

CHARLTON

ST LUKE AND ST THOMAS

Eucharist in Lent



WELCOME

Everyone is welcome at St Luke's and St Thomas's for the celebration of our Parish Eucharist. Here we

- gather and prepare to worship God
- confess the ways in which we have let God down
- receive God's forgiveness
- listen to Scripture and to God's word being broken open for us
- affirm what we believe
- pray for the church, the world, our community, those in need and the departed
- share Christ's peace and make our offerings
- celebrate Holy Communion
- receive the bread and wine
- lift our voices to offer praise and thanksgiving
- pause in silence and stillness, where God's presence is often felt most powerfully
- receive the blessing and are sent out to love and serve God

We hope that everyone who comes will encounter God here and leave with a desire to walk faithfully with Jesus, guided by the Spirit.

Children and young people are very precious to God and we are striving to reflect that truth in our church communities. In both our churches there are special arrangements for children. Please ask if you want to know more.

We want those taking part in our service to reflect our church communities. If you would like to read, sing, intercede, be a welcomer or serve at the altar, then please make that known to one of the clergy.

Jesus's love knows no bounds, and he has asked us to share the Good News outside our church circles. We want to grow our congregations; that means all of us having a 'culture of invitation' – being prepared to speak well of our church family and invite others to 'come and see'. St Luke's and St Thomas's are committed to all those who don't know God's great love for them – this is why we have a Mission Action Plan. More details about our vision, our mission, our values and priorities can be found in church.

We are in Lent, where the themes are self-examination, penitence, self-denial, study, almsgiving and preparation for Easter. This period of forty days reminds us of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness being tested by Satan. As Holy Week approaches, the atmosphere of the season darkens and the readings begin to anticipate the story of Christ's suffering and death. The liturgical colour is purple.

THE GATHERING

Please stand.

Introit Hymn

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

The Greeting

The president greets the people.

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Words of welcome are said and the theme introduced.

Prayer of Preparation

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

Minister of the Word The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart
God will not despise.
Let us come to the Lord,
who is full of compassion,
and acknowledge our transgressions
in penitence and faith.

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

All **Lord, have mercy.**

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

All **Christ, have mercy.**

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

All **Lord, have mercy.**

We sing

Kyrie kyrie, kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison, Christe eleison.
Kyrie kyrie, kyrie eleison.

We keep a period of silence.

President 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.**

There is no Gloria in Lent.

The Collect

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding. The Collect is said, and all respond

Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit.

Old Testament Reading

at the end of the reading ...

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading

at the end of the reading ...

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gradual Hymn

Gospel Reading

*Gospel
reader* Praise to you, O Christ,
King of eternal glory.
The Lord is a great God:
O that today you would listen to his voice.
Harden not your hearts.

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

at the end of the reading ...

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

Sermon

After the sermon, there is a period of silence.

Affirmation of Faith

Please stand.

President Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

President Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

President Do you believe and trust in God
the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

President This is the faith of the Church.

All **This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Intercessions

President Let us pray for the church and for the world
and let us be thankful for God's goodness

*Please sit. Prayers are offered for the Church of Christ,
Creation, human society, the Sovereign and those in authority,
the local community, those who suffer, and and the
communion of saints.*

After each prayer ...

Intercessor Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

(or) Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

After the final prayer ...

Intercessor God of mercy,
hear our prayer.
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy forever.
Amen.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

Please stand.

President Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

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

President Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn

During this hymn, a collection is taken for the life and mission of the Church, and the gifts of the people are brought to the altar.

Preparation of the Table

President God of our journey, as we walk with you
on your path of obedience, sustain us
on our way and lead us to your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

President The Lord is here.
All **His Spirit is with us.**
President Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**
President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

President Almighty God, good Father to us all,
your face is turned towards your world.
In love you gave us Jesus your Son
to rescue us from sin and death.
Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.
We join with them in heaven's song:
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.**

President Father of all, we give you thanks
for every gift that comes from heaven.
To the darkness Jesus came as your light.
With signs of faith and words of hope
he touched untouchables with love and
washed the guilty clean.
This is his story.
All **This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

President The crowds came out to see your Son,
yet at the end they turned on him.
On the night he was betrayed
he came to table with his friends
to celebrate the freedom of your people.
This is his story.

All **This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

President Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks,
broke it and said:

This is my body, given for you all.

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
he took the cup, gave it and said:

This is my blood, shed for you all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.

All This is our story.
**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore, Father, with this bread
and this cup we celebrate the cross
on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again, and is alive
with you to plead for us and all the world.
This is our story.

**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

President Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.
May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All **Blessing and honour
and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Please sit or kneel.

President As our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

All **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.
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 president breaks the consecrated bread.

President 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.**

(or)

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion

President Jesus is 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.**

(or)

President God's holy gifts for God's holy people.
All **Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Prayer before Distribution

All **Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit even to eat the crumbs
from under your table.
But you, Lord,
are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us with the
precious body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of
Christ, may sit and eat in your kingdom.
Amen.**

*All who usually receive Holy Communion, in this church or another, are welcome to come to the altar now. If you wish to receive a blessing, please keep your head bowed and do not hold out your hands. Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies **Amen.***

Communion Hymn

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept. The Post Communion or other suitable prayer is said.

Notices

Final Prayer

*Minister of
the Word*

**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.**

THE BLESSING AND SENDING OUT

Please stand.

President The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross,
and follow him;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
come down upon you
and remain with you always.
Amen.

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

Recessional Hymn

Our worship is over: our service begins.

*You are very welcome to stay for refreshments
after the service. If you would like to introduce yourself
or find out more about this church and its mission,
please speak to one of the clergy or welcomers.*

*Please leave this booklet behind,
but take the weekly bulletin with you.*

ST THOMAS

Thomas, also called 'Didymus', which means 'the twin', was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus according to all four gospels, but it is in John that his significance is revealed. Thomas is heard encouraging the other disciples to go to Judaea with Jesus, and he asks the question that led Jesus to describe himself as the Way, the Truth and the Life. Probably most famously however, Thomas was the apostle who doubted reports of the resurrection of Jesus, causing Christ to show him the marks in his hands, feet and side. Thomas then proclaims the words that have been described as the great climax to John's gospel by saying to Jesus: 'My Lord and my God!' Traditionally, Thomas is believed to have travelled widely to preach the Gospel, reaching as far as present-day southern India; indeed, he is often regarded as the patron saint of India. Tradition has it that he was martyred there.

There has been Christian worship at St Thomas's, Old Charlton, since 1850.

ST LUKE

Luke was a dear friend of St Paul, and is mentioned by him three times in his Letters. Paul describes him as 'the beloved physician' and as his only companion in prison. Luke is believed to be the author of two books of the New Testament: the gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. Luke's narrative of the life of Christ starts with the Nativity and goes through to his Death and Resurrection. Luke is commonly thought to have been a Gentile. He certainly makes clear that the good news of salvation is for all, regardless of sex, social position or nationality.

Without Luke we would not have the parables of the Good Samaritan, the Rich Farmer, the Prodigal Son, or the Rich Man and Lazarus. Traditionally, Luke wrote his gospel in Greece and died at the age of 84.

There has been Christian worship on the site of St Luke with Holy Trinity, Charlton, since the early twelfth century.

ST RICHARD

Richard de Wych was born in 1197 and worked hard on his father's estate before going on to study at Oxford, Paris and Italy as a church lawyer. When he returned to England, he eventually became Bishop of Chichester. Richard was seen as a model diocesan bishop, moving round his diocese on foot, visiting and caring for his clergy and people, and being available to all who needed his ministry. He insisted that the sacraments be administered without payment and with a proper dignity. On a recruitment campaign for the Crusades, he fell ill at Dover and died there on 3 April 1253. His mortal remains were moved to Chichester. This famous prayer is attributed to him:

Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ for all the benefits thou hast given me, for all the pains and insults thou hast borne for me. O most merciful Redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly. Amen.

There has been Christian worship on the site of St Richard's Church Centre since the late nineteenth century. St Luke's PCC is currently exploring possibilities for developing mission and a new Christian congregation there.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND