

St Simon Zelotes



MORNING PRAYER WITH BAPTISM ONLINE

Sunday 23 November 2025

10.00am

St Simon Zelotes Church
Milner Street
London SW3 2QF

Tel. 020 7589 8999

www.stsimonzelotes.com



We especially welcome Henry this morning along with his parents, William and Jennifer, godparents, family and friends.

Welcome

Hymn

Praise to the Lord

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear; now to his temple draw near,
joining in glad adoration.

2 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
if to the end he befriend thee.

3 Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him.
Let the Amen sound from his people again:
gladly for ay we adore him.

Joachim Neander (1680); Translator: Catherine Winkworth (1863) CCLI Licence No. 1891688



Baptism

Presentation of the Candidate

The Minister 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 Henry and uphold him in his new life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

The Minister addresses the parents and godparents

Parents and godparents, the Church receives Henry 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 Henry 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

The Minister addresses the parents and godparents

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.

Signing with the Cross

Henry receives the sign of the Cross

Christ claims you for his own.

Receive the sign of his cross.

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

All: 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.**



Profession of Faith

The Minister addresses the congregation, parents, and godparents.

Let us affirm,
for ourselves and the one to be baptised,
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?

All: 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?

All: 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?

All: I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All: This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Baptism of Henry

Henry Charles, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

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.

All: Amen.

Children leave for Sunday School, Youth Group, and Crèche while we return to our seats.



Baptismal Anthem

Come Holy Ghost

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
and lighten with celestial fire.
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.
Thy blessed unction from above
is comfort, life, and fire of love.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and thee, of both, to be but One,
that through the ages all along,
this may be our endless song:
Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Words: Rabanus Maurus; Translator: John Cosin (1627). Music: Thomas Attwood;
CCLI Licence No. 1891688

First reading: Isaiah 55:1-5

'Come, all you who are thirsty,
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without cost.

² Why spend money on what is not bread,
and your labour on what does not satisfy?
Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,
and you will delight in the richest of fare.

³ Give ear and come to me;
listen, that you may live.

I will make an everlasting covenant with you,
my faithful love promised to David.

⁴ See, I have made him a witness to the peoples,
a ruler and commander of the peoples.



⁵ Surely you will summon nations you know not,
and nations you do not know will come running to you,
because of the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel,
for he has endowed you with splendour.'

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Second reading: Revelation 3.14-22

¹⁴ 'To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. ¹⁵ I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm – neither hot nor cold – I am about to spit you out of my mouth. ¹⁷ You say, "I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing." But you do not realise that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so that you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so that you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so that you can see.

¹⁹ Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. ²⁰ Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.

²¹ To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne. ²² Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

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.**



The Collect for the Sunday next before Advent

Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Morning Collects

Anthem

The King shall rejoice

The King shall rejoice in thy strength, O Lord.

Words: Psalm 21; Music: G.F. Handel
CCLI Licence No. 1891688



Intercessions

Rachel Walker

Notices

Hymn

Just as I am

1 Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

2 Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

3 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

4 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.

5 Just as I am, of that free love
the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871). CCLI Licence No. 1891688

Sermon

Revelation 3:14-22

‘A letter on wealth’

Mike Neville



Hymn

Abide with me

(We take a collection during this hymn. People give in a variety of ways. Some may not be in a position to give. Please pass the plate on if that is appropriate for you. If you are a taxpayer, please use one of the Gift Aid envelopes in your pew, completing the information on the front. You can also give using the card reader located at the back of the church.)

1 Abide with me,
fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens;
Lord, with me abide:
when other helpers fail,
and comforts flee,
help of the helpless,
O abide with me.

2 I need thy presence
ev'ry passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil
the tempter's pow'r?
Who like thyself my guide
and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine,
Lord, abide with me.

3 I fear no foe
with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight,
and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting?
Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still,
if thou abide with me.



4 Hold thou thy cross
before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom,
and point me to the skies;
heav'n's morning breaks,
and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord,
abide with me.

Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847). CCLI Licence No. 1891688

Blessing

Voluntary

Andante in G - S.S. Wesley

Notices

Women's breakfast - Saturday 22 November 10am-11.30am

On Saturday 22 November 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, an interview with our Church Warden, Susan Wajih, speaking about how she came to faith and the impact it has had on her life, and 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 at ministrytrainee@ssz.org.uk.

Prayer Book spirituality in Advent - Sunday 30 November

On Sunday 30 November at 4.30-5.50pm in the church building, Joe will be holding a short, practical seminar on the Book of Common Prayer services of Morning and Evening Prayer, and how to use them as a guide and frame for personal prayer and Bible reading in the season of Advent. Tea, coffee and cake will be provided. Attendees are encouraged to download the 'Daily Prayer' app in advance at <https://tinyurl.com/SSZPrayer>. For more details, and to signal an interest in coming, please get in touch with Joe at joe.ammoun@ssz.org.uk.

Women's Monthly Bible Study Group

There will not be a monthly bible study on the 2nd Friday in December.
The next bible study will be on Friday 9 January 2026.

Wreath Making Event - 7pm, Wednesday 10 December

We will hold a wreath making event in the church building at 7pm on Wednesday 10 December. Tickets are £35 and you will be able to take your wreath home with you. There will also be refreshments and a short thought about the story of Christmas. This event will be a great way to introduce new people to St Simon's, so whether you've recently joined us or would like to bring friends, we would love to see you there. We have limited spaces, so in order to secure places, and for details of payment, please email Liv Jani at **ministrytrainee@ssz.org.uk**. Bookings will close on Wednesday 3 December.

Advent devotions

A number of us at St Simon's will be using the devotional booklet 'Hallelujah' during the season of Advent to prepare ourselves to celebrate Jesus' coming at Christmas. It includes 26 short reflections on passages of Scripture sung in Handel's 'Messiah' and encourages you to listen to the relevant piece of music alongside prayer and reflection. If you've taken a copy of the book, we'd encourage you to begin using it on Sunday 30 November. Music can be found via the QR code in the book or at <https://tinyurl.com/SSZMessiah>. If you'd like to join with others in the Church family in using this booklet, there will be copies available at the back of church this Sunday. We recommend a donation of £1 towards the purchase cost.

Advent Services

On **Sunday 30 November** we will hold two traditional Advent carol services at 10am and 6.30pm. Both services will feature Advent carols sung by a 6-piece (morning) or 4-piece (evening) choir, hymns, and a series of readings to set before us the hope of Christ's first and second coming to earth.

Christmas Services

Our **Nativity & Christingle service** will be held on **Saturday 6 December at 4pm**. St Simon's Sunday School children will tell the story of the nativity and present a tableau with the help of a real donkey and a real baby! Every child goes home with a Christingle and a gingerbread star. All are very welcome.

Our annual **candle-lit Christmas Carol service** takes place on **Sunday 14 December at 6.30pm**. We will hear the story of Christmas in nine readings with carols and pieces of music sung by the choir and a Christmas Reflection by Vicar, Mike Neville. The service is followed by **mulled wine and mince pies**.

Free English Christmas meal

On Wednesday 3 December after our Free English Class there will be a bring and share Christmas meal with the students in the church building. We would love congregation members to join us for the meal to chat to the students. If you are available to come from 7:45pm please do let Liv Jani know at **ministrytrainee@ssz.org.uk**

Weekly email

Associate Vicar Joe Ammoun sends out a weekly email letter each Wednesday with church family news and a short reflection. If you don't currently receive this but would like to, please get in touch with Gloria at **gloria.skelsey@ssz.org.uk**.