

The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

The Second Sunday before Lent



Christ is our peace among the storms of life

The Parish Mass

Sunday 23 February 2025

10.15 am

Welcome to St Matthew's Parish Church



Safeguarding *St Matthew's is committed to providing a safe environment for all who come. If you have any concerns, please speak with one of our welcomers or a churchwarden who may be identified by their lanyard. They will be happy to help you.*

Live streaming *Please note that this service is being streamed. You may sit where you wish. If, however, you prefer not to be seen online, please sit in a side aisle. The administration of Holy Communion will not be shown.*

GDPR *Some of St Matthew's services (most Sunday mornings and some special services) are live-streamed or recorded for those who cannot attend church in person. Under GDPR, the church must gain the consent of anyone whose image may be captured, as this constitutes collection of "personal data". This includes clergy, readers/intercessors, musicians and congregation. Whilst every attempt is made not to capture the faces of members of the congregation, this may occasionally happen if people turn around or move around the church during the service. The exception is communion, when the congregation is not filmed. The side aisles and back of the nave are so far as possible film-free areas not covered by the camera. Any-one whose personal data is collected must give their consent. Consent forms are available both in church and on the website. The full policy can be read on our parish website or on the noticeboards in church.*

Toilet and baby changing facilities *may be found at the base of the church tower. There is also a small servery.*

For younger children *In the north aisle (nearest to Collingwood Road), a carpeted area equipped with age-specific Christian resources is provided. Please feel free to make use of these facilities.*



The morning's readings When the disciples are caught in the storm and Jesus brings calm, they ask the question, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?' (Luke 8:25). The answer can be found in this morning's psalm, verse 7, which is addressed to God alone and it says: 'You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.'

The only answer to their question is, of course, God. It is important for the disciples and for us to realise that Jesus is God and not just a wonder-worker. As God, Jesus is able to control the chaotic elements of the world and to help us survive amid the chaos and danger that life sends to us.

Jesus is our companion and guide. To have faith is to have a living and loving relationship with him that will withstand the storms of life.

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/prayer, based on today's themes, may be found helpful:

Prayer

We pray for all those whose lives this day are afflicted by the natural disasters in our news, and for all those who suffer without reaching the headlines and do not receive the help and support they need to recover.

Heavenly Father,
the whole earth is yours,
and the power of the wind, wave and flame
is as nothing compared to the power of your word.
Be with all those this day who grieve the loss of loved ones and homes,
restore the confidence of all who are fearful for their futures
and help is all to work together to rebuild lives and restore hope,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Settings

The Salisbury Service (Gloria only)

Grayston Ives b.1948

Communion Service in C

William Mathias 1934-1992

Collection – ‘Building a Generous Church’



Our response to God’s generosity

We believe in a generous God, who longs for us to share his generosity with others. A generous life is therefore a hallmark of our faith and a testament to it, as the more generous we are, the more we reflect the generous God we believe in. Generosity is, therefore, at the heart of our faith, and our own generosity is a sure sign of our faith in action. Generosity is a spiritual gift, and we need to encourage people to seek this gift as they grow in their faith. The ministry and mission of St Matthew’s is largely funded through the incredible generosity of those who give to it.

* * * * *

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. If you are a taxpayer please use the envelopes in the chairs, and fill out the details in order that our parish may also benefit from the Gift Aid (an extra 25p for every pound given) associated with your giving.

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.



Order of Service

¶ The Gathering

§ *At the sound of the bell, **all stand***

Hymn

§ *The procession enters*

All

MORNING has broken
Like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken
 Like the first bird;
Praise for the singing,
Praise for the morning,
Praise for them springing
 Fresh from the **Word**.

Sweet the rain's new fall
Sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall
 On the first grass;
Praise or the sweetness,
Of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness
 Where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight,
Mine is the morning,
Born of the one light
 Eden saw play;
Praise with elation,
Praise every morning,
God's re-creation
 Of the new day

Words Eleanor Farjeon 1881-1965

Music Buessan
Gaelic traditional melody
Harmony by Martin Shaw 1875-1958

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

The Greeting

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

The service is introduced

Invitation to Confession

Since God is full of mercy and compassion,
we acknowledge and confess our failures and wrongdoing,
trusting that God will forgive us
and allow us to make a new start in our journey of faith.

Silence is kept

Confession

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry,
and repent of all our sins.
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Kyries

In you Lord have I taken refuge:
incline your ear to me and set me free.
Kyrie eleison.

All **Kyrie eleison.**

In your righteousness deliver me:
be my stronghold and keep me safe.
Christe eleison.

All **Christe eleison.**

You are my hope, O Lord God:
do not forsake me, restore my life.
Kyrie eleison.

All **Kyrie eleison.**

Absolution

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.

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

All **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.**

**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.**

**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.
Amen.**

The Collect

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children:
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
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

First Reading

Reader A reading from the book Genesis.

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— then

the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

'This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken.'

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

Genesis 2,4b-9, 15-25

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Response

Stephen Moore

Hap - py are they whom you choose to dwell in your courts.



Choir

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion;
to you that answer prayer shall vows be paid.
To you shall all flesh come to confess their sins;
when our misdeeds prevail against us,
you will purge them away. **Response**

Happy are they whom you choose
and draw to your courts to dwell there.
We shall be satisfied with the blessings of your house,
even of your holy temple. **Response**

With wonders you will answer us in your righteousness,
O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas.
In your strength you set fast the mountains
and are girded about with might. **Response**

You still the raging of the seas
the roaring of their waves
and the clamour of the peoples.
Those who dwell at the ends of the earth
tremble at your marvels;
the gates of the morning and evening sing your praise. **Response**

You visit the earth and water it;
you make it very plenteous.
The river of God is full of water;
you prepare grain for your people,
for so you provide for the earth. **Response**

You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
you soften the ground with showers and bless its increase.
You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty. **Response**

May the pastures of the wilderness flow with goodness
and the hills be girded with joy.
May the meadows be clothed with flocks of sheep
and the valleys stand so thick with corn
that they shall laugh and sing. **Response**

Psalm 65

Holy Gospel

§ Stand

Acclamation

1. Choir only
2. Choir and Congregation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Choir 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and water, and they obey him?'

All **Alleluia ...**

§ Please turn to face the Book of the Gospels

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

All

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

One day Jesus got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

Luke 8:22-25

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All

Praise to you, O Christ.

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 Heavenly Father, you are ever with us in the storms of life
and we know you as our Saviour.
Hear these our prayers.

§ *Kneel*

The response to each petition

Intercessor Holy and strong one,
All **grant us your peace.**

After the final petition

Priest Lord Jesus,
we thank you that you have rescued us
from the darkness of sin and death
and opened to us the peace and joy of your kingdom.
All **Amen.**

§ *Stand*

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sign of Peace

Blessed are all who put their trust in the Lord.
He will keep them in his presence and his peace.

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

Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

The Offertory

§ *The bread and wine are presented to the presiding priest at the dais step*

Hymn

§ *A monetary collection is taken. Please give as you are able using any of the ways indicated at the front of this booklet. Your generosity is much appreciated. Thank you.*

All

**PRAISE to the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is
thy health and salvation:
All ye who hear,
Brothers and sisters draw near,
Praise him in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things
so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under his wings,
yea, so gently sustaineth:
Hast thou not seen
All that is needful hath been
Granted in what he ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper
thy work and defend thee;
Surely his goodness and mercy
here daily attend thee;
Ponder anew
All the Almighty can do,
He who with love doth befriend thee.**

**Praise to the Lord, who, when tempests
their warfare are waging,
Who, when the elements madly
around thee are raging,
Biddeth them cease,
Turneth their fury to peace,
Whirlwinds and waters assuaging.**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that
is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath come now
with praises before him!
Let the Amen
Sound from his people again:
Gladly for ay we adore him.**

Words German, Joachim Neander 1650-1680
tr Catherine Winkworth 1827-1878 and others

Music Lobe den Herren
Melody in *Erneuertem Gesangbuchs*, 1665
adapted by Joachim Neander 1650-1680

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

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together
from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.
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.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

All

**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.**

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All



Christ has died, Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain.

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.

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 company with Mary the Virgin Mother of God,
and 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



A- men.

The Blessed Sacrament is elevated and bells are rung

§ *Kneel*

The Lord's Prayer

Seeking the salvation of the world
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

My flesh is food indeed,
and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.
All **Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood
dwell in me and I in them.**

Agnus Dei

All **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.**

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Giving of Communion

You still the raging of the seas, the roaring of their waves
and the clamour of the peoples. You prepare grain for your people,
for so you provide for the earth.

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

<i>Choir</i>	<i>Panis angelicus</i>	May the Bread of Angels
	<i>Fit panis hominum</i>	Become bread for mankind;
	<i>Dat panis coelicus</i>	The Bread of Heaven puts
	<i>Figuris terminum</i>	All foreshadowings to an end;
	<i>O res mirabilis</i>	Oh, thing miraculous!
	<i>Manducat dominum</i>	The body of the Lord will nourish
	<i>Pauper, pauper</i>	the poor, the poor,
	<i>Servus et humili</i>	the servile, and the humble.

Music César Franck 1822-1890

§ *All sit for a period of silent reflection and thanksgiving*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

§ *Stand*

God our creator, by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your table on earth
be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

**Merciful God,
you have called us to your table
and fed us with the bread of life.
Draw us and all people to serve your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Hymn

All

**LET us, with a gladsome mind,
Praise the Lord, for he is kind:
For his mercies ay endure,
Ever faithful, ever sure.**

**Let us blaze his Name abroad,
For of gods he is the God:**

**He with all-commanding might
Filled the new-made world with light:**

**He the golden-tressèd sun
Caused all day his course to run:**

**And the hornèd moon by night,
Mid her spangled sisters bright:**

**All things living he doth feed,
His full hand supplies their need:**

**Let us, with a gladsome mind,
Praise the Lord, for he is kind:**

Words John Milton 1608-1674
based on Psalm 136

Music Monkland
Melody by Johannes Freylinghausen 1670-1739
adapted by John Antes 1740-1811
Harmony by John Wilkes, 19th cent

Notices for the Community

§ Sit

¶ Sending Out

§ *Stand*

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

Solemn Blessing

All May God the Father bring us to the home
which his Son prepares for all who love him.
Amen.

All May God the Son give us the will
to live for him each day in life eternal.
Amen.

All May God the Holy Spirit give us the assurance
that our citizenship is in heaven with the blessed and beloved,
and the whole company of the redeemed.
Amen.

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

The Dismissal

All Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Voluntary

Toccata in D minor

Johann Jakob Froberger 1616-1667

§ *Please remain standing until the procession has departed*

- § *Those leaving immediately are asked to be aware of those who wish to listen to the organ voluntary*
- § *Refreshments are being served in the parish centre, adjacent to the carpark. Do please join us.*

This evening at 5.30 pm

Congregational Evensong

Our thanks are due to Mandy and Mark Ludlow
who have generously financed
the production of this week's service booklet.

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

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