



**Richmond
Team Ministry**



Sung Eucharist

11:00am

**The Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday after Ascension Day**

17 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

**RTM Parish Office
020 8940 0362**

Email: admin@richmondteamministry.org

Website: richmondteamministry.org

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



In the days between Ascension and Pentecost, the Church waits. This Sunday draws us into that sacred pause - poised between Christ's ascending to the Father and the coming of the Spirit. It is a time of expectancy, of prayer, of holding together absence and promise.

Our Gospel today invites us into the intimate prayer of Jesus in John 17. Here, on the threshold of his Passion and Ascension, Christ lifts his eyes to heaven and prays - not only for his first disciples, but for all who will follow. He prays for unity, for protection, for glory: that we may be drawn into the very life and love he shares with the Father.

As we gather for the Eucharist, we are caught up in that same prayer. We come as those who live in the "in-between"- seeking faith in uncertainty, and hope in waiting. Yet we do not wait alone. The risen and ascended Christ continues to intercede for us.

So let us be still, attentive, and expectant. And let us pray earnestly for the Spirit: that the breath of God may stir within us, renewing our hearts and awakening our faith. In this season of waiting, may the Holy Spirit come among us with power and gentleness - kindling in us the fire of divine love, strengthening us in unity, and guiding us in truth. Come, Holy Spirit, and dwell within your Church; dispel our fears, deepen our trust, and open our eyes to the presence of Christ among us, as we trust in the promise of the Spirit yet to come. Amen.

The Vicar is currently on sabbatical.

We are grateful to The Venerable Bridget Shepherd, Archdeacon of Wandsworth, 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: stjohsrichmondw9

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

Pastorale Sostenuto John McCabe

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

**1 At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him
King of glory now:
'tis the Father's pleasure
we should call him Lord,
who from the beginning
was the mighty Word.**

**3 Humbled for a season,
to receive a name
from the lips of sinners
unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it
spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious,
when from death he passed:**

**5 Name him, Christians, name him,
with love strong as death,
but with awe and wonder
and with bated breath:
he is God the Saviour,
he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped,
trusted, and adored.**

**6 In your hearts enthrone him;
there let him subdue
all that is not holy,
all that is not true:
crown him as your Captain
in temptation's hour;
let his will enfold you
in its light and power.**

**7 Surely, this Lord Jesus
shall return again,
with his Father's glory,
with his angel train;
for all wreaths of empire
meet upon his brow,
and our hearts confess him
King of glory now.**

CAROLINE MARIA NOEL (1817–1877)
(OMITTING VERSES 2 & 4)
A&M 593

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 has gone up on high, leading
captivity captive and bringing gifts for
humanity. As we prepare ourselves to
meet him here in the courts of heaven let
us call to mind our many failures and sins.

**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.

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us

and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,
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. (1.6-14).

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together

with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68. 1-10

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

Response: Our God is a God of salvation.

1 Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered;

let those that hate him flee before him.

2 As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish away;

as wax melts at the fire,

so let the wicked perish at the presence of God. **R**

3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;

let them make merry with gladness.

4 Sing to God, sing praises to his name; exalt him who rides on the clouds.

The Lord is his name; rejoice before him. **R**

5 Father of the fatherless, defender of widows,

God in his holy habitation!

6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners to songs of welcome,

but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert. **R**

7 O God, when you went forth before your people,

when you marched through the wilderness,

8 The earth shook and the heavens dropped down rain,

at the presence of God, the Lord of Sinai,

at the presence of God, the God of Israel. **R**

9 You sent down a gracious rain, O God; you refreshed your inheritance when it was weary.

10 Your people came to dwell there; in your goodness, O God, you provide for the poor. **R**

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter to Peter (4.12–14; 5.6–11).

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen,

and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

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

We stand to sing the **Gradual Hymn**

**1 Light of the minds that know him,
may Christ be light to mine!
my sun in risen splendour,
my light of truth divine;
my guide in doubt and darkness,
my true and living way,
my clear light ever shining,
my dawn of heaven's day.**

**2 Life of the souls that love him,
may Christ be ours indeed!
the living bread from heaven
on whom our spirits feed;
who died for love of sinners
to bear our guilty load,
and make of life's brief journey
a new Emmaus road.**

**3 Strength of the wills that serve
him,
may Christ be strength to me,
who stilled the storm and tempest,
who calmed the tossing sea;
his Spirit's power to move me,
his will to master mine,
his cross to carry daily
and conquer in his sign.**

**4 May it be ours to know him
that we may truly love,
and loving, fully serve him
as serve the saints above;
till in that home of glory
with fadeless splendour bright,
we serve in perfect freedom
our strength, our life, our light.**

TIMOTHY DUDLEY-SMITH (b. 1926)
based on a prayer of ST AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO (354–
430) A&M 709

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 (17.1-11).
Glory to you, O Lord.

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the

world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

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 All for Jesus, all for Jesus,
this our song shall ever be;
for we have no hope, nor Saviour,
if we have not hope in thee.**

**2 All for Jesus, thou wilt give us
strength to serve thee, hour by hour;
none can move us from thy presence
while we trust thy love and power.**

**3 All for Jesus, at thine altar
thou wilt give us sweet content;
there, dear Lord, we shall receive thee
in the solemn sacrament.**

**4 All for Jesus, thou hast loved us;
all for Jesus, thou hast died;
all for Jesus, thou art with us;
all for Jesus crucified.**

**5 All for Jesus, all for Jesus,
this the church's song must be,
till, at last, we all are gathered
one in love and one in thee.**

W. J. SPARROW-SIMPSON (1859–1952)
A&M 421

*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,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
For he is our great high priest

who has entered once for all into the heavenly sanctuary, evermore to pour upon your Church the grace and comfort of your Holy Spirit. He is the one who has gone before us, who calls us to be united in prayer as were his disciples in the upper room while they awaited his promised gift, the life-giving Spirit of Pentecost. Therefore all creation yearns with eager longing as angels and archangels sing the endless hymn of praise:

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 sins 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: The Lord Ascendeth up on high
Michael Praetorius*

Prayer after Holy Communion

We say together:

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Notices

Information about our life together is shared.

The Dismissal

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

**1 And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain?
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for
me?**

**2 'Tis mystery all: the Immortal dies!
Who can explore his strange design?
In vain the first-born seraph tries
to sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
let angel minds enquire no more.**

**3 He left his Father's throne above
—so free, so infinite his grace —
emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
for, O my God, it found out me!**

**4 Long my imprisoned spirit lay
fast bound in sin and nature's night;
thine eye diffused a quickening ray;
I woke, the dungeon flamed with
light; my chains fell off, my heart was
free, I rose, went forth, and followed
thee.**

**5 No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ,
my own.**

CHARLES WESLEY (1707–1788)

The last two lines of each verse are repeated.

A&M 588

The Blessing

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth,
give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ
is Lord, and strengthen you to proclaim
the word and works of God;
and the blessing of God almighty, the
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come

down upon you and remain with you this
day and always.

Amen.

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!



The Regina Caeli

*On Sundays we remain standing to sing the
Regina Caeli.*

**Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven. Alleluia!
He whom thou wast meet to bear. Alleluia!
As he promised hath arisen. Alleluia!
Pour for us to God thy prayer. Alleluia!**

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
For the Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Let us pray:

O God who by the resurrection of your Son, our
Lord Jesus Christ, didst vouchsafe to bring joy to
the whole world, grant that through the help of his
Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of
everlasting life. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Postlude

Prelude on Bryn Calfaria
Ralph Vaughan Williams

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN FOR REFRESHMENTS AFTER OUR WORSHIP!