

Welcome to
your Parish Church
in the Diocese of Birmingham



ALL SAINTS
KINGS HEATH



Holy Communion in Black History Month Trinity 20, Sunday 22nd October 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. In anticipation of our Gospel Reading, while few coins with King Charles' image on them are likely to have reached our purses and pockets just yet, but take some coins bearing the late Queen's face, and place them with your Bible. You might add some postage stamps which do bear the King's image.

Music as we gather:

1. God is our strength from days of old, the hope of ev'ry nation;
whose pow'r conceived the universe and set the earth's foundation.
Though hidden from our sight in uncreated light,
his presence yet is known, his wondrous presence shown, resplendent in
creation!
2. That Word of Life, before all things in primal darkness spoken,
became for us the Word made flesh for our redemption broken.
His glory set aside, for us he lived and died,
obedient to the death, renewed in life and death, to endless glory woken!

3. That Breath of God, who brooded first upon the new creation,
who lit with light the Virgin's womb to bear the world's salvation;
that Dove, whose shadow graced th'anointed Saviour's face,
now challenges all to recognise the call to hope and liberation.

4. O great Creator, Spirit, Word, the well-spring of creation,
our Alpha and our Omega, our hope and our salvation;
to Father, Spirit, Son, the Three for ever One,
and One for ever Three, mysterious Trinity, be praise and adoration.

(words: Michael Forster; music: Melody by Martin Luther)

When the song finishes we stand in silence.

HYMN

[Through all the changing scenes of life](#)

1. Through all the changing scenes of
life,
in trouble and in joy,
the praises of my God shall still
my heart and tongue employ.

2. O magnify the Lord with me,
with me exalt his name;
when in distress to him I called,
he to my rescue came.

3. The hosts of God encamp around
the dwellings of the just;
deliv'rance he affords to all
who on his succour trust.

4. O make but trial of his love:
experience will decide
how blest are they, and only they,
who in his truth confide.

5. Fear him, ye saints, and you will then
have nothing else to fear;
make you his service your delight,
your wants shall be his care.

6. To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
the God whom we adore,
be glory as it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

(words: Psalm 34 in 'New Version' [Tate and Brady, 1696]; music: George Thomas Smart)

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

Deacon God created one richly colourful human race. Humans created many nations who seek to dominate each other.

God created us, a rich spectrum from male to female, in God's image. One gender has sought to dominate.

God created all things. Human governors have forgotten the source and servant-purpose of their power and sought to dominate.

(cf Mathew 22:15-22)

We confess our need for individual and corporate forgiveness.

Silence

**All: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all people,
we acknowledge and confess the grievous sins and wickedness
which we have so often committed
by thought, word and deed against your divine majesty,
provoking most justly your anger and indignation against us.
We earnestly repent,
and are deeply sorry for these our wrongdoings;
the memory of them weighs us down,
the burden of them is too great for us to bear.
Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful, Father,
for your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that from this time onwards
we may always serve and please you in newness of life,
to the honour and glory of your name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

FORGIVENESS *is declared:*

Priest: *[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 (Murray)

**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.**

A COLLECT for the twentieth Sunday after Trinity

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; 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.**

READINGS [Isaiah 45:1-7](#) and [1 Thessalonians 1:1-10](#)

SONG Mayenziwe 'ntando yakho. (x5)

(Your will be done on earth, O Lord, S Africa;
music: South African melody, transcr John L Bell)

We remain standing for the GOSPEL READING [Matthew 22:15-22](#)

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 is offered by Lu Skerratt-Love.*

At home, hold the coins/stamps you have set aside. Turn them over and see what inscriptions they bear. Begin to think about the circulation of money in our economy, wondering who pays tax, when and how much. Ponder how in money's movement there is economic health, while its hoarding benefits no-one. Consider the purposes for which tax is demanded. Then, consider the image of our monarch, and think about how power is concentrated in this land.

If, by now, we have some idea what "giving to the emperor" might entail for us today, begin to ponder, what does "giving to God the things that are God's" look like in your life?

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, made known in Christ:

Deacon: We stand to affirm our faith:

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,

for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,

for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful,

for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,

for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,

for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

(Matthew 5:3-10)

INTERCESSIONS

Following your reflection with the coins, pray for just collection and payment of taxation; for money to move and not to be hoarded but put to life giving use. Begin to pray for the purposes for which tax is, or in your view should be used. Pray for all who hold power in this land. Pray for our City Council in dire financial straits.

Pray for the church to learn anew what giving to God means for us today. Picturing the religious leaders getting together with Herod's favourites to entrap Jesus, pray for any who find themselves cornered and imprisoned by an un-holy alliance of religion and state. Pray for all facing imprisonment or execution in regimes under-written by religious collaboration and justified by supposedly religious rhetoric. Pray for wisdom as the conflict in Gaza is confused and heightened by religious loyalties.

A prayer from Birmingham Cathedral being offered for Israel and Palestine.

Heavenly Father,
We look with horror upon the conflict in Israel and Gaza;
upon acts of terrorism, destruction and death.
Hear the lamentations of all who suffer.
Heal the fear that begets violence.
Bind up wounds which are so deep that peace seems unimaginable
except through your merciful intervention.
Grant peace. Grant justice. Grant hope.
We ask this for Jesus Christ's sake
and in the power of his Holy Spirit. Amen.

Among those who are unwell we pray for Roger Tyrrell, Janet Franks and Wendy Turner.

Remembering those who have died, we pray for the family of John Ritchie.

We stand for THE PEACE

Deacon: God calls us to peace: in God's justice is our peace. Christ calls us to be God's people: in Christ is our peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

SONG [I, the Lord of sea and sky](#)

1. 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.
Who will bear my light 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.*

2. 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?

3. 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 be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

(words & music: Dan Schutte, based on Isaiah 6)

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 our story.

All: **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 our story.

**All: This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: This is my body, given for you all.

A bell is rung.

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.

A bell is rung.

This is our story.

**All: 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.

**All: 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.

All: Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and 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 and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink 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 and wine, now for us the body and blood of Christ.

HYMN *during Communion*

The peace of the earth be with you, the peace of the heavens too;
the peace of the rivers be with you, the peace of the oceans too.
Deep peace falling over you, God's peace growing in you.

(words: Guatemalan text, trans Christine Carson; music: Guatemalan folk melody, arr John L Bell)

We are sent out

We pray **Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with your Word *[and with the body and blood of Christ]*. Strengthen us in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

[May] The peace of God which surpasses all understanding keep *our* hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among *us* and remain with *us* always . **Amen.**

HYMN [Let all the world in every corner sing](#)

1. Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!
The heav'ns are not too high,
his praise may thither fly;
the earth is not too low,
his praises there may grow.
Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!

2. Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!
The Church with psalms must shout,
no door can keep them out;
but, above all, the heart
must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!

Repeat verse 1

(words: George Herbert; music: Basil Harwood)

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

Do stay for coffee after the service if you can.

This evening, 6.30pm Making Room for God: a time of worship and adoration, rich in song.

Photographs may occasionally be taken by an appointed person during services. They are to record our church's story and may be used for publicity. If you do not wish your picture or that of your child to be used, please speak to a Sidesperson or Churchwarden. We respectfully ask that others do not take photographs at Church without permission.

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Black History Month Service

Saturday 28 October 2023, 4pm, at St Martins in the Bullring

The Diocesan Racial Justice Reference Group invite all to attend a service to celebrate Black History Month. The theme of the service is 'Valuing Our Contributions - Marking 75 years of the Windrush pioneers'.

BBC Documentary **Union** with David Olusoga is highly Recommended by a member of All Saints: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/...>