

ST ANDREWS CHURCH - MOSCOW

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

20th JULY, 2025.



A SERVICE OF THE WORD – With Youth Fellowship

CALL TO WORSHIP

“This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.”
(1 John 1:5-7)

We begin our worship by singing:

Opening Hymn: 747 – Ye watchers and ye holy ones

Good morning and welcome in the name of Christ.
Let us pray:

Loving God, we have come to worship you.

**Help us to pray to you in faith,
to sing your praise with gratitude,
and to listen to your word with eagerness;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us: but if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *(1 John 1.8,9)*

A moment of silence.

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:
fill us with your Spirit. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith:
fill us with your Spirit. Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust:
fill us with your Spirit. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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

THE COLLECT

Let us say the Collect together:

**Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry**

**they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen**

Hymn: 394 – Like a dove come to me

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading – Genesis 18:1-10

The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. ² Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground. ³ He said, “If I have found favour in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. ⁵ Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant.”

“Very well,” they answered, “do as you say.”

⁶ So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. “Quick,” he said, “get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread.” ⁷ Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. ⁸ He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

⁹ “Where is your wife Sarah?” they asked him. “There, in the tent,” he said. ¹⁰ Then one of them said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son.”

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 15

¹ LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent?

Who may live on your holy mountain?

² The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous,
who speaks the truth from their heart;

³ whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbour,
and casts no slur on others;

⁴ who despises a vile person but honours those who fear the LORD;
who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind;

⁵ who lends money to the poor without interest;
who does not accept a bribe against the innocent.

Whoever does these things will never be shaken.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Second Reading – Colossians 1:15-28

¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

²¹ Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behaviour. ²² But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— ²³ if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

²⁴ Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. ²⁵ I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— ²⁶ the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people. ²⁷ To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Praise and Worship Songs – led by the Youth Group

730 – When the music fades

290 – I danced in the morning

Gospel reading Luke 10: 38-end

³⁸ As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. ³⁹ She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

⁴¹ "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION/HOMILY

THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made;
of the same essence as the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.**

**He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried.**

The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.

He ascended to heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again with glory
to judge the living and the dead.**

His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.

**He proceeds from the Father and the Son,
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.**

He spoke through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray:

This response is used:

Lord in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

At the end:

Merciful Father

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Believing the promises of God, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

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 and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE PEACE (*All stand.*)

We are all one in Christ Jesus. We belong to him through faith,
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn: 373 – Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together:

Generous God, creator, redeemer, sustainer,

at your table we present this money,

symbol of the work you have given us to do;

use it, use us, in the service of your world

to the glory of your name. Amen.

ACCLAMATION

The Word of life which was from the beginning
we proclaim to you.

The darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining;
the Word of life which was from the beginning.

That which we heard, which we saw with our eyes,
and touched with our hands,
we proclaim to you.

For our fellowship is with the Father,
and with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**The Word of life which was from the beginning
we proclaim to you.**

Closing Hymn: 699 – We hail thy presence glorious

CLOSING PRAYER AND DISMISSAL

Almighty God, we thank you for the gift of your holy word.

May it be a lantern to our feet,
a light to our paths, and a strength to our lives.

Take us and use us to love and serve
in the power of the Holy Spirit

and in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE GRACE:

We say together:

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the Love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all evermore. Amen**

*Acknowledgment: Common Worship- Service and Prayers for the Church of England
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