

Church at Home

Seventh Sunday of Easter



Before the Service

Welcome to this Church at Home service, which brings together contributions from across the Diocese of Oxford. The service is led by the Ven Jonathan Chaffey, Archdeacon of Oxford, and the reflection is given by Revd Jenni Williams, vicar of St Matthew's Oxford.

Between Ascension and Pentecost, many churches across the diocese and beyond participate in the global Thy Kingdom Come prayer initiative. This call to pray takes different forms, but at its heart encourages Christians of all ages and stages to spend time in prayer with God. Elements of the service today will pick up Thy Kingdom Come.

Today's Gospel takes us to Jesus' wonderful prayer for his disciples ahead of his journey to the cross. They reveal some of Jesus' own heart for prayer, and his desire for us as his children to be held in prayer. Let us all pray that God would speak to us through the service today.

Next Sunday is the final diocesan Church at Home service. It has been a wonderful experience, but it is right that Church at Home is coming to an end, as many churches are now re-opening for public worship and there are many livestreams to choose from. We would love to know your plans for when Church at Home ends; at the end of the service, you will find a link to take you to a short survey, or [you can click here](#).

May God bless all who worship with us this day, and all those we hold in prayer. Our Father, thy Kingdom come.

Before the service

Teach Me, O Lord

Thomas Attwood

Recorded by Waltham St Lawrence Virtual Voices,
directed by Simon Shaw, organ Dr Camilla Jarrot

Greeting

The president welcomes the congregation gathered online and introduces the service.

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

All **Amen.**

President The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

President Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

Hymn

Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

**Alleluia, sing to Jesus!
his the sceptre, his the throne.
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone.
Hear the songs of holy Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
'Jesus, out of every nation,
has redeemed us by his blood!'**

**Alleluia! not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now.
Alleluia! he is near us,
faith believes, but knows not how.
Though the cloud from sight received
him whom the angels now adore
Shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you, evermore.'**

**Alleluia! bread of heaven,
here on earth, our food, our stay.
Alleluia! here the sinful
come to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's redeemer, plead for me;
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.**

*William Dix
Recorded by Ed Wiles, Christ Church Abingdon*

Confession

President What God has prepared for those who love him,
he has revealed to us through the Spirit;
for the Spirit searches everything.
Therefore, let us in penitence open our hearts to the Lord,
who has prepared good things for those who love him.

President The kingdom is yours, but we turn away
from your just rule:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

President The power is yours, but we trust
in our own power and strength:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

President The glory is yours, but we fall short
of the glory of God:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution

President May the Father of all mercies
cleanse you from your sins,
and restore you in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

All **Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will toward men.
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.
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.
For Thou only art holy;
Thou only art the Lord;
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art the most high
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*Sung by James Potter
Recorded at Christ Church Cathedral*

The Collect

President Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

President Risen, ascended Lord,
as we rejoice at your triumph,
fill your Church on earth with power and compassion,
that all who are estranged by sin
may find forgiveness and know your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.

All **Amen.**

We listen to God speaking through the Scriptures.

Reading

Acts 1.15-17, 21-26 (NRSV)

Read by Revd Jonathan Widdess, vicar, Parish of Cumnor

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In those days, Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty) and said, “Brothers and sisters, the Scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus. He was one of our number and shared in our ministry.

“Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was living among us, beginning from John’s baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection.”

So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. Then they prayed, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs.” Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.

Reader For the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn
King of Kings, Majesty

**King of kings, majesty,
God of Heaven living in me,
gentle Saviour, closest friend,
strong deliverer, beginning and end,
all within me falls at your throne.**

*Your majesty, I can but bow.
I lay my all before you now.
In royal robes I don't deserve
I live to serve your majesty.*

**Earth and Heaven worship you,
love eternal, faithful and true,
who bought the nations, ransomed souls,
brought this sinner near to your throne;
all within me cries out in praise.**

*Jarrod Cooper
Recorded by Matthew Jackson, St Andrew's Oxford*

Gospel Reading

John 17.6-19 (NRSV)

Read by Becky Murgatroyd, youth minister, St Mary's Wendover

Reader Alleluia, alleluia.
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

All **Alleluia.**

Reader Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus prayed, "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with

certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

“I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.”

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

Reflection

Revd Jenni Williams, St Matthew's Oxford

The Creed

Led by Derry French, director of music, Winslow Benefice

President Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Creed.

All **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

Led by Revd Andrew Lightbown, rector, Winslow Benefice

At the end of the prayers, we say together:

All **Father, hear our prayers
for the salvation of the world.
Grant mercy to all souls
that have turned away from you.
Open their hearts and minds with your light.
Gather your children from the east and the west,
the north and the south.
Have mercy, O God, on those who do not know you.
Bring them out of darkness into your light.
You are our saving God who leads us in our salvation.
Protect us from evil.**

**Bless and praise you, O Lord,
hear our prayers and answer us.
You, our Saviour,
are the hope of all the ends of the earth
and the distant seas.
May your name be known upon earth;
among all nations your salvation.
We put the world into your hands,
fill us with your love,
grant us peace,
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Peace

President Christ came and proclaimed the gospel:
peace to those who are far off,
and peace to those who are near. Alleluia.

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

Christians have shared a sign of peace since the very earliest days of the Church. Although we are separated by distance, we are one Body of Christ; the Spirit moves among us as we share Christ's peace.

Offertory Song Christ is Risen

**Let no one caught in sin remain
inside the lie of inward shame
but fix our eyes upon the cross
And run to him who showed great love
And bled for us, freely you've bled for us**

***Christ is risen from the dead
trampling over death by death
Come awake, come awake
Come and rise up from the grave
Christ is risen from the dead
We are one with Him again
Come awake, come awake
Come and rise up from the grave***

**Beneath the weight of all our sin
you bowed to none but heaven's will
no scheme of hell, no scoffer's crown
no burden great can hold you down
In strength you reign
Forever let Your church proclaim**

**O death, where is your sting?
O hell, where is your victory?
O church, come stand in the light
The glory of God has defeated the night
O death, where is your sting?
O hell, where is your victory?
O church, come stand in the light
Our God is not dead
He's alive! He's alive!**

Matt Maher © 2009

Recorded by Revd Philippa White and Liam Cartwright

Preparation of the Table

President Lord of all and source of joy,
receive our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.
Keep us in the love of Christ
and bring us to the vision of his glory;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

President The Lord is here.
All **His Spirit is with us.**

President Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

President

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 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:

All

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord
God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee oh Lord most high.
Amen.
Blessed is he that cometh
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Sung by James Potter
Recorded at Christ Church Cathedral*

President

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.

All

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

President

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:

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

The Lord's Prayer

*Led by Emma Thompson, Winslow Benefice,
Communications Officer, Diocese of Oxford*

President As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All **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

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

President We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

All **Oh Lamb of God, that taketh away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Oh Lamb of God, that taketh away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Oh Lamb of God, that taketh away the sins of the world,
grant us thine peace.**

*Sung by James Potter
Recorded at Christ Church Cathedral*

Invitation to Communion

President Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

Alleluia.

The president receives the bread and wine on behalf of the community as we make our 'spiritual communion'; taking time to notice God's presence with us and trust that, as we desire communion with God, God will meet us in our hearts by faith. There are no special words or actions required for this; only true desire, lively faith and genuine love. If you find it helpful you may wish to use the following prayer, or simply listen to the music and meditate upon God's love for you.

Lord, you stand at the door of my heart and knock. You wait for me and only I can let you in. I believe and trust in you and ask you now to fill me with your presence. Feed me with your body and unite me in your blood, that I may be your blessing to a world in need. Amen.

Music During Communion

Be Still for the Presence of the Lord

**Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
The holy One is here;
Come bow before him now
With reverence and fear
In him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
The holy One, is here.**

**Be still, for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire,
With splendour he is crowned:
How awesome is the sight
Our radiant king of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around.**

**Be still, for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place:
He comes to cleanse and heal,
To minister his grace -
No work too hard for him.
In faith receive from him.
Be still, for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place.**

David Evans © 1986

Recorded by Adrian Boynton, Christ the Cornerstone, Milton Keynes

Prayer after Communion

President Let us pray.

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.

All **Amen.**

Hymn

Look, Ye Saints, the Sight is Glorious

**Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious:
see the Man of Sorrows now;
from the fight returned victorious,
ev'ry knee to him shall bow.
Crown him! Crown him!
Crowns become the Victor's brow.**

**Crown the Saviour, angels, crown him;
rich the trophies Jesus brings;
in the seat of pow'r enthrone him,
while the vault of heaven rings.
Crown him! Crown him!
Crown the Saviour King of kings.**

**Sinners in derision crowned him,
mocking thus the Saviour's claim;
saints and angels crowd around him,
own his title, praise his name.
Crown him! Crown him!
Spread abroad the Victor's fame!**

**Hark! those bursts of acclamation!
Hark! those loud triumphant chords!
Jesus takes the highest station;
O what joy the sight affords!
Crown him! Crown him!
King of kings and Lord of lords.**

Thomas Kelly

Recorded by the choir of St Laurence, Winslow

Blessing and Dismissal

President 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,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

President Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Video after the Service

We Seek Your Kingdom

Commissioned by LICC and Thy Kingdom Come

Melody: Eventide by William Henry Monk

Lyrics: Andy Flannagan, Noel Robinson, Graham Hunter

Church at Home is a true team effort, drawing together the gifts of many from across the diocese. Some of those gifts are visible in the service, while others are seen only behind the scenes. Whether visible or invisible, the offering of so many gifts serves as a reminder of the beauty and variety of the Body of Christ.

Thanks this week in particular go to those who have made this service possible:

The Ven Jonathan Chaffey, Archdeacon of Oxford; Revd Jenni Williams, vicar of St Matthew's Oxford; Waltham St Lawrence Virtual Voices, with Simon Shaw and Dr Camilla Jarrot; Ed Wiles, Christ Church Abingdon; James Potter, director of Cathedral Singers, Christ Church Cathedral; Revd Jonathan Widdess, vicar, Parish of Cumnor; Matthew Jackson, St Andrew's Oxford; Becky Murgatroyd, youth minister, St Mary's Wendover; Derry French, director of music, Winslow Benefice; Revd Andrew Lightbown, Winslow Benefice; Revd Philippa White and Liam Cartwright; Emma Thompson, Winslow Benefice, communications officer, Diocese of Oxford; Adrian Boynton, Christ the Cornerstone, Milton Keynes; the Choir of St Laurence, Winslow; LICC and Thy Kingdom Come (Andy Flannagan, Noel Robinson, Graham Hunter).

The liturgist for this service was Revd Philippa White, precentor of Christ Church Cathedral. This service was produced by the Revd James Dwyer, curate at St Andrew's Oxford.

Church at Home is produced each week by the Revd Charlotte Bannister-Parker, associate chaplain to the Bishop of Oxford, and Steven Buckley, director of communications, with the help of Emma Thompson, digital communications officer, and Mark Robinson of Digital Creative.

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COME AND EAT

**Take time to contemplate the profound,
wonderful meal of Holy Communion.**

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available now. Listen online or search
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