

Welcome to  
your Parish Church  
in the Diocese of Birmingham



## Holy Communion

Trinity 5, Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023

### We gather

*For those worshipping at home, have ready in an honoured place a portion of food and something to drink. It may be bread and wine or something else. Set your Bible alongside. You might light a candle.*

*Music as we gather:*

[Here in this place new light is streaming](#)

1. Here in this place new light is streaming,  
now is the darkness vanished away;  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings  
brought to you here in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,  
gather us in, the blind and the lame:  
call to us now and we shall awaken,  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery;  
we are the old who yearn for your face;  
we have been sung throughout all of history,  
called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,  
gather us in, the proud and the strong:  
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,  
give us the courage to enter the song.

3. Here we will take the wine and the water,  
here we will take the bread of new birth:  
here you shall call your sons and your  
daughters,  
call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,  
give us to eat the bread that is you:  
nourish us well and teach us to fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven light-years away,  
but here in this place the new light is shining,  
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us for ever,  
gather us in and make us your own,  
gather us in, all peoples together –  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

*(words & music: Marty Haugen)*

*When the song finishes we stand in silence.*

*We sing:* [The Church's one foundation](#)

1. The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation, by water and the word;  
from heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride,  
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

2. Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

3. 'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation of peace for evermore;  
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.

4. Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we  
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

*(words: Samuel John Stone; music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley)*

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

**All:      And also with you.**

WELCOME and NOTICES

*We pray:* **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.**

## We seek forgiveness

CONFESSION

Priest      God proves his love for us in that while we were sinners Christ died for  
us. Therefore with confidence let us confess our sins and seek his  
forgiveness.

*(Romans 5:8)*

*Silence*

**All:      Father, we have sinned against heaven and against you.  
We are not worthy to be called your children.  
We turn to you again.**

**Have mercy on us, bring us back to yourself  
as those who once were dead but now have life  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(cf Luke 15)

**FORGIVENESS** *is declared:*

*[May]* Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon *us*, pardon and deliver *us* from all *our* sins, confirm and strengthen *us* in all goodness, and keep *us* in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*We stand to give thanks for forgiveness, singing THE GLORIA*

[Glory to God in the highest,](#)  
and peace to his people on earth,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
**Amen.**

**THE COLLECT** for the Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

**READINGS** [Zechariah 9:9-12](#) and [Romans 7:15-25a](#)

## HYMN Happy are they, they that love God

1. Happy are they, they that love God,  
whose hearts have Christ confessed,  
who by his cross have found their life,  
and 'neath his yoke their rest.

2. Glad is the praise, sweet are the songs,  
when they together sing;  
and strong the prayers that bow the ear  
of heav'n's eternal King.

3. Christ to their homes giveth his piece,  
and makes their loves his own:  
but ah, what tares the evil one  
hath in his garden sown!

4. Sad were our lot, evil this earth,  
did not its sorrows prove  
the path whereby the sheep may find  
the fold of Jesus' love.

5. Then shall they know, the that love him,  
how hope is wrought through pain;  
their fellowship, through death itself,  
unbroken will remain.

*(words: Robert Bridges, based on 'O quam juvat' by Charles Coffin alt; music: William Croft)*

*We remain standing for the* GOSPEL READING [Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30](#)

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

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

SERMON in Church by John Parkin

*For reflection at home:*

*Paul in his writing to the Romans does not shy away from the realities of where he is at, the tension that exist between his nature as a Christian and the actions he does explaining how sometimes even when he wills what is right, he cannot do it.*

*While Paul does this writing to people that he might not even know, can we be honest with ourselves about our struggles with sin or choosing to do what is right within the privacy of our homes or with ourselves without giving excuses?*

*Paul however does not leave us in the doom and gloom of our struggles with the inconsistency of our wills and actions. He points us to Him through whom we can be delivered from sin, Jesus Christ who washes our sins away and we can go to him and openly confess and pray for forgiveness.*

*This Jesus who is our Lord, when we meet him in our gospel from Matthew 11 says, 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.' So, we can with confidence take the things that burden us not just in the contradictions of our actions but in all aspects of our lives.*

*We can be burdened by other conflicts we are seeing in our world in the abuse of power and positions, the unfairness of our justice systems, those who need healing....*

*We can list for ourselves all the things we have on our minds and have them ready when we pray.*

# We affirm our faith

*We stand and at home, if able, we turn to look in the direction of Church, to affirm our faith in God, revealed to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit:*

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## INTERCESSIONS

*For those at home:*

*We think firstly of ourselves and the tension that we live with that might be similar to Pauls and we pray for God's forgiveness and grace, for Him to be our strength and ask for his will to be done.*

*We bring to mind the list of other things we have a burden to pray for in our world for peace, justice and reconciliation and we ask God to be at the centre revealing things that are hidden for the betterment of the lives of those in need. We pray for those who are misunderstood.*

*Among those who have asked for our prayers we remember:*

*Alan Wilson, Wendy Turner, Roger Tyrrell, Margaret Shepherd, David Bick, Dorothy and Norman Brookes and Gill Parkin. We pray too for any struggling to settle into residential care.*

*Among those who have died we remember Brian Clucas and Rev'd Donald Eadie.*

*We stand for THE PEACE*

Priest: We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life. The peace of the Lord be always with you and also with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*The Table is prepared in Church. At home, now is the time to say the Lord's Prayer (below) and consume the food and drink you have prepared.*

HYMN: I cannot tell

1. I cannot tell how he whom angels worship  
should stoop to love the peoples of the earth,  
or why as shepherd he should seek the wand'rer  
with his mysterious promise of new birth.  
But this I know, that he was born of Mary,  
when Bethl'em's manger was his only home,  
and that he lived at Nazareth and laboured,  
and so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is come.

2. I cannot tell how silently he suffered,  
as with his peace he graced this place of tears,  
or how his heart upon the cross was broken,  
the crown of pain to three and thirty years.  
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted,  
and stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,  
and lifts the burden from the heavy laden,  
for yet the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is here.

3. I cannot tell how he will win the nations,  
how he will claim his earthly heritage,  
how satisfy the needs and aspirations  
of east and west, of sinner and of sage.  
But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,  
and he shall reap the harvest he has sown,  
and some glad day his sun shall shine in splendour  
when he the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.

4. I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,  
when, at his bidding, ev'ry storm is stilled,  
or who can say how great the jubilation  
when ev'ry heart with perfect love is filled.  
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,  
and myriad, myriad human voices sing,  
and earth to heav'n and heav'n to earth, will answer:  
"At last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is King!"

*(words: William Young Fullerton alt; music: Traditional Irish melody, arr Noel Rawsthorne)*

## We tell the story of salvation

Priest: The Lord be with you.

**All: 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, Lord of heaven and earth, we gladly lift our hearts to you in thanksgiving and praise, because you have hidden your story of salvation from the wise and intelligent and revealed it to infants. You have disclosed your mercy to the outcast Hagar, to the barren Sarah, to the shunned Rahab, to the childless Hannah and to the unmarried Mary. In Jesus you became a child for us, through whom we might discover the secrets of your glory. Again and again you revealed your sacred purpose through those your world despises, demeans or ignores. Finally you made your purpose known through your Son, cursed by our sin as he hung on the cross. And so we rejoice with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, singing the song of your unending praise:

**All: 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.**

Overflowing God, as you led your children to meet their destinies at the well, you became in Christ the well of life that replenishes us that we may never be thirsty again. Fill your church with your abundant grace that it may be a cup that runneth over with your mercy. Send your Holy Spirit upon this food and drink that they may be for us the body and

blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, 'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.'

*A bell is rung*

After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, '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.'

*A bell is rung*

Deacon: Great is the mystery of faith:

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

God of the weary and heavy-laden, God of the tired, the poor, the huddled masses yearning to breathe free, God of the homeless and the tempest-tossed, bring rest to all who labour today. Set your gentle yoke upon them, for you are gentle and humble in heart. Be a shining golden light in the souls of all who struggle in body, mind or spirit, with demons within or without, with fears about the future or regrets about the past. Through this communion with you in union with Christ in the power of your Spirit, write on our hearts a new law that draws us to walk with you across the storms of suffering, the tremors of temptation and the pangs of persecution. And on the last day, bring us home to you for ever.  
**Amen.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Deacon: 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.**

Priest: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**All: Though we are many, we are one body.  
For 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 and now lives for you, and feed on him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving.

*We sing:* [Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,](#)  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.

*We pause to remember all who pray at home, then share the bread, now for us the body of Christ.*

*SONG during Communion:* I heard the voice of Jesus say

1. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, thou weary one, lay down thy head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn and sad;  
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.

2. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give  
the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live."  
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.

3. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me, thy morn shall rise, and all thy day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav'ling days are done.

*(words: Horatius Bonar; music: Traditional English melody, arr Ralph Vaughan Williams)*

## We are sent out

*We pray*

**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.**

## THE BLESSING

*[May]* the God of hope fill *us* with all joy and peace as *we* put *our* trust in him and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among *us* and remain with *us* always. **Amen.**

## SONG [Praise to the Lord, the Almighty](#)

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation.  
All ye who hear,  
now to his temple draw near;  
joining in glad adoration.

2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
shieldeth thee gently from harm, or when fainting sustaineth:  
hast thou not seen  
how thy heart's wishes have been  
granted in what he ordaineth?

3. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,  
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend thee:  
ponder anew  
what the Almighty can do,  
if to the end he befriend thee.

4. Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in us adore him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him.  
Let the "Amen"  
sound from his people again,  
gladly for ay we adore him.

*(words: Joachim Neander, trans Catherine Winkworth;  
music: From 'Praxis Pietatis Melica' [1668]; descant: C S Lang)*

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

# This evening, 6.30pm Godly Play



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