years before us,
barb'rous Danes assailed this land:
homesteads, boroughs, churches,
abbeys,
pillaged by a plundering band;
and the people suffered deeply
from the cruel heathen hand.

3.

Pious Alphege, humble prelate,
languished in captivity,
while his jailers sought a ransom
from his flock in poverty.
But the saint forbade the payment
that would buy his liberty.

4.

As his captors camped at Greenwich
sadly dawned the fateful day:
warriors in a drunken fury
launched a murderous affray,
showered the saint with bones of
oxen,
slew the old man as he lay.

5.

Sorrowing monks conveyed his body
to a sombre, holy wake.
Faithful flocked to Canterbury
loving pilgrimage to make.
Dane and Saxon learned to honour
him who died for justice sake.

6.

Praised be God for Holy Alphege;
may his mem'ry not abate.
Praise God for his steadfast courage,
as he faced an unjust fate.
May a modern generation
Learn that love can conquer hate.

Linstead; Tune: Westminster Abbey

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

God of faithfulness,
your servant Alphege praised you in life and in death.
Receive all we bring before you this day,
and give us the strength of will
to proclaim your righteousness and love.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer



It is indeed right and good, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For following the example of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,
your holy martyr Alphege shed his blood for the glory of your name.
His death reveals your power made perfect in our human frailty.
You choose the weak and make them strong in bearing witness to you
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore with joyful hearts we echo on earth the song of the angels in
heaven as they praise your glory without end:

The Choir sings the Sanctus:

<i>Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus</i>	Holy, holy, holy
<i>Dominus Deus Sabaoth.</i>	Lord, God of Hosts,
<i>Pleni sunt coeli et terra</i>	heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
<i>Gloria tua.</i>	Glory be to thee
<i>Hosanna in excelsis.</i>	O Lord most high.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**All Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with Alphege, Helen, Michael and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

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 Bread

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

All **Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

The Invitation

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

We are all invited to draw near to God today. If you, or your children, regularly receive the bread and wine at any Christian church, you are most welcome to do so. If you do not usually receive the bread and wine, or prefer not to do so today, you are invited to come forward to receive a prayer of blessing. If you do this, you may want to hold your hands together in prayer so that we know your intention. Thank you.

The Giving of Communion

Whilst those helping with the administration receive, the choir sings the 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.

The Choir sings during the distribution:

Give us the wings of faith – *Ernest Bullock*

Post Communion Hymn: HON 36 (Verses 1,4,5)

Post-Communion Prayer

The president will pray this week's post-communion prayer.

Eternal God,
who gave us this holy meal
in which we have celebrated the glory of the cross
and the victory of your martyr Alphege:
by our communion with Christ in his saving death and resurrection,
give us with all your saints the courage to conquer evil
and so to share the fruit of the tree of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Choir: *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.*

Music: Christopher Martin Thomas

Dismissal

Notices

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

Final Hymn – HON 518

The Blessing

Deacon *Alleluia. Christ is risen.*

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The president proclaims God's blessing:

God give you grace to follow his saints
in faith and hope and love;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
✙ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Deacon *We are raised to new life with Christ.
Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.*

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Organ Voluntary: Orb and Sceptre – William Walton

Growing Disciples, Building Community, Transforming Lives

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