

# The God Spot

## Game, set and match



For me, the start of July is dominated by Wimbledon - the world famous tennis tournament.

### *Traditions*

There are lots of traditions at Wimbledon - players in white, strawberries and cream, the royal box, spectators on Henman Hill (or Murray Mount), ball boys and girls in identical uniforms, queuing overnight on Wimbledon Common and, of course, the rules of the sport of tennis itself.

Churches can have lots of traditions as well - at St Thomas', there are some prayers, such as the Lord's Prayer, that we say every week. We stand up and say together the Creed, affirming what we believe. Each Sunday morning service has a fairly similar pattern of songs, prayers, the sermon and the inevitable church notices.



### *More than traditions*

However, Wimbledon would be nothing without the competitors. Each match is different, involving players with different stories, backgrounds and playing styles. They exert themselves in extraordinary ways to win games, sets and matches. We watch to marvel at their skills and athletic feats - watching people eat strawberries and cream wouldn't sustain our interest in the same way for two weeks.

Similarly, the traditions at church would be nothing without Jesus. We say the same prayers because they are prayers that Jesus taught us (the Lord's prayer) or that tell us truths about Jesus. We are not just repeating empty words, but marvelling and reminding each other of who God is and all that Jesus has done for us on the cross.

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