

The Parish Church of St Matthew  
Northampton

# Pentecost

THE FIFTIETH DAY OF EASTER



'Pentecost' by El Greco (1596-1599), The Prado, Madrid.

*Send your Holy Spirit upon us  
and clothe your people with power from on high, alleluia.*

## The Parish Mass

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024

10.15 am



## Welcome to St Matthew's Parish Church

In the Acts of the Apostles Luke has the giving of the Holy Spirit happening on the feast of Pentecost. Jewish tradition saw Pentecost as the feast of the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai. According to legend a mighty wind turned to fire and a voice proclaimed the Law. In a further refinement, the fire split into 70 tongues corresponding to the 70 nations of the world, to convey that the Law was proclaimed not only to Israel, but to all nations.

Luke exploits this tradition. He, too, has the mighty wind and tongues of fire coming upon the group of disciples. But for Luke the universal proclamation was not that of the Law, but of the Good News, a proclamation that has undone the sentence of Babel and re-united the scattered nations.

The conversation of Jesus at the Last Supper is focussed on preparing the inner group among his followers for the time when he will no longer be visible among them. They will need, then, to be his witnesses, and for that task they will have the strength which comes from the Holy Spirit. In bearing witness to him, they will need to have a deep concern for the truth; in this task also the Spirit will be their guide.

*It is our custom to spend some time in quiet preparation before the liturgy begins, and save further conversation until we meet socially for refreshments afterwards. The following reflection, based on today's themes, may be found helpful:*

### Reflection

Our spirit is our greatest source of energy.  
It is to us what wings are to a bird.  
However, while it can be very strong, it can also be very brittle.  
What is it that enables the spirit to soar, and what is it that causes it to sink?  
Criticism erodes it, praise builds it up.  
Despair causes it to wilt; hope breathes new life into it.  
Rejection wounds it; acceptance heals it.  
Hatred poisons it; love purifies it.  
Fear cripples it; solitude calms it;  
prayer strengthens it.

### Setting

Communion Service in F

Harold Darke (1888-1976)

## Order of Service

### ¶ The Gathering

§ *At the sound of the bell **please stand***

§ *The sanctuary party forms up at the front of the Nave  
Incense is blessed*

*The priest intones*

Let us go forth in peace

*All* **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

### Processional Hymn

*All*                   **SING to him in whom creation  
                          Found its shape and origin;  
                          Spirit, moving on the waters,  
                          Troubled by the God within;  
                          Source of breath to all things breathing,  
                          Life in whom all lives begin.**

**Sing to God, the close companion  
                          Of our inmost thoughts and ways;  
                          Who, in showing us his wonders,  
                          Is himself the power to gaze;  
                          And his will, to those who listen,  
                          By a still small voice conveys.**

**Holy people, priests and prophets,  
                          Caught his accents, spoke his word;  
                          His the truth behind the wisdoms  
                          Which as yet know not our Lord;  
                          He the love of God eternal,  
                          Which in Christ was seen and heard.**

**Tell of how the ascended Jesus  
Armed a people for his own;  
How a hundred men and women  
Turned the known world upside down,  
To its dark and furthest corners  
By the wind of Whitsun blown.**

**Pray we then, O Lord the Spirit,  
On our lives descend in might;  
Let thy flame break out within us,  
Fire our hearts and clear our sight,  
Till, white-hot in thy possession,  
We, too, set the world alight.**

**Praise, O praise the Holy Spirit,  
Praise the Father, praise the Word,  
Source, and truth, and inspiration,  
Trinity in deep accord:  
Through thy voice which speaks within us  
We thy creatures own thee Lord.**

Words Michael Hewlett (1916-2000)

Music Neander  
Melody set to 'Unser Herrscher' in *Alpha und Omega*, 1680  
by Joachim Neander (1650-1680)

*All* † In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## The Greeting

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

## The Easter Acclamation

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

## Introduction

Jesus Christ, whom we worship,  
is our crucified, risen and ascended Lord,  
and we have walked with him through his journey of love.  
We have faced the agony of his suffering and death on a cross.  
We have rejoiced at his bursting free from the bonds of death.  
We have enjoyed his risen presence with us  
and his revelation of himself through the breaking of bread.  
We have seen his return to the throne  
before which every knee shall bow,  
and every tongue confess that this Jesus is Lord.  
And now, with the followers of his own time,  
we await the coming of the promised Holy Spirit, his gift to his people,  
through whom we make Christ known to the world.

## Gloria in Excelsis

*Choir*

Glory be to God on high,  
and in earth peace, good will towards 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 Most High,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## The Collect

Let us pray.

God, who as at this time  
taught the hearts of your faithful people  
by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:  
grant us by the same Spirit  
to have a right judgement in all things  
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;  
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

All

**Amen.**

§ Sit

## ¶ The Liturgy of the Word

### The Pentecost Reading

*Reader* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs - in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: ‘Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

“In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.  
Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.  
And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.  
The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.  
Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” ’

Acts 2.1-21

This is the word of the Lord.

All

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

Stephen Moore

Response      Bless   the   Lord,   O   my   soul.

Choir

O Lord, how manifold are your works!  
In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.  
There is the sea, spread far and wide,  
and there move creatures beyond number, both small and great.

**Response**

There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan  
which you have made to play in the deep.  
All of these look to you  
to give them their food in due season. **Response**

When you give it them, they gather it;  
you open your hand and they are filled with good.  
When you hide your face they are troubled;  
when you take away their breath,  
they die and return again to the dust. **Response**

When you send forth your spirit, they are created,  
and you renew the face of the earth.  
May the glory of the Lord endure for ever;  
may the Lord rejoice in his works;  
He looks on the earth and it trembles;  
he touches the mountains and they smoke. **Response**

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;  
I will make music to my God while I have my being.  
So shall my song please him  
while I rejoice in the Lord.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul. Alleluia. **Response**

Psalms 104:26-36, 37b

§ Stand

## Holy Gospel

### Acclamation

1. Choir  
2. Choir and Congregation

Al - le - lu - ia.

*Choir* Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

*All* **Alleluia.**

*All* The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

*All* Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord, al - le - lu - ia.



Jesus said to the eleven, ‘When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

‘I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, “Where are you going?” But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

‘I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.’

John 15:26-27 & 16:4b-15

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All  Praise to you, O Christ, al - le - lu - ia.

Homily

§ Sit

# The Nicene Creed

§ Stand

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*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.**

*All may  
bow* ***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 the Faithful

*Priest* Conscious of our inheritance from the first disciples,  
we pray for God to fill us with his Spirit.

§ *Kneel*

*Intercessor* Generous God,  
we thank you for the *power* of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask that we may be strengthened to serve you better.  
Lord, send forth your Spirit  
**and renew the face of the earth.**

*All* We thank you for the *wisdom* of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to make us wise to understand your will.  
Lord, send forth your Spirit  
**and renew the face of the earth.**

*All* We thank you for the *peace* of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to keep us confident of your love wherever you call us.  
Lord, send forth your Spirit  
**and renew the face of the earth.**

*All* We thank you for the *healing* of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to bring reconciliation and wholeness  
where there is division, sickness and sorrow.  
We pray by name for ...  
Lord, send forth your Spirit  
**and renew the face of the earth.**

*All* We thank you for the *gifts* of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to equip us for the work which you have given us.  
Lord, send forth your Spirit  
**and renew the face of the earth.**

*All* We thank you for the *fruit* of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to reveal in our lives the love of Jesus.  
Lord, send forth your Spirit  
**and renew the face of the earth.**

We thank you for the *breath* of your Holy Spirit,  
given us by the risen Lord.  
We pray for the faithful departed ...

We ask you to keep the whole Church, living and departed,  
in the joy of eternal life.

Lord, send forth your Spirit

*All*      **and renew the face of the earth.**

*Priest*      Generous God,  
you transformed the apostles by your Spirit of freedom,  
and emboldened them to take up their mission with joy  
and announce your kingdom.

Visit your Church at prayer this day,

*All*      **fill us with your Spirit,  
hear our prayer,  
and make us one in heart and mind  
to serve you with joy for ever.  
Amen.**

## Invitation to Confession

*Asst priest*      The Spirit of the Lord fills the world  
and knows our every word and deed.  
Let us then open ourselves to the Lord  
and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

*A pause for silent reflection*

## Kyrie Confession

*Asst priest*      You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:  
Lord, have mercy.

*All*      **Lord, have mercy.**

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:  
Christ, have mercy.

*All*      **Christ, have mercy.**

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:  
Lord, have mercy.

*All*      **Lord, have mercy.**

## Absolution

God, the Father of mercies,  
has reconciled the world to himself  
through the death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ,  
not counting our trespasses against us,  
but sending his Holy Spirit to shed abroad his love among us.  
By the ministry of reconciliation entrusted by Christ to his Church,  
receive his pardon † and peace  
to stand before him in his strength alone,  
this day and evermore.

*All*      **Amen.**

§    *Stand*

## ¶    The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### Sign of Peace

God has made us one in Christ.  
He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come,  
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

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

*Asst priest*    Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

## The Offertory

*The Gifts are presented to the presiding priest at the dais step*

*A monetary collection is taken. Please give as you are able.  
Your generosity is gratefully received.*

# Hymn

All

**COME, thou Holy Spirit, come,  
And from thy celestial home  
Shed thy light and brilliancy:  
Father of the poor, draw near,  
Giver of all gifts, be here.  
Come, the soul's true radiancy.**

**Come, of comforters the best,  
Of the soul the sweetest guest,  
Come in toil refreshingly:  
Thou in labour rest most sweet,  
Thou art shadow from the heat,  
Come in adversity.**

**O thou Light most pure and blest,  
Shine within the inmost breast  
Of thy faithful company:  
Where thou art not, man has naught,  
Every holy deed and thought  
Comes from thy divinity.**

**Sinful hearts do thou make whole,  
Bring to life the arid soul.  
Guide the feet that go astray:  
Make the stubborn heart unbend,  
To the faint, new hope extend,  
Wounded souls, their hurt allay.**

**Fill the faithful, who confide  
In thy power to guard and guide,  
With thy sevenfold mystery:  
Here thy grace and virtue send,  
Grant salvation in the end,  
And in heaven felicity.**

Words Latin, possibly by Stephen Langton (c1160-1228),  
translated by John Mason Neale (1818-1866), and others

Music Veni, sancte Spiritus (Webbe)  
Samuel Webbe (1740-1816)

## Invitation to Prayer

Pray, my brothers and sisters,  
that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

*All*     **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 Church.**

## Prayer over the Gifts

O Lord, grant that, as promised by your Son,  
the Holy Spirit may reveal to us more abundantly  
the hidden mystery of this sacrifice  
and graciously lead us into all truth.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*All*     **Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

*All*     The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

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

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

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and everlasting God,  
through Jesus Christ, your only Son our Lord.

This day we give you thanks  
because in fulfilment of your promise  
you pour out your Spirit upon us,  
filling us with your gifts, leading us into all truth,  
and uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith.

Your Spirit gives us grace to call you Father,  
to proclaim your gospel to all nations  
and to serve you as a royal priesthood.

Therefore we join our voices with angels and archangels,  
and with all those in whom the Spirit dwells,  
to proclaim the glory of your name,  
for ever praising you and singing:

*Choir* Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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:

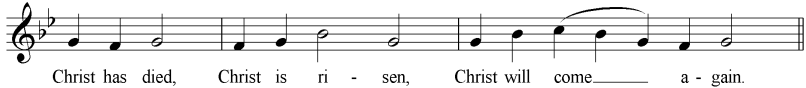
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.



Asst priest

Great is the mystery of faith:

All



Asst priest

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world,  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Priest

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company Mary, the Virgin Mother of God,  
all the apostles and saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever.

All



*The Blessed Sacrament is elevated. Bells are rung.*

## The Lord's Prayer

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,  
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.**

## Breaking of the Bread

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

*All*      **We being many are one body.**  
Into one body we were all baptized,  
and one Spirit was given us all to drink.

*All*      **For we all share in one bread.**

## Agnus Dei

*Choir*      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.

## Invitation to Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.  
*All* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## Giving of Communion

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke of the great things God had done, alleluia.

## Spiritual Communion – *for those at home*

### Act of Reception

*All* In union, blessed Jesus,  
with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church  
where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day,

*(and remembering particularly my own parish ...)*

I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving,  
for creation and all the blessings of this life,  
for the redemption won for us by your life, death,  
and resurrection,  
for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

*(and particularly for the blessings given me ...)*

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,  
and, since I cannot at this time receive communion,  
I pray you to come into my heart.  
I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart,  
my soul, and my mind.  
Let nothing separate me from you;  
let me serve you in this life until, by your grace,  
I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.  
Amen.

## Motet

*Choir*

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,  
And lighten with celestial fire;  
Thou the anointing Spirit art,  
Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart:  
Thy blessed unction from above  
Is comfort, life and fire of love;

Enable with perpetual light  
The dullness of our blinded sight:  
Anoint and cheer our soiled face  
With the abundance of thy grace:  
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;  
Where thou art guide no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
And Thee, of Both, to be but One;  
That through the ages all along  
This may be our endless song,  
Praise to thy eternal merit,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Words Veni creator

Music Thomas Attwood (1814-1856)

## Hymn

All

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;  
Break me, melt me, mould me, fill me;  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

Words Daniel Iverson (1890-1977)

Music Daniel Iverson (1890-1977)  
arranged by Peter Moger (b.1964)

*Silence for private reflection and thanksgiving*

## Prayer after Communion

§ Stand

Let us pray:

Faithful God,  
who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit  
and opening to every race and nation  
the way of life eternal:  
open our lips by your Spirit,  
that every tongue may tell of your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All

**Amen.**

## Hymn

All

**O THOU who camest from above  
The pure celestial fire to impart,  
Kindle a flame of sacred love  
On the mean altar of my heart.**

**There let it for thy glory burn  
With inextinguishable blaze,  
And trembling to its source return,  
In humble prayer, and fervent praise.**

**Jesus, confirm my heart's desire  
To work, and speak, and think for thee;  
Still let me guard the holy fire,  
And still stir up thy gift in me.**

**Ready for all thy perfect will,  
My acts of faith and love repeat,  
Till death thy endless mercies seal,  
And make my sacrifice complete.**

Words Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music Hereford  
Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

## Notices for the Community

§ Sit

## ¶ Sending Out

§ Stand

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

## Solemn Blessing

*All* May the Spirit,  
who hovered over the waters when the world was created,  
breathe into you the life he gives.  
**Amen.**

*All* May the Spirit,  
who overshadowed the Virgin when the eternal Son came among us,  
make you joyful in the service of the Lord.  
**Amen.**

*All* May the Spirit,  
who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost,  
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son †, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

## Sung Dismissal

*Deacon*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

*All*

In the name of Christ, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

*Please turn towards the Madonna and Child sculpture*

## Regina Caeli

All **Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluya** *9 rings*  
**He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluya**  
**As he promised, hath arisen, alleluya**  
**Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluya.**

Tune Easter hymn

All Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluya  
**for the Lord is risen indeed, alleluya.**

God of life, you have given joy to the world *9 rings*  
by the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Through the prayers of his mother, the Virgin Mary,  
bring us to the happiness of eternal life;  
we ask this through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

## Organ Voluntary

Komm, Heiliger Geist BWV 651

*J S Bach (1685-1750)*

*The procession departs*

*Those leaving immediately are asked to be aware of those who wish to listen to the organ voluntary*

*Refreshments are served in church after Mass, please do stay and join us*

*If you are a newcomer to the parish or area please introduce yourself to the clergy or speak to a member of our Welcome Team.*

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## Collection – responding to God’s generosity

*We invite you to make a monetary offering towards the ministry and mission of St Matthew’s Church. You may do so using any of the following methods:*

**Cash, cheques, stewardship envelopes** - using the receptacle provided at the back of church. UK tax-payers are asked to use the gift-aid envelopes in the chairs, and fill out the details in order that our parish may claim an additional 25% of the donation from the government, at no additional cost to the donor. If you wish to give regularly, please contact the Parish Office (01604 791251) and ask for a member of our Stewardship Group.

**Contactless giving** - using the terminal provided. Just press the button for the amount you wish to give - £5, £10, or £20, and then hold your bank card over the reader.

**Giving on your smart phone** - using the QR code printed below. It gives you the option of any amount, Gift Aid, and making a regular payment.

**Giving online** - click the donate button on the parish website or Facebook page and follow the instructions.

*Your generosity is gratefully received. Thank you.*



*Our thanks are due to an unknown anonymous donor  
who has generously financed  
the production of this week’s service booklet.*

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This evening at 5.30 pm

Solemn Choral Evensong and Benediction

**Please take this booklet home  
as an aid to prayer and reflection during the week,  
and then re-cycle it.**

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