

St Simon
Zelotes


MORNING PRAYER WITH BAPTISM ONLINE

Sunday 2 March 2025

10.00am

St Simon Zelotes Church
Milner Street
London SW3 2QF

Tel. 020 7589 8999

www.stsimonzelotes.com



We especially welcome Zola this morning along with her parents, Henry and Dizzy, godparents, family and friends.

Welcome

Hymn *Amazing grace*

1 Amazing grace ! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found;
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

3 Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come.
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.



5 When we've been there a thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we first begun.

v1-4: John Newton (1725-1807); v5 John Rees (1828-1900)
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 Zola and uphold her in her new life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

The Minister addresses the parents and godparents

Parents and godparents, the Church receives Zola with joy. Today we are trusting God for her growth in faith. Will you pray for her, draw her by your example into the community of faith, and walk with her in the way of Christ?

With the help of God, we will.



In baptism Zola begins her journey in faith. You speak for her today. Will you care for her, and help her to take her 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

Zola 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 Zola

Zola Grace Dalton, 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.

Baptismal Anthem

The peace of God

The peace of God,
Which passeth 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 Ghost
Be amongst you
And remain with you always. Amen



First reading: Genesis 21:22-34

²² At that time Abimelek and Phicol the commander of his forces said to Abraham, ‘God is with you in everything you do. ²³ Now swear to me here before God that you will not deal falsely with me or my children or my descendants. Show to me and the country where you now reside as a foreigner the same kindness that I have shown to you.’

²⁴ Abraham said, ‘I swear it.’

²⁵ Then Abraham complained to Abimelek about a well of water that Abimelek’s servants had seized. ²⁶ But Abimelek said, ‘I don’t know who has done this. You did not tell me, and I heard about it only today.’

²⁷ So Abraham brought sheep and cattle and gave them to Abimelek, and the two men made a treaty. ²⁸ Abraham set apart seven ewe lambs from the flock, ²⁹ and Abimelek asked Abraham, ‘What is the meaning of these seven ewe lambs you have set apart by themselves?’

³⁰ He replied, ‘Accept these seven lambs from my hand as a witness that I dug this well.’



³¹ So that place was called Beersheba, because the two men swore an oath there.

³² After the treaty had been made at Beersheba, Abimelek and Phicol the commander of his forces returned to the land of the Philistines. ³³ Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba, and there he called on the name of the LORD, the Eternal God. ³⁴ And Abraham stayed in the land of the Philistines for a long time.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God



Second reading: Matthew 28:16-20

¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'

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 Lent

O Lord, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth; Send thy Holy Ghost and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee; Grant this for thine only Son Jesus Christ's sake. Amen .

Morning Collects



Anthem

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth:
for the first heaven and the first earth were passed
away;
and there was no more sea.

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem,
coming down from God out of heaven,
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a great voice out of Heaven, saying,
Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men,
and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his
people,
and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes;
and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor
crying,
neither shall there be any more pain:
for the former things are passed away.

Words: from Revelation 21; Music: Edgar Bainton
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Intercessions

Notices

Hymn

Immortal invisible

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish but naught changeth thee.

4 Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render, O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

Based on 1 Timothy 1:17; Music: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908)
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Sermon

“The God who brings peace”

Genesis 21:22-34

Joe Ammoun

Hymn

In Christ Alone

(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 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.



2 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:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied –
for every sin on him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

3 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.

4 No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r 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.



Blessing

Voluntary

Exultemus - Percy Whitlock



Notices

Hour of Prayer with Holy Communion

Our next church 'hour of prayer' will take place on **Monday 3 March from 8-9.15pm in church**. Do join us as we start with coffee and cake and then spend an hour praying for the needs of the world and the church. This Hour of Prayer will include a short informal service of Holy Communion in preparation for the beginning of Lent.

Lent

Christians have traditionally set aside additional time for reflection and prayer during the season of Lent. Here are three suggested ways that we at St Simon's can do this together this year.

Use a Devotional Guide

A number of us at St Simon's will be using the devotional booklet 'In Quietness and Trust' during the season of Lent to prepare for Easter and ponder on our need for the cross. It includes 40 reflections on Jesus' beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount and comes with a suggested daily liturgy for personal prayer. If you've taken a copy of the book, we'd encourage you to start using it on Ash Wednesday (Wednesday 5 March). 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.



Adopt a Spiritual Discipline for Lent

'In Quietness and Trust' recommends adopting a new spiritual discipline during Lent to help develop a pattern of prayer and a closer communion with God. For example, it suggests an evening pattern of self-examination or setting aside a few minutes each day to meditate on our heavenly hope. Joe is leading two 20 minute sessions on 'Making the Most of Lent' for those who plan to use the devotional booklet and are also interested in adopting one of these spiritual disciplines for Lent. The sessions will be on Sunday 2 March at 11.15AM after the Morning Service and 6PM before the Evening Service. To signal an interest in attending, please contact Joe at joe.ammoun@ssz.org.uk.

Join us Online or in person for Evening Prayer on Fridays

During Lent, we will host a short (20-25 minute) service of Common Worship Evening Prayer each Friday evening at 5.30pm (not including Good Friday) on Zoom and in St Simon's. This will involve reading a psalm, responses, moments of quiet and a brief time of open prayer for the world, church and each other. The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87152206320>. All are very welcome.



Confirmation service

Bishop Rob Munro will be coming to our evening service on Sunday 18 May for a service of confirmation. If you have never been confirmed, or have never been baptized or confirmed, and would like to know more, please speak to Joe at joe.ammoun@ssz.org.uk

Black Tie Supper - Saturday 26 April

St Simon's is hosting its annual black-tie supper on Saturday 26 April for members in their 20s and 30s, plus friends. The evening is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy music, share food and deepen friendship. Proceedings begin with a brief welcoming message about the Christian good news. It starts at 7.30pm and costs £10 per person plus BYOB. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Freddie Wilkinson at wilkinsonfdq@gmail.com.

Weekly email

Vicar Mike Neville or Curate Joe Ammoun send 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