



**Richmond
Team Ministry**



Sung Eucharist

11:00am

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

10 May 2026

*Team Vicar: The Rev'd Joe Moore
(currently on sabbatical)*

Churchwardens: Mary Ricketts & Fiona Morgan

Director of Music: Gina Kruger

**The Church of St John the Divine
Richmond Team Ministry**

St John the Divine • St Matthias • St Mary Magdalene

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WELCOME to St John's this morning on the Sixth Sunday of Easter!



As we gather on this Sixth Sunday of Easter, we are invited more deeply into the mystery of God's abiding presence with us. In today's Gospel from Gospel of John (14.15–21), Jesus speaks tenderly to his disciples, promising that they will not be left orphaned, but will receive the Advocate, the Spirit of truth. In a world often marked by uncertainty and change, this promise offers both comfort and challenge: comfort in the assurance that Christ remains with us, and challenge in the call to love him by keeping his commandments.

Love, here, is not sentiment alone, but a way of life - rooted in relationship, obedience, and trust. As we worship today, may we become more attentive to the presence of the Holy Spirit among us, more open to God's indwelling life, and more courageous in living out Christ's love in the world.

The Vicar is currently on sabbatical.

We are grateful to The Rev'd Nicholas Roberts for leading our worship today.

***This act of worship is livestreamed on our Facebook page,
please do 'follow' us on Facebook:
St John the Divine, Richmond Team Ministry.***

Follow us on Instagram: stjohnsrichmondw9

The clergy in the Richmond Team Ministry are always happy to meet for pastoral conversations about faith or to offer spiritual counsel. If you would like to speak with a member of the clergy, do be in touch directly or through the RTM Parish Office.

Prelude

O Quam Suavis Cesar Geoffray

*Please stand to sing the **Introit Hymn** when the bell rings.*

**1 Thou, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.**

**2 Thou, who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
let there be light.**

**3 Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move on the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.**

**4 Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide
let there be light.**

JOHN MARRIOTT (1780–1825)
A&M 810

The Gathering

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

Amen.

The Greeting

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A welcome is given by the presiding priest.

The Penitential Act

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.

Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed, 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 lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.

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.**

The Gloria

Refrain: **Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the Highest!**

**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.** *Refrain*

**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.** *Refrain*

**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.** *Refrain*

The Collect

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

God our redeemer, you have delivered us
from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your
Son: grant, that as by his death he has
recalled us to life, so by his continual
presence in us he may raise us to eternal
joy; 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.
Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit for the readings and the psalm.

First Reading

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.
(17.22-31).*

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.” Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66. 7-18

*The Psalm appointed for the day is led by the choir, and the congregation are invited to join in with the sung **Response**.*

Response: O be joyful in God, all the earth, sing the glory of his name.

7 Bless our God, O you peoples;
make the voice of his praise to be heard,

8 Who holds our souls in life
and suffers not our feet to slip. **R**

9 For you, O God, have proved us;
you have tried us as silver is tried.

10 You brought us into the snare;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

11 You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water;
but you brought us out into a place of
liberty. **R**

12 I will come into your house with burnt
offerings
and will pay you my vows,
which my lips uttered
and my mouth promised when I was in
trouble.

13 I will offer you fat burnt sacrifices
with the smoke of rams;
I will sacrifice oxen and goats. **R**

14 Come and listen, all you who fear
God,
and I will tell you what he has done for
my soul.

15 I called out to him with my mouth
and his praise was on my tongue.

16 If I had nursed evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me, **R**

17 But in truth God has heard me;
he has heeded the voice of my prayer.

18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected
my prayer,
nor withheld his loving mercy from me.

R

Second Reading

*A reading from the first letter to Peter
(3.13-end).*

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels,

authorities, and powers made subject to him.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

We stand to sing the **Gradual Hymn**

**1 The kingdom of God is justice and joy,
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy;
God's power and glory in Jesus we know,
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.**

**2 The kingdom of God is mercy and grace,
the captives are freed, the sinners find place,
the outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share,
and hope is awakened instead of despair.**

**3 The kingdom of God is challenge and choice,
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross,
our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.**

**4 God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal,
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole;
the heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call,
and all things cry 'Glory!' to God all in all.**

BRYN REES (1911-1983)
A&M 569

*Gospel acclamation:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
A seasonal sentence is sung
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.*

Gospel Reading

The Lord be with you
And also with you.
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (15-21).
Glory to you, O Lord.

'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.
'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.
On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon
Please sit.

The Creed

**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

Kneel to pray.

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

At the end:

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Please stand.

The presiding priest prays.

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your
Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I
give you, look not on our sins, but on the
faith of your Church, and graciously grant
her peace and unity in accordance with
your will.
The peace of Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*We greet each other with a sign of peace,
and then sing the **Offertory Hymn.***

**1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,
to his feet thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?
Alleluia, alleluia,
praise the everlasting King.**

**2 Praise him for his grace and favour
to our fathers in distress;
praise him still the same for ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia, alleluia,
glorious in his faithfulness.**

3 Father-like, he tends and spares us,

well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes:
Alleluia, alleluia,
widely as his mercy flows.

**4 Frail as summer's flower we flourish;
blows the wind and it is gone;
but, while mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on:
Alleluia, alleluia,
praise the high eternal One.**

**5 Angels, help us to adore him;
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space:
Alleluia, alleluia,
praise with us the God of grace.**

HENRY FRANCIS LYTE (1793–1847)

based on Psalm 103

A&M 766

We would love you to give financially to the life and work of the Richmond Team Ministry, please scan the QR Code below with your smart device. There are also card readers and cash plate at the back of church. Thank you!



Preparation of the Altar

The Offertory

The Altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

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, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works. For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son,

has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory.

He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

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.

Please kneel.

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.*

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again.

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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, St John the Divine, St Mathias, St Mary Magdalene 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.

The Great Amen is sung.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

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.

Breaking of the 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.

Agnus Dei

**Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us,
Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us,
Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

Behold 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.

The Church of England welcomes baptised members of all Christian traditions to receive Communion. If it is your usual practice to receive Communion, you are very welcome to do so here. Everyone is invited to come to the altar rail for a blessing if you do not wish to receive Communion. If you would like to know more about Baptism or Confirmation, please do speak to the clergy.

During the distribution of Holy Communion the choir sing: Safe in the Shadow of the Lord
Norman Warren

Prayer after Holy Communion

We say together:

**God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the
water of eternal life:
may we thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of
goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

The Notices

Information about our life together is shared.

The Dismissal

*We stand to sing our **Recessional Hymn.***

**I There's a spirit in the air,
telling Christians everywhere:**

**'Praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world!'**

**2 Lose your shyness, find your
tongue,
tell the world what God has done:
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!**

**3 When believers break the bread,
when a hungry child is fed,
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.**

**4 Still the Spirit gives us light,
seeing wrong and setting right:
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!**

**5 When a stranger's not alone,
where the homeless find a home,
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.**

**6 May the Spirit fill our praise,
guide our thoughts and change our
ways.
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!**

**7 There's a Spirit in the air,
calling people everywhere:
Praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.**

BRIAN WREN (b.1936)
A&M 265

The Blessing

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

God the Father; by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the

Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down upon
you this day and always.
Amen.

With the power that raised Jesus from the
dead at work within you, go and announce
the Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!



Postlude
Festal Postlude Guy Eldridge

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN FOR REFRESHMENTS AFTER OUR WORSHIP!