

ALL AGE EUCHARIST 17 AUGUST 2025

Today our theme is:

CHOOSING SIDES

CEALIA WELCOMES US TO ALL AGE WORSHIP

Good morning,

My name is CEALIA

This Sunday is all age worship.

Whether you're young, old, or in the middle, you're welcome

Whether you're fast, slow or average, you're welcome

Whatever the colour of your skin

Whoever you love

Whatever your story

Wherever you've come from

And wherever you're going to

You're welcome

VINNIE – Welcomes us to St Luke's

HYMN 450 – MORNING HAS BROKEN

Liz - In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit **Amen**

WE ARE WELCOMED BY THE PRESIDENT

The Lord be with you

And also with you

WE CONFESS OUR SINS – MARY and CHRISTY LEAD THE CONFESSION

MARY

We all received a stone when we arrived this morning

Take your stone, and hold it up (*demonstrate*)

pause

Feel its weight

pause

When we do things that make God or other people sad it can make us feel heavy and weighed down inside, like this stone weighs our hand down.....

When we're feeling sad and heavy because we've don't things we shouldn't, we need to say sorry.
We need to say sorry to God.

pause

Around the church there are 4 glass bowls containing water

The Bible says,
God will sink all our wrong things to the bottom of the sea.

Pause

So let's go to the closest or least busy bowl.
There we'll put our stones in gently and watch them sink to the bottom

pause

Let's imagine God sinking the wrong things we've done to the bottom of the sea.

Everyone goes to drop their stone into the bowls of water and says sorry to God in their heart.

We return to our places and are quiet and still for a moment

CHRISTY

I wonder if there's anything we've thought this week that we wish we hadn't thought?

pause

We remember the things we've thought this week
We remember the things we wish we'd thought a different way

We're sorry

We're sorry

We wish we could start again

I wonder if there's anything we've said this week that we wish we hadn't said?

pause

We remember the things we've said this week

We remember the things we wish we'd said a different way

We're sorry

We're sorry

We wish we could start again

I wonder if there's anything we've done this week that we wish we hadn't done?

pause

We remember the things we've done this week

We remember the things we wish we'd done a different way

We're sorry

We're sorry

We wish we could start again

WE RECEIVE GOD'S FORGIVENESS

REVD LIZ -

The good news is God sees our sins, but always wants to give us a new start. God calls us beloved, tells us we're delightful and promises we belong.

May the God of love bring us back to himself,
forgive us our sins, and keep telling us about his eternal love
Amen.

WE SING THE PERUVIAN GLORIA – Call and response led by MICHAEL

Glory to God, glory to God,

Glory to the Father

Glory to God, glory to God,

Glory to the Father

To God be glory forever!

To God be glory forever!

Alleluia! Amen! **Alleluia! Amen!**

Alleluia! Amen! **Alleluia! Amen!**

Glory to God, glory to God,

glory be to Jesus

Glory to God, glory to God,

glory be to Jesus

To God be glory forever!

To God be glory forever!

Alleluia! Amen! **Alleluia! Amen!**

Alleluia! Amen! **Alleluia! Amen!**

Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to the Spirit

**Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to the Spirit**

To God be glory forever!

To God be glory forever!

Alleluia! Amen! **Alleluia! Amen!**

Alleluia! Amen! **Alleluia! Amen!**

WE PRAY THE SPECIAL PRAYER FOR TODAY

Gracious Father, revive your Church
Make her holy, strong and faithful,
To bring glory to your name
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

BRADLEY AND SHIRLEY INTRODUCE US TO TODAY'S THEME

BRADLEY The theme of our service is choosing sides and we're going to start thinking about this by playing a game

SHIRLEY we're going to give some choices. If you choose the first one you need to stand by the pulpit.

If you choose the second one you need to stand by the eagle.

BRADLEY Holiday at the seaside or holiday in the mountains?

Wait for volunteers to choose side

SHIRLEY Chilli sauce or tomato ketchup?

Wait for volunteers to choose side

BRADLEY Crocs or sandals?

Wait for volunteers to choose side

SHIRLEY Taylor Swift or Beethoven?

Wait for volunteers to choose side

BRADLEY Tennis or basketball?

Wait for volunteers to choose side

SHIRLEY More money or more time?

Wait for volunteers to choose side

BRADLEY Sweet or savoury?

Wait for volunteers to choose side

SHIRLEY Bath or shower?

Wait for volunteers to choose side

BRADLEY Travel back in time or forward to the future?

Wait for volunteers to choose side

SHIRLEY Thank you for taking part – let's give our volunteers a round of applause

BRADLEY We might think that our days are a bit similar to each other. But every day we make lots and lots of decisions. Many of them are small and not that important.

SHIRLEY But some decisions are big. Some decisions are important. They affect how we live

BRADLEY They change the way we think

SHIRLEY They change what other people think of us

BRADLEY In life sometimes we're faced with choosing sides, and we're going to hear more about that soon

SHIRLEY Thanks for listening

VINNIE introduces the song to greet the gospel

WE SING THE HYMN TO GREET THE GOSPEL

Listen now for the gospel. Alleluia!

It is God's word that changes us. Alleluia!

Listen now for the gospel. Alleluia!

It is God's word that changes us. Alleluia!

Come Holy Spirit, melt and break our hearts of stone

Until we live our lives for God and God alone.

Come Holy Spirit, melt and break our hearts of stone

Until we give our lives for God and God alone.

WE READ THE GOSPEL TOGETHER ALTERNATING BETWEEN SIDES OF THE CHURCH

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

Glory to you, O Lord

I Came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!

I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed!

Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth?

No, I tell you, but rather division!

From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three;

they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

He also said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, "It is going to rain"; and so it happens.

And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, "There will be scorching heat"; and it happens.

You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD – REVD LIZ SHARES SOME THOUGHTS

WE SAY TOGETHER WHAT WE BELIEVE – William LEADS THE CONGREGATION IN THE CREED

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

We believe and trust in him.

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

We believe and trust in him.

William - 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?

We believe and trust in him.

William - This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

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

WE PRAY FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD - PRAYERS led by MAIKER and ELIANA with JAYNE lighting candles

MAIKER

We pray for everyone who hasn't heard yet that God loves them and has a place for them in his heart. Give us courage, God, to share the good news with them.

Silence

JAYNE lights a candle to symbolise our prayers for people who don't know God loves them

ELIANA

We pray for all those who have come to faith recently, and for our young ones. Give us love to encourage them and walk with them, following Jesus together.

Silence

JAYNE lights a candle to symbolise our prayers for young Christians

MAIKER

We pray for those who are hungry today and those who have no water. Give us passion, God, to work for peace and justice in our world.

Silence

JAYNE lights a candle to symbolise our prayers for people in need

ELIANA

We pray for our community. Thank you for all that is good in Charlton. Give us eyes to notice the sad, the sick and the lonely, and to touch them with your love.

Silence

JAYNE lights a candle to symbolise our prayers for this community

MAIKER

We pray for your church. As we gather together, read your word, listen to your voice and are fed by your body, give us grace to choose your side and to stand for what it right.

Silence

JAYNE lights a candle to symbolise our prayers for our church

ELIANA

Take our prayers Lord Jesus

Make them holy

Make them beautiful.

Amen

WE SHARE THE PEACE

God makes peace within us, let's claim it.

God makes peace between us, let's share it.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you

Let's offer one another a sign of peace.

JULIANA introduces the next hymn number 305 - Lord of the Dance.

WE PREPARE THE TABLE

SEAN LEADS AN OFFERTORY PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you have given us riches beyond measure.

We can only return a little bit of what we owe you;

but we ask you, Jesus, to bless our offerings and use them for your glory.

Amen.

WE PRAY THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER WITH QUESTIONS FROM ELIZABETH

The Lord is here **His Spirit is with us.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

ELIZABETH - Why is it right to give thanks and praise?
Answer Listen, and we will hear.

Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish.

**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**

We thank you, loving Father, because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live. Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

ELIZABETH - Why do we share this bread and wine?
Answer Listen, and we will hear.

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life. As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit, and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour.

ELIZABETH - How do we follow Jesus Christ?
Answer Listen, and we will hear.

Help us, Father, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms. And now with Mary Magdalene, Thomas, Luke, Richard and all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever. **Amen.**

WE PRAY THE PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT US

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us this day 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 forever Amen.

WE BREAK THE BREAD

Jesus says, I am the bread of life, whoever eats of this bread will live forever.

Lord, our hearts hunger for you; give us this bread always

WE'RE INVITED TO RECEIVE COMMUNION

God's holy gifts for God's holy people

Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father

JULIANA introduces our communion hymn, number 202 – Give Thanks

COMMUNION HYMN - 202 Give Thanks

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy Father,
who gathered us here around the table of your Son
to share this meal with the whole household of God:
in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace,
gather people of every race and language
to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

NOTICES INCLUDING BIRTHDAYS

THE SENDING OUT

FINAL WORDS – from WESLEY, FREDA and NGADHO

WESLEY

Lord Jesus, there are lots of voices that tempt us
Help us listen to your voice

When we want an easy life
Tell us there are sometimes battles to fight

FREDA
When we face testing times
inspire us with your example

When we're about to do the wrong thing
Show us your way

NGADHO
When we notice friends walking paths that lead away from you
Help us to help them

Remind us that the choices we make matter
Because you've called us to be on your side. Amen

WE RECEIVE GOD'S BLESSING –

May God, who.....

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

JULIANA introduces our final hymn, number 525 One More Step