

We ask for God's blessing

May God, whose glory fills the heavens, and yet,  
who reaches out his hand to touch each of you with the  
spirit of encouragement, unity and peace,  
fill you with courage to live and love boldly,  
so that, with one voice, you may glorify him, discover your  
heart's true desire and be ready to meet him

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and it Holy  
Spirit, be with you and with all those you love, and remain  
with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn. God is love; his the care (169)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**Holy Communion**  
**St Michael's 21st April 2024**

Welcome

Hymn Come, let us join our cheerful songs (94)

Be with us, Spirit of God;  
**nothing can separate us from your love.**

Breathe on us, breath of God;  
**fill us with your saving power.**

Speak in us, wisdom of God;  
**bring strength, healing and peace.**  
**Amen**

Alleluia, Christ is Risen!  
**He is risen indeed, alleluia!**

We say sorry to God

**God of mercy,**  
**we acknowledge that we are all sinners.**  
**We turn from the wrong that we have thought and done**  
**and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.**  
**For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,**  
**forgive us for all that is past,**  
**and help us to live each day**  
**in the light of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the God of all love and power  
Forgive us, and free us from our sins.  
Heal and strengthen us by his Spirit.

And raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect or special prayer for today

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,  
that we may seek those things which are above, where he  
reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

We listen to God's Word

Readings. Acts 17:1-9  
1 Thessalonians. 1:1-10

Sermon

Hymn: O Breath of Life, come sweeping through us (356)

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**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.**

Received 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.**

Prayer after Communion

With gratitude to God, we pray together:

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the  
body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him  
we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living  
sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live  
and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

So Father, with this bread and this cup  
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.  
As you feed us with these gifts,  
send your Holy Spirit, and change us more and more to be  
like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us Father to love one another,  
as we look forward to that day  
when suffering is ended,  
and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with all your saints we give you glory,  
through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit,  
today and for ever. **Amen.**

Trusting in the compassion of God, we say the prayer our  
Saviour taught us:

**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.**

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.

**For us and for our salvation  
He came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit  
and 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.**

We bring our prayers to God - Intercessions

We share God's peace

We, angels and mortals, believers and non-believers,  
look heavenward and speak the word aloud.

**Peace.**

We look at our world and speak the word aloud.

**Peace.**

We look at each other, then into ourselves and we say  
without shyness, apology or hesitation

**Peace, My Brother**

**Peace, My Sister**

**Peace, My Soul**

Offertory Hymn: As the deer pants for the water (39)

We celebrate Holy Communion

With this bread that we bring  
**we shall remember Jesus.**

With this wine that we bring  
**we shall remember Jesus.**

Bread for his body, wine for his blood,  
gifts from God to his table we bring.

**We shall remember Jesus.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

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  
**It is right to give him thanks and praise**

Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living  
things reflect your glory. You give us this great and

beautiful earth to discover and to cherish. You give us sun  
and moon and star-lit sky, everything that gives us light,  
light for our eyes, our hearts, our minds.

You made us all, wonderfully different,  
To join with the angels and sing your praise:

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

We thank you loving Father, because,  
when we turned away,  
you sent Jesus, your Son.  
He gave himself for us on the cross  
and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit  
that these gifts of bread and wine  
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died,  
when darkness had fallen,  
Jesus took bread.  
he gave thanks, broke it,  
and shared it with his disciples saying:  
'This is my body, given for you.  
Do this to remember me'.

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,  
Gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples saying:  
'This is my blood poured out for you and for many,  
for the forgiveness of sins, drink this in remembrance of  
me'.