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**All Age Eucharist**

**with Baptisms**

**Mothering Sunday**



**Sunday 30 March 2025**

**at 10am**

**Welcome** to our all age Eucharist as we celebrate Mothering Sunday and the Baptism of Lucas Arthur De Andres.

Our service is led by our Vicar, Revd Simon Winn and our Curate, Revd Dr Tati Gutteridge is preaching. Members of our Children’s Church will be reading and helping with the service.

You will find everything you need for the service in this booklet. Please join in the words **in bold**.

St Alfege Choir is directed by Director of Music Benjamin Newlove with Assistant Organist Ben Banks.

During the service we will take a collection to support the life and mission of our church. You can also use the card reader by the West and North door for electronic payments.

You can also pay online using the following details: PCC of St Alfege, Greenwich Sort Code: 60-09-16 Account number: 25249304. Please also note that if you are a UK tax payer the church can claim 25% Gift Aid in addition to your donation therefore, if eligible and if you are setting up a standing order, please request a Gift Aid declaration form from the church office: office@st-alfege.org.uk You can also use this QR code to donate.



**Please join us in the Hall after the service for refreshments.**

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*Please stand as the choir, servers and clergy process into church.*

**THE GATHERING**

**Processional Hymn**

**I come with joy, a child of God**

**forgiven, loved and free,**

**the life of Jesus to recall**

**in love laid down for me.**

**I come with Christians far and near**

**to find, as all are fed,**

**the new community of love**

**in Christ's communion bread.**

**As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,**

**each proud division ends.**

**The love that made us, makes us one,**

**and strangers now are friends.**

**The Spirit of the risen Christ,**

**unseen, but ever near,**

**is in such friendship better known,**

**alive among us here.**

**Together met, together bound,**

**by all that God has done,**

**we’ll go with joy, to give the world**

**the love that makes us one.**

*Words: Brian A Wren (b. 1936)*

*Music: St Botolph*

**The Greeting**

*Revd Simon welcomes us and says*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all

**and also with you.**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Jesus said, before you offer your gift, go and be reconciled.

As brothers and sisters in God’s family,

we come together to ask our Father for forgiveness.

As parents are tender towards their children,

so God is tender to those who trust Him;

Lord have mercy.

**Lord have mercy.**

God will not always rebuke us,

nor will God’s displeasure last for ever;

Christ have mercy.

**Christ have mercy.**

I have calmed and quieted my soul,

my soul, my soul is like a child upon its mother’s breast;

Lord have mercy.

**Lord have mercy.**

*Revd Simon prays*

God says, as a mother comforts her child,

so will I comfort you.

Your sins are forgiven.

Return and abide in my love.

**Amen.**

#

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**The Collect**

Let us pray.

God of love, passionate and strong,

tender and careful:

watch over us and hold us

all the days of our life;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please sit for the first reading*

**First Reading**

**Colossians 3: 12-17**

*read by members of Children’s Church*

*Before the reading:*

A reading from St Paul’s Letter to the Colossians

As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

*At the end:*

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

*Please stand for the Gradual Hymn*

**Gradual Hymn**

***Bind us together, Lord***
***Bind us together***
***With cords that cannot be broken***
***Bind us together, Lord***
***Bind us together***
***Bind us together in Love***

**There is only one God,**
**There is only one King**
**There is only one Body,**
**That is why we sing.**

***Bind us together, Lord …***

**Fit for the glory of God,**
**Purchased by His precious Blood**
**Born with the right to be free**
**Jesus the victory has won.**

***Bind us together, Lord …***

**We are the family of God**
**We are the promise divine**
**We are God's chosen desire**
**We are the glorious new wine.**

***Bind us together, Lord***
***Bind us together***
***With cords that cannot be broken***
***Bind us together, Lord***
***Bind us together***
***Bind us together in Love***

*Words and Music: Bob Gillman*

*We remain standing for the Gospel*

**Gospel Reading**

**John 19: 25b - 27**

*read by members of Children’s Church*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**Glory to you, O Lord**

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 Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ**

**Sermon**

*Revd Dr Tati Gutteridge, Curate*

*We sit when invited*

**THE LITURGY OF BAPTISM**

*The candidate, parents and godparents assemble around the font. The rest of the congregation remain seated.*

*Revd Simon says*

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us that to enter the kingdom of heaven we must be born again of water and the Spirit,

and has given us Baptism as the sign and seal

of this new birth.

Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean.

Here we are clothed with Christ,

dying to sin that we may live his risen life.

As children of God, we have a new dignity

and God calls us to fullness of life.

*Revd Simon addresses the whole congregation:*

Faith is the gift of God to his people.

In Baptism the Lord is adding to our number

those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome this child

and uphold him in his new life in Christ?

**With the help of God, we will.**

*Revd Simon says to the parents and godparents:*

Parents and godparents, the Church receives this child

with joy.

Today we are trusting God for his growth in faith.

Will you pray for him, draw him by your example into the community of faith and walk with him in the way of Christ?

**With the help of God, we will.**

In Baptism this child begins his journey in faith. You speak for him today. Will you care for him, and help him to take his place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

**With the help of God, we will.**

## **The Decision**

*Revd Simon addresses Lucas through his parents and godparents.*

Do you turn to Christ?

**I turn to Christ.**

Do you repent of your sins?

**I repent of my sins.**

Do you renounce evil?

**I renounce evil.**

## **Signing with the Cross**

*Revd Simon makes the sign of the cross with holy oil on Lucas’ forehead, saying:*

Christ claims you for his own.

Receive the sign of his cross.

*Revd Simon says:*

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin,**

**the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ**

**to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,

restore in you the image of his glory,

and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

**Amen.**

## **Prayer over the Water**

*Revd Simon stands before the water of Baptism and says:*

Praise God who made heaven and earth

**who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptized in the river Jordan: we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse and revive us.

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea:

you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the promised land.

We thank you that through the deep waters of death

you brought your Son, and raised him to life in triumph.

Bless this water, that your servants who are

washed in it may be made one with Christ in

his death and in his resurrection, to be

cleansed and delivered from all sin.

Send your Holy Spirit upon them,

bring them to new birth in the household of faith,

and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life;

for all might, majesty, authority, and power are yours,

now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Profession of Faith**

*Revd Simon addresses the congregation:*

Let us affirm, together with Lucas who is being baptized,

our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,

source of all being and life,

the one for whom we exist?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,

who took our human nature,

died for us and rose again?

**I believe and trust in him.**

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?

**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,**

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Baptism**

*Revd Simon pours water on Lucas, saying:*

Lucas Arthur,I baptize you

in the name of the Father, and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*Revd Simon says:*

May God, who has received you by Baptism into his Church,

pour upon you the riches of his grace,

that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people

you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,

and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

**Amen.**

*This prayer may follow:*

Faithful and loving God,

bless those who care for this child

and grant them your gifts of love, wisdom and faith.

Pour upon them your healing and reconciling love,

and protect their home from all evil.

Fill them with the light of your presence

and establish them in the joy of your kingdom,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Welcome**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:

Lucas*,* by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;**

**we are children of the same heavenly Father;**

**we welcome you.**

*Parents, godparents and Lucas sit down.*

*The choir sings the Anthem:*

# ***Mother of God, here I stand -* Tavener**

Mother of God, here I stand now praying,
before this icon of your radiant brightness,
not praying to be saved from a battlefield,
not giving thanks, nor seeking forgiveness
for the sins of my soul, nor for all the souls.
Numb, joyless and desolate on earth,
but for her alone, whom I wholly give you.

*Words by Mikhail Lermontov (1814-41)*

**Blessing and Distribution of Flowers**

Lord Jesus, who grew up in an earthly home in trust and obedience to earthly parents: Visit and bless all the homes of our parish. May we share in the knowledge of your love and be brought into the joy of your heavenly kingdom. **Amen.**

Father, bless these small gifts of flowers, that they may be channels of your love to those who give and receive them, and bind them ever more closely to yourself and to each other. **Amen.**

*The children distribute the posies to the congregation as music is played. Then we stand.*

*Revd Simon introduces the Peace in these or other suitable words:*

**The Peace**

We are all one in Christ Jesus.

We belong to him through faith,

heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you.**

*Revd Simon says:*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

**THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**Offertory Hymn**

*A collection for the ministry and mission of our church will be taken during the hymn. You may also donate later using our electronic card readers at the West and North Doors.*

**Will you come and follow me**

**if I but call your name?**

**Will you go where you don’t know**

**and never be the same?**

**Will you let my love be shown?**

**Will you let my name be known,**

**Will you let my life be grown**

**in you and you in me?**

**Will you leave yourself behind**

**if I but call your name?**

**Will you care for cruel and kind**

**and never be the same?**

**Will you risk the hostile stare**

**should your life attract or scare?**

**Will you let me answer prayer**

**in you and you in me?**

**Will you let the blinded see**

**if I but call your name?**

**Will you set the prisoners free**

**and never be the same?**

**Will you kiss the leper clean**

**and do such as this unseen,**

**And admit to what I mean**

**in you and you in me?**

**Will you love the “you” you hide**

**if I but call your name?**

**Will you quell the fear inside**

**and never be the same?**

**Will you use the faith you’ve found**

**to reshape the world around,**

**Through my sight and touch and sound**

**in you and you in me?**

**Lord your summons echoes true**

**when you but call my name.**

**Let me turn and follow you**

**and never be the same.**

**In Your company I’ll go**

**where Your love and footsteps show.**

**Thus I’ll move and live and grow**

**in you and you in me.**

*Words: John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (1958-2019)*

*Music: Kelvingrove (Traditional Scottish Melody)*

**Offertory Prayer**

Blessed be God, by whose grace creation is renewed,

by whose love heaven is opened, by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*We remain standing*

# **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you

**and also with you.**

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.**

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;

in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away you did not reject us,

but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children**

**and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life

that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross**

**and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,

at supper with his friends

he took bread, and gave you thanks;

he broke it and gave it to them, saying;

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:**

**his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,

he gave you thanks, and said:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,

which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;

do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:**

**his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,

send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine

may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts**

**make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world

we offer you this sacrifice of praise

and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

# *We sit*

# **The Lord's Prayer**

# Trusting in the compassion of God, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**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**

**Breaking of the Bread**

*Revd Simon breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,**

**because we all share in one bread.**

# **Giving of Communion**

Come to this table, not because you must,

but because you may;

Not because you are strong,

but because you are weak;

Not because you have arrived

but because you are still on a journey;

Come because you love the Lord a little

and want to love him more.

Above all come because he loves you

and gave himself for you.

*Everyone is invited to come forward to the altar rail to receive the sacrament or a blessing, after which we reply* **Amen.**

*If you would like to receive a blessing rather than communion, please bow your head. We are offering communion in both kinds, the bread (wafer) and the wine (in the cup or chalice). If you would prefer not to receive the wine from the chalice/cup please bow your head or simply leave the altar rail after receiving the wafer. Please do not intinct (dip your wafer in the chalice). Please return to your seats via the side chapels. If you need communion brought to you, please let a welcomer know. If you need a gluten-free wafer please let a welcomer know.*

*During the administration, the choir sings the Communion Anthems:*

***Agnus Dei,* from *Messe Cum jubilo***

***Stabat Mater –* Anerio**

At the cross her station keeping stood the mournful Mother weeping, where he hung, the dying Lord; for her soul, of joy bereavèd, bowed with anguish, deeply grieved, felt the sharp and piercing sword.

O how sad and sore distressed now was she, that Mother blessed of the sole-begotten one! Deep the woe of her affliction, when she saw the crucifixion of her ever-glorious Son.

Who, on Christ's dear Mother gazing pierced by anguish so amazing, born of woman, would not weep? Who, on Christ's dear Mother thinking such a cup of sorrow drinking, would not share her sorrows deep?

For his people's sins chastised, she beheld her Son despised, scourged, and crowned with thorns entwined; saw him then from judgement taken, and in death by all forsaken, till his spirit he resigned.

O good Jesu, let me borrow something of thy Mother's sorrow, fount of love, Redeemer kind, that my heart fresh ardour gaining, and a purer love attaining, may with thee acceptance find.

*We pray together*

**Prayer after Communion**

**Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast,**

**you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Notices**

*We stand to sing*

**Final Hymn**

**Now thank we all our God,**

**with heart 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 to-day.**

**O may this bounteous God**

**through all our life be near us,**

**with ever joyful hearts**

**and blessèd 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.**

**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.**

*Words: Martin Rinkart (1586 –1649) tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)*

*Music: Nun Danket*

# **THE SENDING OUT**

## **Giving of a Lighted Candle**

*Revd Simon gives Lucas’ parents a lighted candle, and says:*

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness

and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;

walk in this light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world**

**to the glory of God the Father.**

**Blessing**

*Revd Simon blesses all those present:*

The God of all grace,

who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,

establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be upon you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## **Dismissal**

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please remain standing as the choir, servers and clergy depart.*

**Organ Voluntary**

***Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist, BWV 671 –* J. S. Bach**

*Please come for refreshments in the church hall and green afterwards.*

*If you would like to pray with someone in confidence after the service, one of our clergy or a lay minister will be available in the South Chapel. You are welcome to ask for prayer for wholeness and healing, personal circumstances, or anything else that is on your heart. The St Alfege Chapel remains available for private prayer and lighting candles.*

**Welcome to Children's Church!**

Join us on Sundays in the Church Hall for a morning of fun, friendship, and faith! All families with children are welcome. We ask that a parent or carer accompanies their child/children.

Activities include:

* Bible stories; praying together;
* sing-along songs; creative crafts; Holy Communion together.

Our usual schedule is:

* Registration from 9.55 to 10.05; Worship from 10.05 to 10.15;
* Bible Time from 10.15 to 10.35; Fun Activities from 10.35 to 11.00.

For more details please speak to Florence Uguru, Alison Wood or Moira Searle. Please check the Children’s Church board at the back of church and chat to them in the Hall over tea/coffee after the service. Alternatively contact the church office: office@st-alfege.org.uk or 020 8853 0687.

**Sunday 30 March *Music and Readings for Lent***

Tonight at 6.30pm in Church: A Service of Music and Readings for Lent. This will replace the usual service of Choral Evensong

**Sunday 6 April *Abide***

Please note that there is no service of *Abide* on 6 April

**Regular Sunday Services at St Alfege Church**

**8am Holy Communion**

A said communion service (1662 Book of Common Prayer).

**10am Parish Eucharist**

A sung communion service (Common Worship).

Our vibrant [Children's Church](https://stalfege.churchinsight.com/Groups/299925/Children_and_young_people.aspx) meets in the hall.

### **Abide**

A reflective and meditative service drawing on traditions such as Taizé and the Northumbria community. On the first Sunday of every month at 5.30pm. **(There is no service on 6 April)**

### **Choral Evensong**

On the last Sunday of every month at 6.30pm (except August)

**Regular Weekday Services at St Alfege Church**

**Morning Prayer**

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 8.30am.

**Holy Communion**
Thursday mornings at 8.00am

**Walk-In Wednesdays**

Every Wednesday 10am to 12noon in the Frank Smith Room in the hall. Drop in for a cuppa and a chat.

**Find Out More**

You can find details of our regular services and our Church on our website: [www.st-alfege.org.uk](http://www.st-alfege.org.uk/)

**Vicar: Revd Simon Winn**

**Curate: Revd Dr Tati Gutteridge**

**Church Office:** **office@st-alfege.org.uk**

**020 8853 0687** [**www.st-alfege.org.uk**](http://www.st-alfege.org.uk)

**Services for Holy Week and Easter**

**Palm Sunday 13 April**

**8am *Holy Communion*** (Book of Common Prayer)

**10am *Sung Eucharist*** with Blessing of Palms and Procession

**Monday 14, Tuesday 15, Wednesday 16 April**

**8.30am *Morning Prayer***

**Monday 14 April**

**8pm *Night Prayer (Compline)*** A short service in St Alfege Chapel

**Maundy Thursday 17 April**

**8pm  *Sung Eucharist***. In Church with Washing of Feet, Stripping of the Sanctuary, and Watch until Midnight.

**Good Friday 18 April**

**10am *Family Service***. In Church. Followed by hot cross buns and refreshments.

**12 noon** ***Liturgy of the Cross****.* At the Old Royal Naval College Chapel. Followed by Procession with Cross to St Alfege Church.

**2pm *Good Friday Worship****.* Readings, prayers, hymns, silenceand reflections on the Psalms. Ends around 3pm.

**Holy Saturday 19 April**

**8pm *Easter Vigil service.*** With kindling of the Easter fire and lighting of the Paschal Candle. Celebratory drink afterwards.

**Easter Sunday 20 April**

**8am  *Holy Communion*** (Book of Common Prayer)

***10am All Age Sung Eucharist*** with Renewal of Baptismal Vows and Easter Egg Hunt

**The 10am service is live-streamed from the gallery at the back of the Church. We do not film while Communion is taking place.**

***Please take this service sheet home with you***