

Giving of Communion

Prayer After Communion

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off you met us in your Son
and brought us home.

Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

We Ask For God's Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you,
the Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you,
the Lord look lovingly on you
and give you peace;
and the blessing ...

Amen

Hymn: 522 To God be the glory

We Go In God's Strength

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.



Holy Communion - 17th September 2023 Lighting the Beacons - Stepping into the fire

Hymn: 393 O worship the king all-glorious above

We gather to worship God

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this:
'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love
the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, and with all your strength.'
The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'
There is no other commandment greater than these.
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.
Amen. Lord, have mercy.

We Say Sorry to God

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world and knows our every word
and deed. Let us then open ourselves to the Lord and confess our
sins in penitence and faith.

We share a moment of quiet to recall our need for forgiveness.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Hymn: 334 May the mind of Christ my saviour

We Listen to God's Word

**God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:
grant that your people may be fervent
in the fellowship of the gospel
that, always abiding in you,
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us so we pray:
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated 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.**

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you, and his blood which is shed for you. Eat
and drink in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on
him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

As we come to receive these holy gifts, we pray together:
**Most merciful Lord, your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit even to eat the crumbs from under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us
with the precious body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom.
Amen.**

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:
This is my body, given for you all.
Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
he took the cup, gave it and said:
This is my blood, shed for you all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.
This is our story.

This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate the cross
on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.
This is our story.

This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

**Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.
May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

Readings:

Read by Elaine Flint

2 Corinthians 1:3-11

1 Peter 4:12-19

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers for Ourselves and Others

Led by Geoff and Joy Dawe

We Share God's Peace

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

Hymn: 549 When I survey

We Celebrate Holy Communion

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Almighty God, good Father to us all, your face is turned towards
your world. In love you gave us Jesus your Son to rescue us from
sin and death. Your Word goes out to call us home to the city
where angels sing your praise.

We join with them in heaven's song:

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

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from
heaven. To the darkness Jesus came as your light.
With signs of faith and words of hope he touched untouchables
with love and washed the guilty clean. This is his story.
This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

The crowds came out to see your Son, yet at the end they turned
on him. On the night he was betrayed he came to table with his
friends to celebrate the freedom of your people. This is his story.
This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.