St Nicholas Church

Shepperton

Confirmation Service

And Parish Eucharist

Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.00am

11th October 2026

Celebrant: Rt Revd Dr Emma Ineson,

Bishop of Kensington and Acting Bishop of London

In the name of the Lord Jesus, we welcome you today to St Nicholas Shepperton. A particularly warm welcome to our candidates today – Debra Concannon, Robert Devonport, Beth Ghail, Maddison Sadler, Paul Sadler, Ryan Sadler, Jenny Steptoe, Isabella Williamson - as they come to confirm their faith before God today or to be received into the Church of England. For centuries, people have gathered on this site to support each other, to laugh and cry together, to sing and pray and to come before God and be nourished and sustained at the altar rail. It is our hope that you will leave here today having been given a glimpse of God's kingdom. **Please join in where indicated in bold.**

THE GATHERING

Please stand, if you are able, at the entry of the candidates & ministers as we sing.

O Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou for ever near me,
My Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If Thou wilt be my Guide.

O let me feel Thee near me;
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But Jesus, draw Thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear Thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten, or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou Guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, Thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory
There shall Thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow
My Master and my Friend.

O let me see Thy footmarks,
And in them plant mine own;
My hope to follow duly
Is in Thy strength alone.
O guide me, call me, draw me,
Uphold me to the end;
And then in heaven receive me,
My Saviour and my Friend.

The Greeting

The Bishop greets the people.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be his Kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

There is one body and one spirit.
There is one hope to which we were called;

one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God and Father of all.

Peace be with you
and also with you.

*The Bishop introduces the service***.**

Invitation to confession

My sisters and brothers to prepare ourselves to celebrate these sacred mysteries let us call to mind our sins:

We hold a moment or two of silence

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.

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive you your sins,
open your eyes to God's truth,
strengthen you to do God's will
and give you the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

As we sing the Gloria, the children are invited, if they wish to do so, to join the SNAP team in the Parish Centre where they will be able to take part in a bible story through the use of Godly Play.
They will rejoin us prior to the distribution of Communion.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

The Collect

Faithful Lord,
whose steadfast love never ceases
and whose mercies never come to an end:
grant us the grace to trust you
and to receive the gifts of your love,
new every morning,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please sit

First Reading - *A Reading from Isaiah 25: 1-9*

O LORD, you are my God;
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt.
Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.
And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death for ever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.
This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

If able to, we stand to sing

Holy Spirit, come, confirm us
In the truth that Christ makes known;
We have faith and understanding
Through your promised light alone.

Holy Spirit, come, console us,
Come as advocate to plead;
Loving Spirit from the Father,
Grant in Christ the help we need.

Holy Spirit, come, renew us,
Come yourself to make us live;
Holy through your loving presence,
Holy through the gifts you give.

Holy Spirit, come, possess us,
You the love of Three in One;
Holy Spirit of the Father,
Holy Spirit of the Son.

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
"Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people."
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

Luke Chaper 5, verses 1-11 - *Jesus Calls the First Disciples*

Once while Jesus was standing beside the Lake of Gennesaret and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had climbed out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to burst. So they signalled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus's knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were astounded at the catch of fish that they had taken, and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Rt Revd Dr Emma Ineson, Bishop of Kensington and Acting Bishop of London

Presentation of the Candidates

The bishop asks the candidates for confirmation
Have you been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit?
I have.

The bishop asks all the candidates
Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?
I am.

The bishop 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 these candidates and uphold them in their life in Christ?
With the help of God, we will.

The Decision
The Bishop addresses all the candidates

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. Therefore, I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?
I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?
I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?
I repent of them.

To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life
with him. Therefore, I ask:

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?
I submit to Christ.

Will you walk with Christ, the way, the truth and the life?
I will walk with Christ.

The Bishop says
May God, who has given you the desire to follow Christ,
Give you also strength to continue in the Way. **Amen**

Prayer over the Water
The ministers and candidates for confirmation gather at the baptismal font.

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.

We praise you, loving Father,
for the gift of your Son Jesus.
He was baptized in the River Jordan,
where your Spirit came upon him
and revealed him as the Son you love.
He sent his followers
to baptize all who turn to him.
Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water,
that those who are baptized in it
may be cleansed in the water of life,
and, filled with your Spirit,
may know that they are loved as your children,
safe in Christ for ever. **Amen.**

Profession of Faith

The bishop addresses the congregation
Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess
together with these candidates
the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?
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.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?
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.

The Bishop then sprinkles all the candidates with water from the font as a reminder of their own baptism, and all say

Almighty God,
we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all those who have been baptized into your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Bishop leads the candidates back to the place of Confirmation.

The congregation sits or kneels in prayer for the candidates.

Confirmation

The Bishop stands before those who are to be confirmed and says

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who has made heaven and earth.

Blessed be the name of the Lord
now and for ever. Amen.

The Bishop extends her hands towards those to be confirmed, and says:

Almighty and ever living God,
you have given your servants new birth
in baptism by water and the Spirit,
and have forgiven them all their sins.
Let your Holy Spirit rest upon them:
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding;
the Spirit of counsel and inward strength;
the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness;
and let their delight be in the fear of the Lord. **Amen.**

The candidates are presented to the Bishop, who anoints them with the Oil of Christ, saying:

N, God has called you by name and made you his own.

Then she lays her hand on the head of each, saying

Confirm, O Lord, your servant *N* with your Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Reception into the Church of England

Those who are to be received into the communion of the Church of England and have already been baptised and confirmed within another church tradition, stand before the Bishop to make this declaration.

The Bishop says:

You are here to be received into the communion of the Church of England

Do you acknowledge the Church of England as part of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church?
I do.

Do you accept the teaching, discipline and authority of the Church of England?
I do.

Will you take part with us in worship and mission?
I will.

The Bishop takes the hand of each person to be received, saying

N, we recognise you as a member of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church;
and we receive you into the communion of the Church of England in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

After she has laid hands on all the confirmation candidates and taken the hand of each of those who are bring received into the Church of England, the Bishop invites the congregation to pray for all those on whom hands have been laid.

Defend, O Lord, these your servants
with your heavenly grace,
that they may continue yours for ever,
and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more
until they come to your everlasting kingdom.
Amen

The Commission

All present are invited to renew their commitment to discipleship

Those who are baptized are called to worship and serve God.
Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
With the help of God, I will.
Will you persevere in resisting evil,
and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
With the help of God, I will.
Will you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God in Christ?
With the help of God, I will.
Will you seek and serve Christ in all people,
loving your neighbour as yourself?
With the help of God, I will.
Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society,
by prayer for the world and its leaders,
by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?
With the help of God, I will.
May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith,
that you may be rooted and grounded in love
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

The Bishop introduces the Peace with these words:

God will speak peace to his people,
to those who turn to him in their hearts.

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.

Preparation of the Table

A hymn is sung as the table is prepared and bread and wine are prepared.

A collection is taken during the hymn in aid of the Bishop's Discretionary Fund.

Hymn

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.
Chorus
Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.
Chorus

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
Shared until all are fed.
Chorus

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
Walls made of living stone.
Chorus

Many the gifts, many the people,
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
Making your kingdom come.
Chorus

The altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Prayer over the Gifts

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.
Blessed be God for ever.

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.

Father, you made the world and love your creation. You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour. His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death. And so, we gladly thank you, with saints and angels praising you, and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest;

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest;

Please sit or kneel

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.
On the night before he died, he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended, he took the cup of wine.
Again, he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.
So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith

Christ has died
Christ is Risen
Christ will come again

Lord of all life,

help us to work together for that day

when your kingdom comes

and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,

gather us in your loving arms

and bring us with Mary, Nicholas and all the saints

to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,

for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Let us pray together for the coming of the kingdom as Jesus 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
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.

Agnus Dei
We all join together to sing:
Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world
Have mercy on us
Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world
Have mercy on us
Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world
Grant us peace

Giving of Communion
This is the Risen Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord I am not worthy to receive you but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

You are warmly invited to feast at the Lord's table. If you are baptised and regularly take communion in your own church you are welcome to receive here at St Nicholas. Holy Communion is offered in both kinds, bread and wine, but you are free to receive in one kind only. If you wish to receive in both kinds, please do not dip the Eucharistic wafers into the wine. You are invited to receive a blessing if you do not take communion. If you wish to receive a blessing, please keep your head bowed.
The newly confirmed will receive Communion first.

Choir Anthem

Hymns during Communion

Hymn 67
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.
Come, bow before Him now,
with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found,
we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire,
with splendour He is crowned.
How awesome is the sight,
our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place,
He comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister His grace.
No work too hard for Him,
in faith receive from Him;
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.

Hymn 45
As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after You.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.
Chorus
You alone are my strength, my shield,
To You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship You.

I want You more than gold or silver,
Only You can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver
And the apple of my eye.
Chorus

You're my Friend and You are my Brother,
even though you are a King.
I love You more than any other,
so much more than anything.
Chorus

The priest says "let us pray" and prays the post-communion prayer.

Prayer After Communion

Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit:
may we honour you, not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

We say together:

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.

If you are able to, please remain standing after the hymn.

The Lord be with you
And also with you

THE BLESSING

Christ, who has nourished us with himself the living bread,
make you one in praise and love,
and raise you up at the last day;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

If able to, we stand to sing as the ministers and candidates depart.

In Christ alone, my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Til on that cross as Jesus died
The love of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

You are warmly invited to join us for coffee
in the Parish Centre immediately after this service

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