

St Simon Zelotes



CONFIRMATION AND HOLY COMMUNION ONLINE

CANDIDATES FOR CONFIRMATION

Florence Ammoun, Matthew Byatt

Rachel Heffner, Viktoria Koenig

Peter Najm, Barbara Simmons

Sunday 18 May 2025

6.30pm

St Simon Zelotes Church
Milner Street
London SW3 2QF

Tel. 020 7589 8999

www.stsimonzelotes.com



Welcome

Hymn

All creatures of our God and king

1 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.*

3 Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
 alleluia, alleluia!

Thou fire so masterful and bright
that givest us both warmth and light:

O praise him...

2 Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
 O praise him, alleluia!

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice:

O praise him...

4 All you with mercy in your heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
 O sing ye, alleluia!

Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care:

O praise him...

5 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...

William Henry Draper (1855-1953) alt. based on the 'Cantico di Frate Sole' of St. Francis of Assisi
(1182-1226); CCLI Licence No. 1891688

Collect for Confirmation

Heavenly Father, by the power of your Holy Spirit you give your faithful people new life in the water of baptism. Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit, that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love, and grow into the full stature of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit now and for ever. **Amen.**



Epistle Reading: Titus 3:3-8

³ At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. ⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. ⁸ This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading: John 3:1-8

³ Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ² He came to Jesus at night and said, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.'

³ Jesus replied, 'Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.'

⁴ 'How can someone be born when they are old?' Nicodemus asked. 'Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!'

⁵ Jesus answered, 'Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, "You must be born again." ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.'

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God



Sermon

Titus 3.3-8

“He saved us”

Bishop Rob Munro

Hymn

Yet not I but through Christ in me

1 What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer,
there is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom,
my steadfast love,
my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,
for my life is wholly bound to his.
O how strange and divine,
I can sing, all is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

2 The night is dark but I am not forsaken
for by my side, the Saviour he will stay.
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
for in my need, his power is displayed
To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh the night has been won,
and I shall overcome!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

3 No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
the future sure, the price it has been paid
for Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
and he was raised
to overthrow the grave.
To this I hold, my sin has been defeated:
Jesus now and ever is my plea.
Oh the chains are released,
I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I but through Christ in me.

4 With every breath I long to follow Jesus
for he has said that he will bring me home;
and day by day I know he will renew me
until I stand with joy before the throne.
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,
all the glory evermore to him.
When the race is complete,
still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I but through Christ in me.
Yet not I but through Christ in me.

Johnny Robinson, Rich Thompson, Michael Farren. CCLI Licence No. 1891688



CONFIRMATION OF CANDIDATES

Florence Ammoun

Matthew Byatt

Rachel Heffner

Viktoria Koenig

Peter Najm

Barbara Simmons

Presentation of the Candidates

The bishop addresses the candidates

Have you been baptised in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit?

I have.

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.

Decision

The bishop addresses the candidates

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. 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.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.

The bishop says

May God, who has given you the desire to follow Christ, give you the strength to continue in the Way. **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 again 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**

Confirmation

The Bishop says

Our help is in the name of the Lord

All: **who has made heaven and earth.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord

All: **now and for ever. Amen.**

Almighty and ever-living God, you have given these 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 bishop addresses the candidates

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

He then lays his hand on the head of each candidate, saying

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

The bishop invites the congregation to pray for the candidates

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



Hymn

All for Jesus

1 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.

2 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 pow'r.

3 All for Jesus! thou hast loved us,
all for Jesus! thou hast died,
all for Jesus! thou art with us,
all for Jesus crucified!

4 All for Jesus! All for Jesus!
This the Church's song shall be,
till at last the flock is gathered
one in love, and one in thee.

William John Sparrow-Simpson (1859-1952) alt. CCLI Licence No. 1891688

Prayers of Intercession



Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Prayer of Consecration

Giving of Communion

Music during Communion

Behold the Lamb

1 Behold the Lamb who bears our sins
away,

slain for us: and we remember:

The promise made that all who come in
faith find forgiveness at the cross.

So we share in this Bread of life,
and we drink of His sacrifice,
as a sign of our bonds of peace
around the table of the King.

2 The body of our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
torn for you: eat and remember
the wounds that heal, the death that brings
us life, paid the price to make us one.

So we share in this Bread of Life,
and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of love
around the table of the King.

3 The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
Shed for you: drink and remember
he drained death's cup that all may enter in
to receive the life of God.

So we share in this Bread of Life,
and we drink of His sacrifice,
as a sign of our bonds of grace
around the table of the King.

4 And so with thankfulness and faith
We rise to respond: and to remember
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ
As His body here on earth.

As we share in His suffering,
We proclaim: Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven
Around the table of the King.



O great God of highest heaven

1 O great God of highest heaven
 Occupy my lowly heart
Own it all and reign supreme
Conquer every rebel power
 Let no vice or sin remain
 That resists Your holy war
You have loved and purchased me
 Make me Yours forevermore

2 I was blinded by my sin
Had no ears to hear Your voice
Did not know Your love within
Had no taste for heaven's joys
 Then Your Spirit gave me life
 Opened up Your Word to me
Through the gospel of Your Son
Gave me endless hope and peace

3 Help me now to live a life
 That's dependent on Your grace
Keep my heart and guard my soul
 From the evils that I face
 You are worthy to be praised
With my every thought and deed
O great God of highest heaven
Glorify Your Name through me

Bob Kauflin. CCLI Licence No. 1891688

Prayer after Communion

God of mercy, by whose grace alone we are accepted and equipped for your service: stir up in us the gifts of your Holy Spirit and make us worthy of our calling; that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Notices

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that 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



Prayer after Communion

God of mercy, by whose grace alone we are accepted and equipped for your service: stir up in us the gifts of your Holy Spirit and make us worthy of our calling; that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymn

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

1 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy pow'rful hand:
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

William Williams (1717-1791) trans. Peter Williams (1727-1796) and others. CCLI Licence No. 1891688

Blessing

Notices

Stories of hope - 20-22 May

On Thursday 22 May, Philip Grundy, a member of our church family, is being interviewed on how he came to find hope in the face of emptiness. The interview forms part of a series of evening events called 'Stories of hope through life's trials' that a church called St Helen's Bishopsgate is hosting that week. The evenings are aimed at those unsure of the Christian faith but intrigued by how it has changed people's experience of life's biggest trials. For more information about Philip's interview evening, and the other evenings, visit <https://tinyurl.com/ymrtw5e5>.

Women's breakfast - Saturday 7 June 10am-11.30am

On Saturday 7 June we will be hosting a Women's Breakfast in the church building. It will be an opportunity for women from both congregations to come together to encourage one another. There will be coffee and pastries, a short talk from the Bible by Lizzie Ling, who works with women at St Ebbe's, Oxford, and some discussion time. Babies in arms are very welcome but unfortunately we cannot provide childcare. For more details, and to signal an interest in coming, please get in touch with Liv Jani on ojkjani@gmail.com.

St Simon's Weekend Away 26-28 September 2025

We are delighted to announce dates for the next church weekend away. All are welcome to join us at a new venue, De Vere Horsley Estate in Surrey, for a weekend of fellowship, relaxation, and meeting with God. The Revd Dr Tim Ward (Lecturer at Oak Hill College) will be our speaker. The brochure, containing the sign-up form, is now available at the back of the church or on the St Simon Zelotes website at <https://tinyurl.com/44ehkv4u>.

Christianity Explored

One life, what's it all about? Starting on **Monday 2 June**, our four Christianity Explored sessions are an opportunity to discuss any questions about Christianity and to read the gospel of Mark. Whether you're unsure, intrigued, or would like to re-visit the essence of Christian faith, this course is for you. The course will be hosted by church members Philip and Faye Grundy at their house in Wandsworth. The evenings will run from 8-9pm, with tea and coffee from 7.45. To indicate interest, please get in touch with Philip or Faye at philipjgrundy@icloud.com or Grundyfaye@gmail.com.