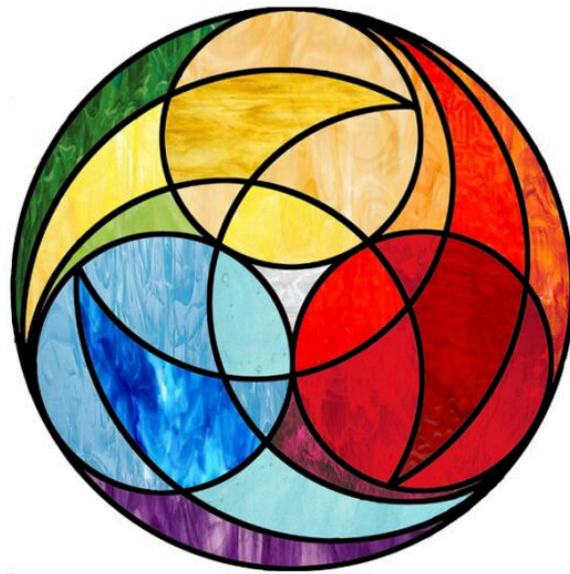


Parish of Central Windsor
SUNG EUCHARIST

Sunday 4th October 2026

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity



**A warm welcome to St Stephen & St Agnes Church
for our service today**

On most Sundays we offer Sunday Club during the service.
Children are welcome to gather at the front of the church
after the Collect on page 6 before they go out to their activities
with our Sunday Club leaders.

If you have babies or small children with you, you are most welcome to stay in church. Please don't be embarrassed if they cry or make a noise.

Please stand for :

OPENING HYMN

**I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,
at Bethlehem I had my birth.**

***Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.***

**I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John -
they came with me and the Dance went on.**

Refrain:

**I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
the holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,
and they left me there on a Cross to die.**

Refrain:

**I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the Dance, and I still go on.**

Refrain:

**They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me -
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.
*Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.***

Sydney Carter (1915-2004)

THE GREETING

The priest says

In the name of the Father†, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The priest greets the people

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Please sit for:

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANY NOTICES

Please stand for:

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

The priest says

God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit.
Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and
malice, and confess our sins to God our redeemer.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour,
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are heartily sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive all that is past,
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen**

The Kyrie Eleison is sung:

Kyrie

Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy. Christ have
mer - cy Christ have mer - cy. Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.

ABSOLUTION

The priest says

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.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glo-ry to God in the High-est, and peace to his
peo-ple on earth. earth. Lord God, Hea-ven-ly King Al-migh - ty God. and
Fa - ther, We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, We praise you for your

40 *f* *meno*
 glo - ry. — Glo-ry to God in the High-est, — and peace — to his

48 *mf* **Reflectively**
 peo-ple on earth. Lord Jes-sus Christ, on-ly son of the Fa-ther. Lord God,

55 *meno*
 Lamb of God, you take — a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.

63 *mf* *meno*
 You are sea - ted at the right hand of the Fa-ther, re - ceive our prayer

70 *f* *meno*
 2 Glo-ry to God in the High-est, — and peace — to his peo-ple on

79 **Warmly**
 earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly one, You a - lone are the Lord, You a -

88
 lone are the most high Je - sus Christ, With the Ho - ly

94
 Spi - rit, In the glo - ry of God — the Fa - ther. —

100 *f* *meno*
 Glo-ry to God in the High-est, — and peace — to his peo-ple on earth.

THE COLLECT

The priest says:

Let us pray

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
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 Sunday Club are invited to gather together at the front of the church before going to their activities.

We say together:

**Father God,
may our Sunday Club know your love as they gather today.
May they hear your voice in song, story and play,
and may they be filled with joy in their worship.
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 5.1–7

⁵ ¹ Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
² He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watch-tower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

⁶ I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷ For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice,
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 80 vv9-16

The congregation is invited to sing the response

Show the light of your countenance, O Lord God of hosts and we shall be saved

You brought a vine / out of Egypt;
you drove out the na / tions and planted it.
You made / room around it,
and when it had taken root, it / filled the land. **Response**

The hills were covered / with its shadow
and the cedars of God / by its boughs.
It stretched out its branches / to the Sea
and its tendrils / to the River. **Response**

Why then have you broken / down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck / off its grapes?
The wild boar out of the wood / tears it off,
and all the insects of the / field devour it. **Response**

Turn again, O / God of hosts,
look down from heaven / and behold;
Cherish this vine which your right / hand has planted,
and the branch that you made so strong / for yourself.
**Show the light of your countenance, O Lord God of hosts and we
shall be saved**

SECOND READING

Philippians 3.4b–14

³ ⁴If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Please stand for:

Gradual Hymn

**From heaven you came helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled;
not to be served, but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.
*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King***

**There in the garden of tears,
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours, ' he said.
*This is our God, the Servant King...***

**Come see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.
*This is our God, the Servant King...***

**So let us learn how to serve,
and in our lives enthrone him,
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.
*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King***

Graham Kendrick b1950

Please remain standing for:

GOSPEL READING

When the Gospel is announced the reader says or sings:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power,
for you created all things.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

All

Matthew 21.33–end

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people:

21 ³³ ‘Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Finally he sent his son to them, saying, “They will respect my son.” ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, “This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.” ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ ⁴¹ They said to him, ‘He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.’ ⁴² Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes”? ⁴³ Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.’ ⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realised that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

At the end the reader says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit for:

SERMON

Please stand for:

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

*Let us declare before God the faith of the church in which, we pray,
we may all find grace to grow.*

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 for:

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

These responses may be used

All Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

All Lord hear us
Lord graciously hear us

And at the end

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

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please stand for:

THE PEACE

We are the body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

You are invited to exchange a sign of peace with your neighbour.

*The offertory collection will be brought to the altar to be blessed.
It will be used for the ministry, mission and outreach of the church.
Please consider using the Gift Aid envelopes if you are able to do so.*

If you give regularly via the collection when you attend Sunday worship in one of our churches, but are not with us every week, have you considered giving through the Parish Giving Scheme? It is very easy to do. Details are in the weekly Keeping Us in Touch leaflet or speak to any of our churchwardens.

OFFERTORY HYMN

**All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
*O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

**Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him, alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice,
*O praise him:***

**Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
that givest man both warmth and light,
*O praise him:***

**Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise him, Alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
let them his glory also show:
*O praise him:***

**Let all things their creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*William Henry Draper (1855-1933)
based on St Francis of Assissi (1182-1226)*

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

*The altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.
The priest takes the bread and wine.*

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All **All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.
By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

108 **Full of awe**



122 **Welcoming**



Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.

Great is the mystery of faith

All **Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Stephen,
St Agnes, St John the Baptist and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The priest says

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

*Please feel free to use either the traditional or the contemporary
version as we pray together*

All Our Father, who art in heaven, *All*
hallowed be 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.

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 priest breaks the consecrated bread.
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

130 *Gently* *mp* *meno*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, Have mer - cy on

137 *mp* *meno*



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, Have mer - cy on

143 *mf* *p* *rit.*



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, Grant us your peace.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

The priest says the invitation to communion

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

All **Amen.**

If you are confirmed or a communicant member of the Church of England or any other Christian church, you are welcome to receive communion with us this morning. Otherwise, you are warmly invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please bring the service booklet with you or simply bow your head as you approach the altar so we know you wish to receive a blessing.

Gluten free wafers are available on request.

During the administration of communion the following will be sung:

**God of mercy, God of grace
show the brightness of thy face
shine upon us, Saviour, shine,
fill thy church with light divine,
and thy saving health extend
unto earth's remotest end.**

**Let the people praise thee, Lord;
be by all that live adored
let the nations shout and sing
glory to their Saviour King;
at thy feet their tribute pay,
and thy holy will obey.**

**Let the people praise thee, Lord;
earth shall then her fruits afford;
God to man his blessing give,
man to God devoted live;
all below, and all above,
one in joy, and light, and love.**

*Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)
Psalm 67*

ANTHEM: Agnus Dei, from Mass in G (Schubert)

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

The priest says

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast:
for here we receive you,
here the memory of your passion is renewed,
here our minds are filled with grace,
and here a pledge of future glory is given,
when we shall feast at that table where you reign
with all your saints for ever.

All **Amen.**

All **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**

Members of Sunday Club are invited to show their work to the congregation

THE DISMISSAL

Please stand for:

THE BLESSING

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.

All **Amen.**

Final Hymn

**All for Jesus, all for Jesus,
this our song shall ever be;
for we have no hope, nor Saviour,
if we have not hope in thee.**

**All for Jesus, thou wilt give us
strength to serve thee, hour by hour,
none can move us from thy presence,
while we trust thy love and power.**

**All for Jesus, at thine altar
thou wilt give us sweet content;
there, dear Lord, we shall receive thee
in the solemn sacrament.**

**All for Jesus, thou hast loved us;
all for Jesus, thou hast died;
all for Jesus, thou art with us;
all for Jesus, crucified.**

**All for Jesus, all for Jesus,
this the church's song must be;
till, at last, we all are gathered
one in love and one in thee.**

W. J. Sparrow-Simpson (1859-1952)

The priest says

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

**Please stay for refreshments
which will be served after the service.**

If you are visiting today or attending for the first time, we hope that you have felt “at home” here, that you will be refreshed by today’s service of worship and that you will return in the future.

We shall be delighted if you decide to make our church community your spiritual home.

You are welcome to take this service sheet away with you for private reflection or to give to a friend.

**If you would like to know more about the Christian faith, please ask!
You can also find out more by following the “Our Faith” link on the Church of England website: www.churchofengland.org**

**Next Sunday, 11th October
we celebrate our Harvest Thanksgiving at
10.00am at Holy Trinity Church, Claremont Road
and at 5.30pm at All Saints’ Church**

WEB SITE:
www.windsorchurches.org.uk

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