



*[Please stand, if you are able]*

### **Welcome and Greeting**

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

God, we wonder what the comings and goings and happenings of this day will be.

Today, we will see and hear holiness in ordinary places  
where people in all their depth and mystery,  
work and play, laugh and cry;  
where life is cherished, sustained and handed on.

But today, too, we will see and hear all that denies life  
in its fullness and variety,  
in our lives, our communities, our world.

***Today, we will weep over injustice, intolerance and hatred.***

***We will rejoice in goodness,***

***kindness and generosity.***

***We will love outrageously,***

***hope enthusiastically,***

***believe in the indefinable,***

***and look to you, God, for inspiration and guidance,  
and to Jesus Christ whose life, words and actions show us the how and the way to go.***

### **Hymn No. 37 (St. George's, Windsor)**

Come, ye thankful people, come,  
raise the song of harvest-home;  
all is safely gathered in  
ere the winter storms begin;  
God our Maker doth provide  
for our wants to be supplied;  
come to God's own temple, come,  
raise the song of harvest-home.

All the world is God's own field,  
fruit unto his praise to yield;  
wheat and tares together sown,  
unto joy or sorrow grown;  
first the blade, and then the ear,  
then the full corn shall appear;  
Lord of harvest, grant that we  
wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come,  
and shall take his harvest home;  
from his field shall in that day  
all offences purge away;  
give his angels charge at last  
in the fire the tares to cast;  
but the fruitful ears to store  
in his garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come,  
to thy final harvest-home;  
gather thou thy people in,

free from sorrow, free from sin;  
 there for ever purified  
 in thy presence to abide:  
 come, with all thine angels, come,  
 raise the glorious harvest-home.

*[Please kneel or sit]*

### **Prayer of Penitence**

Glorious God,  
 your thoughts are not our thoughts,  
 nor are your ways our ways.  
 We get things upside down,  
 backwards, and often, just completely  
 wrong.  
 So, in silence, let us remember our  
 own faults and failings.

*[Silence]*

***In the company of Christ's Church  
 and in the presence of God's people,  
 we confess to God that we have  
 sinned in thought, word and deed.  
 We have not loved God,  
 or cared for God's world,  
 or respected God's people as we  
 should.  
 We take responsibility for ourselves  
 and ask for God's forgiveness.***

### **The Absolution**

May God forgive you,  
 Christ befriend you,  
 And the Spirit renew you and change  
 your life. **Amen.**

### **The Acclamation**

Creator God,  
 we praise you for the joys of summer,  
 warmth and light,  
 brightness and colour,  
 travel and exploration,  
 adventuring to new places,  
 discovering beauty and strangeness,  
 exploring new food and ways of life  
***We rejoice in your rainbow world.***

Redeeming Son,  
 we thank you for sunshine and  
 showers,  
 rest and relaxation,  
 recreation and holidays,  
 switching off phones and email,  
 abandoning diaries and calendars  
***May we be refreshed with energy  
 and hope.***

Guiding Spirit,  
 we bless you for family and friends,  
 fellowship and company,  
 play and leisure,  
 fun and laughter,  
 freedom to worship and to pray.  
***May we be renewed with your love  
 and your grace.***

### **The Collect of the Seventh Sunday after Trinity**

Lord of all power and might,  
 the author and giver of all good  
 things:  
 graft in our hearts the love of your  
 name,

increase in us true religion,  
nourish us with all goodness,  
and of your great mercy keep us in  
the same;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Psalm 139 - Hymn No. 110 Thanks  
and Praise**

O God, you search me and you know  
me:  
all my thoughts lie open to your gaze.  
When I walk or lie down you are  
before me:  
ever the maker and keeper of my  
days.

You know my resting and my rising,  
you discern my purpose from afar,  
and with love everlasting you besiege  
me:  
in every moment of life and death, you  
are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,  
you have known its meaning through  
and through.  
You are with me beyond my  
understanding:  
God of my present, my past and  
future, too.

Although your Spirit is upon me,  
still I search for shelter from your  
light;  
there is nowhere on earth I can  
escape you:

even the darkness is radiant in your  
sight.

For you created me and shaped me,  
gave me life within my mother's womb;  
for the wonder of who I am, I praise  
you:  
safe in your hands, all creation is  
made new.



*[Please sit]*

**The Word of God - Matthew 13:  
24-30, 36-43**

*The reading is from the Gospel according to  
Matthew, chapter 13, beginning at verse 24.*

24 He put before them another  
parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may  
be compared to someone who sowed  
good seed in his field; <sup>25</sup>but while  
everybody was asleep, an enemy came  
and sowed weeds among the wheat,  
and then went away. <sup>26</sup>So when the  
plants came up and bore grain, then  
the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup>And the  
slaves of the householder came and  
said to him, "Master, did you not sow  
good seed in your field? Where, then,  
did these weeds come from?" <sup>28</sup>He

answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" <sup>29</sup>But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." ' "

<sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' <sup>37</sup>He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; <sup>38</sup>the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup>and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup>Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup>and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup>Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Hymn - Father God, I wonder

Father God, I wonder how I managed  
to exist  
without the knowledge of your  
parenthood  
and your loving care.  
But now I am your child  
I am adopted in your family  
and I can never be alone,  
'cause Father God you're there beside  
me.

I will sing your praises,  
I will sing your praises,  
I will sing your praises for evermore.  
I will sing your praises,  
I will sing your praises,  
I will sing your praises for evermore.

### **The Sermon**

*[Please stand, if you are able]*

### The Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in God  
who is older than eternity,  
and younger than our next breath;  
who is beyond describing,  
yet knows us all by name;  
who inspires faith,  
yet cannot be contained by religion.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ  
flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone;  
he came in body  
to give worth to every human life.  
He touched the untouchable,**

*loved the unlovable  
and endured slander, persecution  
and death.*

*We believe that God's Kingdom  
comes on earth through Christ's  
unconditional love.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
who leads us into truth and  
freedom,  
who gifts skills and talents to all  
God's children,  
who works through prayer and  
politics, through justice and  
integrity,  
through care of creation and the  
healing of the nations.*

**Hymn - The Alpha and The Omega**  
**(Tune: Woodlands No. 712)**

*by Tom Gordon*

*[Verses 1-3]*

You are the start of time; you are the  
end.

And so, in faith, we seek to  
comprehend  
how you might dwell with us, eternally;  
how broad, how deep, how sure your  
love can be.

You are the Alpha: from the first of  
days,  
you offered Light to lead us in your  
ways;  
you caused the sun to set, the dawn to  
break;  
you willed the seas to shift, the hills  
to shake.

You are the Omega; your love will last,  
when even time itself, and life, are  
past.

You set the stars for night, the moon  
to trace  
a pathway through the vastness of  
your space.

*[Revelation 22:13, Psalm 46: 1-3]*



*[Please kneel or sit]*

**The Prayers**

Let us prepare ourselves for the day  
and the week before us. Let us bring  
to God those people or situations that  
are on our hearts and minds.

Let us pray.

In all things, Father,  
**may your will be done.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

*We have resumed taking up collections. But  
we do recognise that many people give*

*online and via Standing Order, so please feel free and comfortable not to put any collection in the basket. If you wish to donate to the church online or electronically, the treasurers would be happy to give you the required details.*

**Hymn - The Alpha and The Omega**  
**(Tune - Woodlands, No. 712)**

*by Tom Gordon*

*[Verses 4-6]*

You make the seasons change, you  
feed the land;

you give your Word, so we might  
understand.

Your faithful hand is found in  
everything,  
in life, in death, in all creation brings.

You are the summer flowers, the  
seeds that grow;  
you are the rain that falls, the winds  
that blow;  
you are the glassy sea, the storms  
that rage;  
you are our constancy for every age.

You were the start and you will be the  
end,  
and so, our thanks from earth to  
heaven ascent.

With hearts and minds and voices we  
proclaim,  
in summer days, the glory of your  
name.

*[Revelation 22:13, Psalm 46: 1-3]*

**The Blessing**

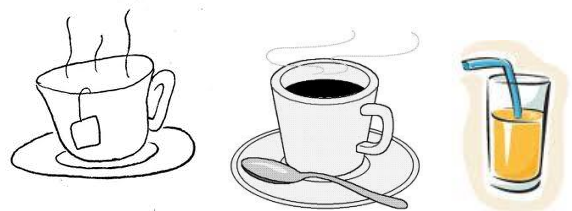
May birds fill the dawn of your day  
with song,

may the midday sun caress your  
face with warmth,  
may honeysuckle scent the evening  
breeze around you and may the  
summer stars shine bright above you.  
And may, God,  
the giver of summer song and scent,  
the creator of the sun and stars,  
touch your life with beauty and fill  
your heart with joy,  
and bless you, this day and for  
evermore. **Amen.**

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*In the interests of trying to keep all who  
come to our churches safe, please take  
away this service sheet and any other items  
that you may have brought with you or used  
in church this morning. Thank you.*

*Stay well and stay safe.*



## Tea/Coffee/Juice

*You are warmly invited to  
tea/coffee/juice in the parish hall  
after this Service.*

*The parish hall is at the east end of  
the church, go through the double  
yellow doors, and follow the noise!*

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# FORTHCOMING SERVICES

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2023** (Fifth Sunday of the month)

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church  
**10.30 NB Time** Service of Wholeness and Healing in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed).

## **Services in August 2023**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church  
**10.30 NB Time** Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed).

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church  
**10.30 NB Time** Morning Prayer in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed).

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church  
**10.30 NB Time** Holy Communion in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed).

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

8.30 Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church  
**10.30 NB Time** Service of the Word in St Philip and St James' Church (live-streamed).

**Wednesdays in July and August 2023**

*As announced*

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023.**

*10.30 Midweek Holy Communion in St Thomas' Church*

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## CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

There will be no Christian Meditation in July. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023.

3.30pm—4.10pm

In-person meetings in the Canon Osborne Barr Room of St Philip and St James' Parish Centre but we will meet occasionally via Zoom.

Contact Irene on 087-2755423

[irene.reid1052@gmail.com](mailto:irene.reid1052@gmail.com)



## **Flower Fund**

Both churches have a flower fund which is used to pay for the flowers throughout the year. Donations to the respective flower funds would be very much appreciated. Sometimes, people may donate the flowers for a particular Sunday in memory of a loved one.

Thank you to those who have so generously given to the Flower Fund.



## ***Autumn Fair Meeting***

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023**  
**19.00 hours in St Philip and St James' Church**

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**BOOTERSTOWN AND  
CARYSFORT**

**SPECIAL SELECT VESTRY  
MEETING**

**THURSDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023  
19.30 HOURS IN ST PHILIP AND  
ST JAMES' CHURCH**

**BOOTERSTOWN AND  
CARYSFORT**

**SELECT VESTRY MEETING  
THURSDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2023  
20.00 HOURS IN ST PHILIP AND  
ST JAMES' CHURCH**

**MOUNT MERRION  
SELECT VESTRY MEETING  
TUESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
2023  
19.30 HOURS IN ST THOMAS'  
CHURCH**

**Lay Ministry in the  
Church of Ireland**

Do you think that you are being called to lay ministry at local parochial level or at a wider diocesan level? If so, please contact the Rector about it. There will be an Enquirers' Morning for those who are considered suitable for commissioned Lay Ministry either at a local parochial level or at a wider diocesan level, on Saturday

2 September 2023 in the Church of  
Ireland Theological Institute.

**Colouring Section**

