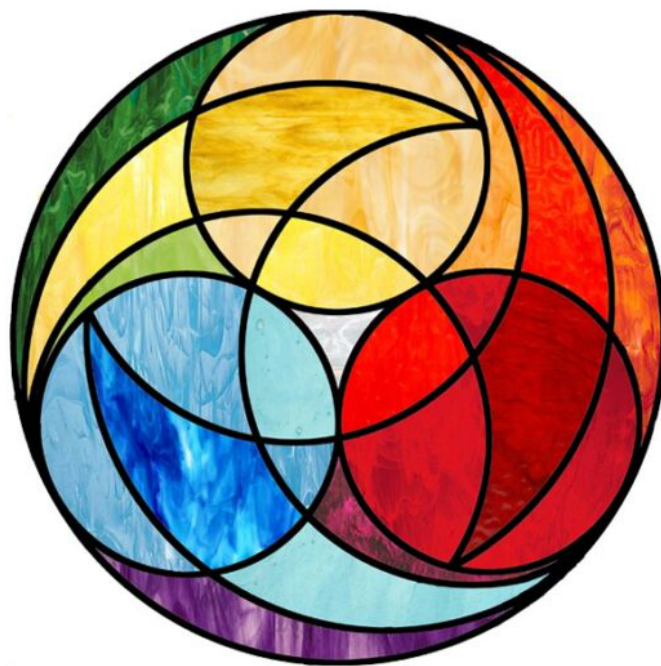


Parish of Central Windsor

# **SUNG EUCHARIST**

**31<sup>st</sup> August 2025**

## **Eleventh Sunday after Trinity**



**A warm welcome to  
St Stephen & St Agnes Church  
for our service today**

There is no Sunday Club in August, but please don't worry if you have children with you and be assured that you are very welcome. There are children's activities in the Children's Corner at the back of church.

*Please stand for :*

## **OPENING HYMN**

**I danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,  
at Bethlehem I had my birth.**

***Refrain:***

***Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.***

**I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,  
but they would not dance and they would not follow me.  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John -  
they came with me and the Dance went on.**

***Refrain:***

**I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;  
the holy people said it was a shame.  
they whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,  
and they left me there on a Cross to die.**

***Refrain:***

**I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;  
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.  
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,  
but I am the Dance, and I still go on.**

***Refrain:***

**They cut me down and I leapt up high;  
I am the life that'll never, never die;  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me -  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.**

***Refrain:***

*Sydney Carter (1915-2004)*

## **THE GREETING**

*The priest says*

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

***All*      **Amen.****

*The priest greets the people*

**The Lord be with you**

***All*      **and also with you.****

*Please sit for:*

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANY NOTICES**

*Please stand for :*

**PRAYER OF PENITENCE**

*All*      **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed.  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
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 grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen**

*The Kyrie Eleison is sung:*

*All*      **Lord, have mercy, Lord have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy, Christ have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

**ABSOLUTION**

*The priest says*

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.**

*Please remain standing for:*

**THE 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.**

## **THE COLLECT**

*The priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words:*

Let us pray

*Silence is kept.*

God of glory,  
the end of our searching,  
help us to lay aside  
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,  
and to give all that we have  
to gain the pearl beyond all price,  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

*All*      **Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*Please sit for:*

### **FIRST READING**

#### **Ecclesiasticus 10.12–18**

<sup>10</sup><sup>12</sup> The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord;  
the heart has withdrawn from its Maker.

<sup>13</sup> For the beginning of pride is sin,  
and the one who clings to it pours out abominations.  
Therefore the Lord brings upon them unheard-of calamities,  
and destroys them completely.

- <sup>14</sup> The Lord overthrows the thrones of rulers,  
and enthrones the lowly in their place.
- <sup>15</sup> The Lord plucks up the roots of the nations,  
and plants the humble in their place.
- <sup>16</sup> The Lord lays waste the lands of the nations,  
and destroys them to the foundations of the earth.
- <sup>17</sup> He removes some of them and destroys them,  
and erases the memory of them from the earth.
- <sup>18</sup> Pride was not created for human beings,  
or violent anger for those born of women.

*At the end the reader says:*

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Please remain sitting for:*

## **PSALM 112**

*The congregation is invited to join with the choir in singing the response*

### **Blessed are those who fear the Lord**

Blessed are those who / fear the Lord  
and have great delight in / his commandments.  
Their descendants will be mighty / in the land,  
a generation of the faithful that / will be blest. **Response**

Wealth and riches will be / in their house,  
and their righteousness en / dures for ever.  
Light shines in the darkness / for the upright;  
gracious and full of compassion / are the righteous. **Response**

It goes well with those who are gene / rous in lending  
and order their af / fairs with justice,  
for they will ne / ver be shaken;  
the righteous will be held in everlast / ing remembrance. **Response**

They will not be afraid of any / evil tidings;  
their heart is steadfast, trusting / in the Lord.  
Their heart is sustained and / will not fear,  
until they see the downfall / of their foes. **Response**

They have given freely / to the poor;  
their righteousness stands / fast for ever;  
their head will be exal / ted with honour. **Response**

## SECOND READING

### Hebrews 13.1–8, 15, 16

<sup>13</sup> <sup>1</sup> Let mutual love continue. <sup>2</sup> Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup> Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. <sup>4</sup> Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. <sup>5</sup> Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.' <sup>6</sup> So we can say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?' <sup>7</sup> Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. <sup>15</sup> Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup> Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

*At the end the reader says:*

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for :*

### Gradual Hymn

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, thou weary one, lay down  
thy head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was,  
weary, and worn, and sad;  
I found in him a resting place,  
and he has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Behold, I freely give  
the living water; thirsty one,  
stoop down and drink, and live."  
I came to Jesus, and I drank  
of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in him.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"I am this dark world's Light;  
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,  
and all thy day be bright:"  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
in him my Star, my Sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk  
till travelling days are done.** *Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)*

*Please remain standing for:*

## **GOSPEL READING**

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says:*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
O Lord, your word is everlasting;  
it stands firm forever in the heavens  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

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

### **Luke 14.1, 7–14**

**14** <sup>1</sup> On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. <sup>7</sup> When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup> ‘When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; <sup>9</sup> and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, “Give this person your place”, and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup> But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, “Friend, move up higher”; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup> For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.’ <sup>12</sup> He said also to the one who had invited him, ‘When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup> And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.’

*At the end the reader says:*

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

*Please sit for:*

## **SERMON**

### **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

*Let us declare before God the faith of the church in which, we pray,  
we may all find grace to grow.*

*All*      **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen**

*Please sit or kneel for:*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*These responses may be used*

<i>All</i>	<b>Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.</b>	<i>All</i>	<b>Lord hear us Lord graciously hear us</b>
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*And at the end*

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



# BANNS OF MARRIAGE ARE PUBLISHED

## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

*Please stand for:*

### THE PEACE

We are the body of Christ.  
In the one Spirit we were all baptised  
into one body.  
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace  
and builds up our common life.

*All* The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**  
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*You are invited to exchange a sign of peace with your neighbour.*

*The offertory collection will be brought to the altar to be blessed.  
It will be used for the ministry, mission and outreach of the church.  
Please consider using the Gift Aid envelopes if you are able to do so..*

Have you considered regular giving through the Parish Giving Scheme? It is very easy to do and is the most efficient method of giving. Details are in the weekly Keeping Us in Touch leaflet or can be accessed via this QR code.  
One off donations can also be made this way.



### OFFERTORY HYMN

**I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship,  
should set his love upon the sons of men,  
or why, as Shepherd, he should seek the wanderers,  
to bring them back, they know not how or when.  
But this I know, that he was born of Mary  
when Bethl'em's manger was his only home,  
and that he lived at Nazareth and laboured,  
and so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is come.**

**I cannot tell how silently he suffered,  
as with his peace he graced this place of tears,  
or how his heart upon the cross was broken,  
the crown of pain to three and thirty years.  
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted  
and stays our sin and calms our lurking fear  
and lifts the burden from the heavy laden;  
for still the Saviour, Saviour of the world is here.**

I cannot tell how he will win the nations,  
how he will claim his earthly heritage,  
how satisfy the needs and aspirations  
of east and west, of sinner and of sage.  
But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,  
and he shall reap the harvest he has sown,  
and some glad day his sun will shine in splendour  
when he the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,  
when at his bidding every storm is stilled,  
or who can say how great the jubilation  
when every heart with love and joy is filled.  
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,  
and myriad myriad human voices sing,  
and earth to heav'n, and heav'n to earth, will answer,  
'at last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is King!'

*William Young Fullerton (1857-1932)*

## PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

*The altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.  
The priest takes the bread and wine.*

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,  
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;  
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

*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.

*All* Great is the mystery of faith  
**Christ has died:**  
**Christ is risen:**  
**Christ will come again.**

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 the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
St Stephen, St Agnes, St John the Baptist and all the 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* **Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

*Please feel free to use either the traditional or the contemporary version  
as we pray together*

*All* **Our Father, who art in heaven,   *All***  
**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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 priest breaks the consecrated bread.*

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* **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**

*The priest says the invitation to communion*

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink  
in remembrance that he died for you  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

*All* **Amen.**

*If you are confirmed or a communicant member of the Church of England or any other Christian church, you are welcome to receive communion with us this morning. Otherwise, you are warmly invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please bring the service booklet with you so we know you wish to receive a blessing.*

*Gluten free wafers are available on request.*

*During the administration of communion the following will be sung:*

**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 spirit 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 J. Evans b1957*

**ANTHEM:** Arise, shine, for your light has come (How)

#### **PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION**

Lord of all mercy,  
we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice  
which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace:  
by our communion  
keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel  
and preserve us from all sin;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*All*      **Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory  
Amen**

*Please stand for :*

## **THE DISMISSAL**

*The priest says*

## **THE BLESSING**

*The priest says*

The peace of God,  
which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds  
in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father†, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All*      **Amen.**

## **Final Hymn**

**Father, Lord of all creation,  
ground of being, life and love;  
height and depth beyond description,  
only life in you can prove:  
you are mortal life's dependence:  
thought, speech, sight are ours by grace;  
yours is every hour's existence,  
sovereign Lord of time and space.**

**Jesus Christ, the Man for others  
we, your people, make our prayer  
help us love, as sisters, brothers  
all whose burdens we can share.  
Where your name binds us together  
you, Lord Christ, will surely be  
where no selfishness can sever  
there your love the world may see.**

**Holy Spirit, rushing, bringing  
wind and flame of Pentecost  
fire our hearts afresh with yearning  
to regain what we have lost.  
May your love unite our action  
never more to speak alone  
God, in us, abolish faction  
God, through us, your love make known.** *Stewart Cross (1928-1898)*

*The priest says:*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

*The ministers and people depart.*

**Please stay for refreshments which will be served after the service.**

**You are welcome to take this service sheet away with you  
for private reflection or to give to a friend.**

If you are visiting today or attending for the first time, we hope that you have felt  
“at home” here, that you will be refreshed by today’s service of worship and that  
you will return in the future.

We shall be delighted if you decide to make our  
church community your spiritual home.

**If you would like to know more about the Christian faith, please ask!  
You can also find out more by following the “Our Faith” link on the  
Church of England website: [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org)**

**WEB SITE:**

**[www.windsorchurches.org.uk](http://www.windsorchurches.org.uk)**

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