

Christ Church Holy Communion - 1st Sunday of Epiphany. 9 January 2022

Greeting:

May the light and peace of Jesus Christ our Lord be with you.

The Lord bless you.

From today's Psalm: 29. 1&2

Praise the Lord, you heavenly angels. **Praise the Lord's glory and power.**

Praise the Lord and honour his name! **Worship the Lord in all his holy beauty.**

Our young people and leaders leave us for their own activities.

Hymn: Speak, O Lord

Saying sorry:

Lord Jesus Christ, you continually reveal your truth to us. Our privilege is the measure of our responsibility to share your good news with the world.

When all too easily we receive from you and neglect to tell others of your coming to give eternal life:

Lord, in your mercy, forgive us and strengthen us.

When we receive your gracious gifts, and clutch them to ourselves, and forget to share them with others:

Lord, in your mercy, forgive us and strengthen us.

When we know your guidance but trust in our own desires and selfish opinions:

Lord, in your mercy, forgive us and strengthen us.

When by our own choice, we walk in spiritual darkness, and do not recognise your nearness:

Lord, in your mercy, forgive us and strengthen us.

Lord, you alone can dispel our darkness: help us to worship you, to come into the fulness of your light, then go out to work for you in a darkened world, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Remaining seated we sing: Here is love vast as the ocean (168)

The Lord is good; his love endures for ever. The Lord is with us, we need not be afraid. He has heard the cry of our hearts and has set us free from our sins.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

The Epistle:

Acts 8. 14-17

Ending with This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel:

Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed in throughout the world: **Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 3. 15-17 & 21-22

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Christ is revealed in the waters of Baptism:

This day Jesus is revealed as the Christ in the waters of baptism.

I will take you from the nations: **and gather you from all the countries.**

I will sprinkle clean water upon you: **and you shall be clean.**

A new heart I will give you: **and a new spirit I will put within you.**

You shall be my people: **and I will be your God.** (*from Ezekiel 36*)

Water is taken to the font.

In his baptism, Christ identified himself with sinful humanity. Through our baptism we are united with him, in his new Body, the Church. **Blessed be God for ever.**

*Water is sprinkled as we sing: **Christ, be our light** (Bernadette Farrell)*

Reflection

A moment for our own thoughts and prayer as our musicians play.

Affirming our Faith:

At your Baptism you turned to Christ, repented of your sins, and renounced evil.

Do you now renew your allegiance to Christ?

I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Saviour and Lord.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

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?

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?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church. **Amen.**

Intercessions

The Peace:

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there shall be no end (*Isaiah 9. 6&7*)

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

Hymn: Still, my soul, be still

The Communion:

Word made flesh, life of the world,
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:
by your Spirit may we share in your riches.

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.

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God...

...and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**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...

...until he comes in glory.

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

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection...

...all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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.

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.**

We share in bread and wine.

Post Communion Prayer:

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.

Notices

Hymn: There is a Redeemer

Concluding Prayer and Blessing:

May God the Father, the rock of our salvation, who has brought us to birth as his children by the water of Baptism and the Spirit of Life, keep us faithful to our calling as followers of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

..... and the blessing

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