

Family Communion 25 July 2021

Welcome:

Ephesians 4.4-7

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. ⁷But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.

Song:

Light of the world,
You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

So here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God;
And You're altogether lovely,
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days,
Oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above;
Humbly You came
To the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor.

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.

Prayer:

God of our days and years, we set this time apart for you.

Form us in the likeness of Christ so that our lives may glorify you.

Amen.

We say sorry to God:

Christ calls us to share the heavenly banquet of his love with all the saints in earth and heaven.

Knowing our unworthiness and sin, let us ask from him both mercy and forgiveness.

In a dark and disfigured world we have not held out the light of life:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

In a hungry and despairing world we have failed to share our bread:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

In a cold and loveless world we have kept the love of God to ourselves:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Have mercy on us, O God, in your great goodness; according to the abundance of your compassion blot out our offences. Wash us thoroughly from our wickedness and cleanse us from my sin.

Praise:

There is a hope that burns within my heart,
That gives me strength for every passing day;
A glimpse of glory now revealed in meagre part,
Yet drives all doubt away:

I stand in Christ, with sins forgiven;
And Christ in me, the hope of heaven!
My highest calling and my deepest joy,
To make His will my home.

There is a hope that lifts my weary head,
A consolation strong against despair,
That when the world has plunged me in its deepest pit,
I find the Saviour there!

Through present sufferings, future's fear,
He whispers, 'Courage!' in my ear.
For I am safe in everlasting arms,
And they will lead me home.

There is a hope that stands the test of time,
That lifts my eyes beyond the beckoning grave,
To see the matchless beauty of a day divine
When I behold His face!
When sufferings cease and sorrows die,
And every longing satisfied.
Then joy unspeakable will flood my soul,
For I am truly home.

Prayer for today

**Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful,
for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Gospel reading:

Here the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
John 6:24-35

Glory to you O Lord

²⁴ Once the crowd realised that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus.
²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, 'Rabbi, when did you get here?' ²⁶ Jesus answered, 'Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. ²⁷ Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.' ²⁸ Then they asked him, 'What must we do to do the works God requires?' ²⁹ Jesus answered, 'The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.' ³⁰ So they asked him, 'What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do?' ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: "He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³² Jesus said to them, 'Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' ³⁴ 'Sir,' they said, 'always give us this bread.' ³⁵ Then Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you O Christ

Talk

Song of commitment:

Into your hands I commit again
All that I am for You, Lord.
You hold my world in the palm of Your hand,
And I am Yours forever.

Jesus, I believe in You.

Jesus, I belong to You.

You're the reason that I live,

The reason that I sing

With all I am.

I'll walk with You wherever You go;
Through tears and joy I'll trust in You.
And I will live in all of Your ways
And Your promises forever.
I will worship, I will worship You.
I will worship, I will worship You.

The prayers:

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Peace:

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us,
and as a pledge of what is to come has given us the Spirit to dwell in our
hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Song:

Still, my soul be still
And do not fear
Though winds of change may rage tomorrow
God is at your side
No longer dread
The fires of unexpected sorrow

*God, You are my God
And I will trust in You and not be shaken
Lord of peace renew
A steadfast spirit within me
To rest in You alone*

Still, my soul be still
Do not be moved
By lesser lights and fleeting shadows
Hold onto His ways
With shield of faith
Against temptation's flaming arrows

God, You are my God...

Still, my soul be still
Do not forsake
The truth you learned in the beginning
Wait upon the Lord
And hope will rise
As stars appear when day is dimming

God, You are my God...

The Communion

Wise and gracious God, you spread a table before us; nourish your people with the word of life and the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

And for those who are unable to share in our communion this morning I invite you to join in any way you can or say with me this prayer of spiritual communion:

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.

O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, you made the world and love your creation. You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour. His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels praising you, and *saying*:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, forever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's prayer

We pray for the coming of the Kingdom in the words Jesus 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.

Sharing of the Bread and Wine

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, Eat in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Prayer after Communion

Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Notices and banns of marriage:

Closing Song:

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard My people cry;
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
I will speak My word to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord.

Is it I, Lord?

I have heard You calling in the night.

I will go, Lord,

If You lead me;

I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain;
I have wept for love of them –
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone;
I will speak My word to them.
Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them –
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts are satisfied;
I will give My life to them.
Whom shall I send?

The Blessing:

Christ, who has nourished us with himself the living bread,
make you one in praise and love,
and raise you up at the last day;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen

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