



Saint Matthew's Church  
Big Lamp ~ Summerhill Street  
Newcastle

**Text of the Mass for Sunday XXV (20<sup>th</sup> September) 2026**

*As the priest enters the church, the following is sung:*

In Christ there is no East or West,  
In Him no South or North,  
But one great fellowship of love  
Throughout the whole wide earth.

Join hands, then, brothers of the Faith,  
Whate'er your race may be;  
Who serves my Father as a son  
Is surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both East and West,  
In Him meet South and north,  
All Christlike souls are one in Him,  
Throughout the whole wide earth.

Words: John Oxenham 1852 - 1941

Music: S Stephen

William Jones 1726 - 1800

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

And with thy spirit.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

We have sinned through our thoughts and through our thoughtlessness:  
Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

We have sinned through our words and through our silence: Christe eleison.

Christe eleison.

We have sinned through our deeds and through our inaction: Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison

Thou shalt purge me, O Lord, with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. *Ps.* Have mercy upon me, O God: after thy great goodness. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son; and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen. Thou shalt purge me, O Lord, with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

I am the Saviour of all people, says the Lord; whatever their troubles, I will answer their cry; and I will always be with the Lord. Attend, My people, to My Law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

I am the Saviour, &c

*During the **Gloria in excelsis**, the Altar, the symbol of God's Presence, may be honoured with incense.*

Glory be to God on high.

And in earth peace, goodwill 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.

Let us pray:

God most high, Your ways are not our ways, for Your kindness is lavished equally upon all. Teach us to welcome Your mercy towards others, even as we hope to receive mercy ourselves; in and through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, Who is alive and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God, throughout all ages world without end.

Amen.

## A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

"Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

I will exalt you, O God my King, ♦ and bless your name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless you ♦ and praise your name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; ♦ his greatness is beyond all searching out.

The Lord is gracious and merciful, ♦ long-suffering and of great goodness.

The Lord is loving to everyone ♦ and his mercy is over all his creatures.

The Lord is righteous in all his ways ♦ and loving in all his works.

The Lord is near to those who call upon him, ♦ to all who call upon him faithfully.

## A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Church in Philippi.

Christ will be honoured in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If it is to be life in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.

*(continued over the page)*

But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you stand firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*The Gospel book is carried to the Lectern:*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Jesus Christ was rich, but became poor for your sake: to make you rich out of His poverty. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Christ's Presence in the words of the Gospel may be honoured with incense.*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Jesus said to His disciples, "For the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place; and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing; and he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, 'Call the labourers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius.

*(continued over the page)*

Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the householder, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you, and go; I choose to give to this last as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' So the last will be first, and the first last."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

*A homily may follow.*

We believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
Maker of Heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds.  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten not made;  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by Whom all things were made;  
Who for us men and for our salvation  
came down from Heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost  
of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

*(continued over the page)*

He suffered and was buried,  
and the third day He rose again  
according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into Heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.  
And He shall come again in glory  
to judge both the quick and the dead;  
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.  
And we believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the Lord, the Giver of life,  
Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,  
Who with the Father and the Son together  
is worshipped and glorified,  
Who spake by the prophets.  
And we believe  
one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church,  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins.  
And we look for the resurrection of the dead,  
+ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

God has called us in Christ and gathered us here today; in response to His call, let us lay before Him the needs of the Church and the world:

While He is near, let us call to God for the Church:

[Petitions]

Lord and Saviour of all, may our footsteps be firm in keeping Your commands that we may avoid anything which would be unworthy of the Gospel: Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

While He is near, let us call to God for the world:

[Petitions]

*(continued over the page)*

Lord and Saviour of all, may the precepts You have laid down pervade our world that we may strengthen the cause of justice and peace: Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

While He is near, let us call to God for the people we meet:

[Petitions]

Lord and Saviour of all, make us slow to anger that all may live with contentment and flourishing: Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

While He is near, let us call to God for those who suffer:

[Petitions]

Lord and Saviour of all, take pity on all who suffer, whatever their troubles, and answer their cry that they may know Your compassion: Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

While He is near, let us call to God for all who have died:

[Petitions]

Lord and Saviour of all, grant that those who have died may be with Christ in glory: Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

While He is near, let us call to God with our private prayers: ... Lord, hear us ... [Lord, graciously hear us.](#)

In union with our Lady, Saint Michael, Saint Matthew, Saint Philip, Saint Augustine and all the saints, we make our prayers not of any merit of our own, but trusting in the love and compassion of Jesus Christ our Lord.

[Amen.](#)

Let the Peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one Body, you are called to peace.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And with thy spirit.

*As the bread and wine are brought to the Altar and prepared for the Mass, the following is sung:*

If I walk in the midst of tribulation You shall preserve my life, O Lord:  
You stretch forth Your hand against the fury of my enemies; Your right hand has delivered me.

Here, while the Cherubim within the veil, adore the blest, life-giving Trinity, we in earth's worship echoing their part, hymn the thrice-holy in their company. So let all earthly cares be laid aside, that we may welcome Him Who draweth nigh, the King of Glory entering His courts, girt by the hidden armies of the sky. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*The preparation of the Altar continues; incense may be used to honour the place where Christ will become present.*

The Church's one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is His new creation  
By water and the Word:  
From Heaven He came and sought her  
To be His holy Bride,  
With His own Blood He bought her,  
And for her life He died.

*(continued over the page)*

Elect from every nation,  
Yet one o'er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation  
One Lord, one Faith, one birth;  
One holy Name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses  
With every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder  
Men see her sore opprest,  
By schisms rent asunder,  
By heresies distrest,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping,  
Their cry does up, 'How long?'  
And soon the night of weeping  
Shall be the morn of song.

'Mid toil and tribulation,  
And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace for evermore;  
Till with the vision glorious  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious  
Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth had union  
With God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we  
Like them, the meek and lowly,  
On high may dwell with Thee.

Words: Samuel Stone 1839 - 100  
Music: Aurelia  
Samuel Sebastian Wesley 1810 - 76

*At the end:*

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty. All that is in Heaven and earth is Thine:

All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own do we give Thee.

God of power, the glory of Your works fills us with wonder and awe. Accept this our offering and help us to live in peace and harmony with all Your creation; in and through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*The priest begins the great prayer of thanksgiving:*

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts;

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,

holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

From sunrise to sunset this day is holy,

for Christ has risen from the tomb  
and scattered the darkness of death  
with light that will not fade.

This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered people,  
unfolds for us your word,

and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread.

And though the night will overtake this day

you summon us to live in endless light,

the never-ceasing Sabbath of the Lord.

And so, with choirs of angels

and with all the heavenly host,

we proclaim your glory

and join their unending song of praise:

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.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his Apostles  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

*The priest holds up the consecrated Host for the people to see.*

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
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.

*The priest holds up the chalice of consecrated wine for the people to see.*

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.  
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

*(continued over the page)*

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.  
Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with [*N and*] all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
By Whom and with Whom and in Whom,  
*Amen,*  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
*Amen,*  
all honour and glory are Yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.  
*Amen.*

Instructed by saving precepts and taught by divine example, we are bold  
to say:  
Our Father,  
*Who art in Heaven,*  
*hallowed by 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.*

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.  
*Though we are many, we are one body,*  
*because we all share in one bread.*

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.

*The priest holds up the consecrated elements and invites people to receive Holy Communion:*

+ Behold the Lamb of God; behold Him, Who takes away the sin of the world; happy are they who are called to His Supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive You; but only say the Word and my soul will be healed.

You have laid down Your precepts to be kept faithfully: may my footsteps be firm in keeping Your commands.

*Holy Communion follows.*

Jesu, the very thought of Thee  
With sweetness fills my breast;  
But sweeter far Thy face to see,  
And in Thy Presence rest.

Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame,  
For can the memory find,  
A sweeter sound than Thy blest Name,  
O Saviour of mankind.

O hope of every contrite heart,  
O joy of all the meek,  
To those who fall, how kind Thou art!  
How good to those who seek!

*(continued over the page)*

But what to those who find? Ah, this  
Nor tongue nor pen can show;  
The love of Jesus, what it is  
None but His loved ones know.

Jesu, our only joy be Thou,  
As Thou our prize wilt be;  
Jesu, be Thou our glory now,  
And through eternity.

Words: C12 Latin  
Tr Edward Caswall 1814 - 78  
Music: S Botolph  
Gordon Slater 1896 - 1979

*After Holy Communion:*

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord; I know My sheep and Mine  
know Me.

Let us pray:

Lord, we pray that Your grace may always precede and follow us, and  
make us continually to be given to all good works; in and through Jesus  
Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

*Notices may follow.*

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.

*Amen.*

The Mass is ended. Go in the Peace of Christ.

*Thanks be to God.*

The Angel of Lord brought the tidings to Mary;  
and she conceived by the Holy Ghost.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee:

Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,  
Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of  
our death. Amen.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord;

be it unto my according to Thy Word.

Hail Mary &c

The Word was made flesh;

and dwelt among us.

Hail Mary &c

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God;

that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.

Pour forth Your Grace into our hearts, we beseech You O Lord, that  
as we have known the Incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, by the  
message of an angel, so by His + Cross and Passion, we may be  
brought to the glory of His Resurrection; in and through the same  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

O praise ye the Lord!

Praise Him in the height;

Rejoice in His Word,

Ye angels of light;

Ye heavens adore Him

By Whom ye were made,

And worship before Him,

In brightness arrayed.

*(continued over the page)*

O praise ye the Lord!  
Praise Him upon earth,  
In tuneful accord,  
Ye sons of new birth;  
Praise Him Who has brought you  
His Grace from above,  
Praise Him Who has taught you  
To sing of His love.

O praise ye the Lord!  
All things that give sound;  
Each jubilant chord,  
Re-echo around;  
Loud organs, His glory  
Forth tell in deep tone,  
And sweet harp, the story  
Of what He has done.

O praise ye the Lord!  
Thanksgiving and song  
To Him be outpoured  
All ages along:  
For love in creation,  
For Heaven restored,  
For grace of salvation,  
O praise ye the Lord!

Words: HW Baker  
Music: Laudate Dominum  
C Hubert H Parry 1848 - 1918

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