

**St
Martin
in
the
Fields**

Chinese
Congregation

聖馬田
中文堂

Sunday 10 March 2024, 1.30pm
Mothering Sunday, The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Evening Prayer

(Cantonese)

Preacher
Ruly Tsang

Organist
Jeremy Ng

Assistant
Anne Chow

⊕ Common Worship

Please stand.

Processional Hymn God of Eve and God of Mary

- 1 **God of Eve and God of Mary,
God of love and mother-earth,
thank you for the ones who with us
shared their life and gave us birth.**
- 2 **As you came to earth in Jesus,
so you come to us today;
you are present in the caring
that prepares us for life's way.**
- 3 **Thank you that the Church, our Mother,
gives us bread and fills our cup,
and the comfort of the Spirit
warms our hearts and lifts us up.**
- 4 **Thank you for belonging, shelter,
bonds of friendship, ties of blood,
and for those who have no children,
yet are parents under God.**
- 5 **God of Eve and God of Mary,
Christ our brother, human Son,
Spirit, caring like a Mother,
take our love and make us one!**

*Hymns of Universal Praise (New Revised Edition) 744
Fred Kaan (1929–2009)*

Preparation

All The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

All The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.
Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.

We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

Please sit or kneel.

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.

All **Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Your love gives us life from the moment of conception. We fail to live as your children.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

You call us to do good. We seek our own good.

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

You hear us when we cry for help. We ignore the cries of others.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Blessed are you, sovereign God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever. You led your people to freedom by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. May we who walk in the light of your presence acclaim your Christ, rising victorious, as he banishes all darkness from our hearts and minds. Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The day is almost over, and the evening has come; let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God, so may your Spirit come down upon us to set us free to sing your praise for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Word of God

Psalm

Psalm 127.1–4

- 1 Unless the Lord builds the house,
those who build it labour in vain.
- 2 Unless the Lord keeps the city,
the guard keeps watch in vain.
- 3 **It is in vain that you hasten to rise up early
and go so late to rest, eating the bread of toil,
for he gives his beloved sleep.**
- 4 Children are a heritage from the Lord
and the fruit of the womb is his gift.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

All **As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.**

In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, ‘I have asked him of the Lord.’ The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, ‘As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.’ Her husband Elkanah said to her, ‘Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the Lord establish his word.’ So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, ‘Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord.’ She left him there for the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel Cantic

Magnificat

Luke 1.45–55

- 1 **My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.**
- 2 **From this day all generations will call me blessed;
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.**
- 3 **He has mercy on those who fear him,
from generation to generation.**
- 4 **He has shown strength with his arm
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,**
- 5 **Casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.**

- 6 **He has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.**
- 7 **He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,
to remember his promise of mercy,**
- 8 **The promise made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and his children for ever.**
- Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.**

Please sit.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 1.3–7

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

John 19.25b–27

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Hymn

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

- 1 **Jesus, keep me near the cross,
there's a precious fountain;
free to all, a healing stream
flows from Calvary's mountain.
*In the cross, in the cross
be my glory ever;
till my raptured soul shall find
rest beyond the river.***
- 2 **Near the cross, a trembling soul,
love and mercy found me;
there the bright and Morning Star
sheds its beams around me.
*Refrain***
- 3 **Near the cross! O Lamb of God,
bring its scenes before me;
help me walk from day to day
with its shadows o'er me.
*Refrain***
- 4 **Near the cross, I'll watch and wait,
hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand
just beyond the river.
*Refrain***

Hymns of Universal Praise 588

Fanny Crosby, (Frances Jane van Alstyne) (1820–1915)

Please sit.

Sermon

Please stand.

Apostles' Creed

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.

Prayers

The Prayers of Intercession

The response to the prayers is:

Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

And, at the end:

Merciful Father,

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

The Collect

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, as our Saviour has 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.**

Please stand.

A collection will be taken for the work of this church during the following hymn. You are welcome to donate in the offering bags, using the card machines or by bank transfer. Details are listed on the last page of this booklet.

Offertory Hymn

May the Mind of Christ My Saviour

- 1 **May the mind of Christ my Saviour
live in me from day to day,
by his love and power controlling
all I do or say.**
- 2 **May the word of God dwell richly
in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph
only through his power.**
- 3 **May the peace of God my Father
rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort
sick and sorrowing.**
- 4 **May the love of Jesus fill me,
as the waters fill the sea;
him exalting, self abasing —
this is victory.**
- 5 **May I run the race before me,
strong and brave to face the foe,
looking only unto Jesus
as I onward go.**

Sounds of Grace 383

Katie Barclay Wilkinson (1859–1928)

Offertory Prayer

All **All things come from you, and of your own do we give you. Amen.**

The Conclusion

Blessing

Christ give us grace to grow in holiness, to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always.

All **Amen.**

Welcome and Notices

The Peace

Through the prophet Isaiah, God says, 'As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you.'

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Recessional Hymn

Now Thank We All Our God

1 **Now thank we all our God
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.**

continued...

2 **O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.**

3 **All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.**

Hymns of Universal Praise 349

Nun danket alle Gott, Martin Rinkart (1586–1649), translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827–1878)

Organ Voluntary

Notices

Sunday 17 March 1.30pm	The Fifth Sunday of Lent Eucharist with Confirmation: Joint service of the English- and Cantonese-speaking congregations
Sunday 24 March 10am 1.30pm	Palm Sunday Eucharist with procession and dramatised Passion Service with the liturgy of Palm Sunday and procession
Thursday 28 March 6.30pm 7pm	Maundy Thursday Passover dinner: at Bishop Ho Ming Wah Community Centre (fees to be announced) The Eucharist of the Last Supper with Foot Washing
Friday 29 March 10am 12–3pm	Good Friday All Age Service The Three Hours
Sunday 31 March 5.30am 1.30pm 3pm	Easter Day Easter Vigil Eucharist March Birthday Party: celebrations at Bishop Ho Ming Wah Community Centre after the service
Sunday 19 May 10am	Pentecost Joint service of the English- and Cantonese-speaking congregations
Sunday 28 July Sunday 15 September	Visit from the Choir of St John's Cathedral, Hong Kong 60th Anniversary of the Chinese Congregation

Welcome! If it's your first time at St Martin's or you have recently joined us, please scan the QR code and leave your contact information, so that we can keep in touch with you.



We Connect

Obituary

Grace Cheung, daughter of Mrs Cheung, has passed away in February. Her family expressed their wish to bid her farewell in a private funeral and thanked the Chinese-speaking Congregation for their love and care. Our congregation has also sent floral arrangements as a gesture of condolences. Let us continue to pray for the Cheung family, may they find comfort in the arms of the Lord.

Visit from the Choir of St John's Cathedral, Hong Kong

The choir of St John's Cathedral, Hong Kong has arranged a trip to the UK this summer. They will attend our Cantonese service on 28 July and sing a mass. You are welcome to bring your family and friends.

Urgent Recruitment of Volunteers for Children and Youth Ministry

Children's Church and youth ministry are in urgent need of recruiting more volunteers to help nurture children and youth to grow in their faith. Once a month, activities include crafts and guiding children to listen to stories. Children's Church, which runs during the Sunday service, currently needs one more volunteer. The Youth Group, which runs at 3.30pm on the first and third Sundays of each month, also hopes to recruit one more volunteer.

Interested parties please provide the information of two references (names and emails) and fill in the DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) form. For further details, please contact Children and Youth Minister Joy Faulkner-Mpeho (joy.faulkner-mpeho@smif.org) or Yen Leung.

Preaching in Sunday Services

Revd Dr Sam Wells suggests that, in order to encourage lay participation in different ministries, particularly in preaching, starting from February, several lay members of the congregation will preach under his guidance. We hope everyone will offer their support and offer your prayers for these brothers and sisters who are willing to serve.

Online Sharing and Prayer Group

Thursday evenings, 8.00pm–9.15pm. Let us support each other through sharing and prayers.

Each session includes:

- Sharing of thanksgiving and prayer requests
- Sharing and response on faith/spiritual growth
- Compline as conclusion

New Zoom meeting ID

Meeting ID: 845 1946 7883

Password: 866748

Gift Aid Declaration Form

We invite UK taxpayers to complete the Gift Aid declaration form, which boosts the value of your donation by 25% (for instance, if the donation amount is £10, the charity receives £12.5). Forms are available from Anne Chow.

Safety of Personal Belongings

Due to the constant flow of people coming in and out of the church, please take extra care of your personal belongings and take them with you at all times.

Date	10 March	17 March
Preacher	Ruly Tsang	Eucharist with Confirmation Joint service of the English- and Cantonese-speaking congregations
Readers	Husan Cheung, 巫綺華, Anne Chow	
Presider	N/A	
Assistant	Anne Chow	
Chalice Assistant	N/A	
Intercessor	Vicky Wong	
Ushers	Rebecca Yu, Husan Cheung	
Offertory	Sarah Luk, Yen Leung	
Refreshments	Lily Ho, Ringo Ho	

Contact Us

Vicar: Revd Dr Sam Wells

Tel: 020 7766 1100

Email: clergy@smitf.org, ccsmitf@gmail.com

Website: www.smitfcc.org.uk

Licensed lay ministers: Eugene Ling, Ruly Tsang

You are welcome to join our WhatsApp and/or Facebook groups to keep in touch with us.

Please contact Wilson Yu or Joseph Lam for further details.



St Martin's Chinese Services, Fellowships & Gatherings

Cantonese Service	Sundays 1.30pm
Cantonese Choir Practice	Sundays 12.00pm
Children's Church	First and third Sundays of the month during the service
Cantonese Family Fellowship	First and third Sundays of the month 3.00pm
Cantonese Andrew Fellowship	Sundays 3.00pm
Cantonese Paul Fellowship	Sundays 3.00pm
Cantonese Timothy Fellowship	Saturday or Sunday afternoons
Cantonese Online Sharing & Prayer Group	Thursdays 8.00pm on Zoom Meeting ID: 845 1946 7883 Password: 866748

Supporting St Martin's

Account Name: St Martin-in-the-Fields PCC

Sort code: 604005

Account number: 31120504

Reference: Please put 'CSC' followed by your name (e.g. CSC Mary Chan)

Last Sunday's Attendance:	66
Offerings:	Cash £134.06
	Contactless £75
	Thanksgiving £160 for fellowship gathering

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St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 4JJ 020 7766 1100 www.smitfcc.org.uk March 2024