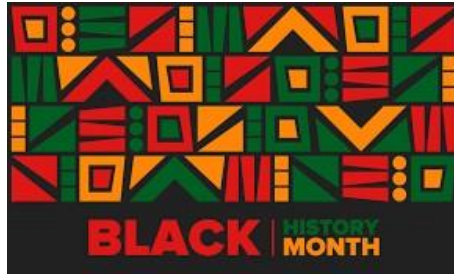


Welcome to
your Parish Church
in the Diocese of Birmingham



ALL SAINTS
KINGS HEATH



Holy Communion in Black History Month Last Sunday after Trinity, Sunday 29th 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.

Music as we gather: [Love is his word](#) (words: Luke Connaughton alt; music: Anthony Milner)

1. Love is his word, love is his way,
feasting with all, fasting alone,
living and dying, rising again,
love, only love, is his way.

*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord:
better than splendour and wealth.*

2. Love is his way, love is his mark,
sharing his last Passover feast,
Christ at the table, host to the twelve,
love, only love, is his mark.

3. Love is his mark, love is his sign,
bread for our strength, wine for our joy,
"This is my body, this is my blood."
Love, only love, is his sign.

4. Love is his sign, love is his news,
"Do this," he said, "lest you forget
all my deep sorrow, all my dear blood."
Love, only love, is his news.

5. Love is his news, love is his name,
we are his own, chosen and called,
family, brethren, cousins and kin.
Love, only love, is his name.

6. Love is his name, love is his law,
Hear his command, all who are his,
"Love one another, I have loved you."
Love, only love, is his law.

7. Love is his law, love is his word:
love of the Lord, Father and Word,
love of the Spirit, God ever one,
love, only love, is his word.

When the song finishes we stand in silence.

SONG Come all you people, come and praise your Maker, (x3)
come now and worship the Lord.

Uyai mose, tinamate Mwari, (x3)
Uyai mose zvino.

Come all you people, come and praise your Maker, (x3)
come now and worship the Lord.

Uyai mose, tinamate Mwari, (x3)
Uyai mose zvino.

(words: Alexander Gondo, from Psalm 100; music: Alexander Gondo, arr John L Bell)

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: My brothers and sisters, as we prepare to celebrate the presence of
Christ in word and sacrament, let us call to mind and confess our sins.

Silence

**All: Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy and walk humbly with you, our God. 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 (Salazaar)

Glory! Glory! Glory to God!
Glory! Glory! Glory to God!

1. Glory to God in the heights of the heavens.
Peace to God's people, all people on earth.
2. Son of the Father, all glory and worship;
praise and thanksgiving to you, Lamb of God.
3. You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us, receive our prayer.
4. Seated in pow'r at the right of the Father,
Jesus alone is the Lord, the Most High.
5. And with the Spirit of love everlasting,
reigning in glory for ever. Amen.

A COLLECT for the last Sunday after Trinity

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and or ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our 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 [Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18](#) and [1 Thessalonians 2:1-8](#)

HTMN [O God, our help in ages past](#)

1. O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.

2. Beneath the shadow of thy throne,
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

3. Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

4. A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

5. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
will bear us all away;
we fade and vanish, as a dream,
dies at the opening day.

6. O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

(words: Isaac Watts alt; music: William Croft)

We remain standing for the GOSPEL READING [Matthew 22:34-46](#)

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 Nigel Pietroni.*

At home, hear Paul's talk of caring tenderly and with gentleness, even as he writes to people he cannot physically see. You may, of necessity, feel less able to get out and about, having less direct contact with your neighbours. Think over the ways in which you do encounter people, especially strangers: a district nurse, someone on a telephone switchboard you're trying to get information from, delivery or postal workers; also consider the more removed but significant neighbourly connections, perhaps through a charity you support which may be working far away; think of those friends or family you hear from or you take the trouble to call. Hold these kinds of connection before God and see what "lov[ing] your neighbour as yourself" might look like. In what ways, however modest, can you help them think better of themselves and more of God after their encounter with you?

We affirm our faith

We stand and at home, if able, we turn to look in the direction of Church:

APOSTLE'S CREED

Deacon: We stand to declare our faith in God, made known 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

We pray for any who are isolated and need a neighbour to show some respect, dignity and love.

We pray for the quality of our own interactions and relationships, especially with strangers, that our demeanour may turn them into neighbours, even for the brief time of our encounters.

We pray for Israel, mourning 1400 slaughtered, 200 held hostage; and for Gaza mourning 7000 slaughtered and a million displaced (as at Thursday 26th October). Show us how to uphold the humanity of all. Help us to resist the confidence trickery of zero-sum rhetoric, the debasement of international law and the distracting competition over terminology. Keep us alert to prejudice of every kind. Bring to light defiant gestures of Shalom, Salam, to out-shine manipulation, deceit and even understandable bitterness.

Among those who are unwell we pray for Tricia Howard, Kathy Farbrother, John Parkin, Roger Tyrrell, Janet Franks and Wendy Turner.

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

We stand for THE PEACE

Deacon: Jesus says, "Love your neighbour as yourself." The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

HYMN [Immortal, invisible, God only wise](#)

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

3. To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render, O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

(words: Walter Chalmers Smith, based on 1 Timothy 1:17; music: Adapted from a traditional Welsh hymn melody in John Roberts' 'Caniadu y Cyssegr' [1839]; descant: Barry Rose)

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.

Joyful, joyful, we adore you God of glory, Lord of love. You wrote your law not only on to stone tablets but into the very life of your holy people. Through Moses you summoned your people to love you with all their heart, all their soul and all their might. When your Son, walking in the way of the law and the prophets, came to live among us, loving you with all his heart and soul and mind and strength, he showed us how to love our neighbours as ourselves. When his neighbours did not love him and raise him up in shame on the cross, you raised him in the glory of the resurrection. You, O Lord our God, are holy and you are one. And so we remember and celebrate your covenant with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven as we join the unending hymn.

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.

Abiding God, you are our dwelling place in every generation. You sent your spirit of wisdom to rest upon Joshua, and blessed him through the hands of Moses to continue the story of your mighty works. You sent Jesus as the new Joshua, our saviour and the pioneer of our hope. As we remember our Lords saving mercies, send down your Holy Spirit to continue in and through us your story of salvation, and sanctify this bread and cup to be for us the body and blood of our Lord 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.**

Embracing God, you invite us to love you by loving our neighbours. Open wide every heart to the way of your commandments. Make your church a living body of your law, written into one shared life. Fill your children with the zeal of the prophets. Show your people how to love their neighbours not only in word but in action. Pour your transforming

Spirit upon any whose most difficult struggle is learning to love themselves. Reveal yourself in the face of friend and stranger, until that day when your world shall see you face to face; when, by the fullness of your grace, we come to share in your lasting glory, ever-loving God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **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* [Take this moment](#)

1. Take this moment, sign and space;
take my friends around;
here among us make the place
where your love is found.

2. Take the time to call my name,
take the time to mend
who I am and what I've been,
all I've failed to tend.

3. Take the tiredness of my days,
take my past regret,
letting your forgiveness touch
all I can't forget.

4. Take the little child in me,
scared of growing old;
help her here to find her worth
made in Christ's own mould.

5. Take my talents, take my skills,
take what's yet to be;
let my life be yours, and yet,
let it still be me.

(words: John L Bell & Graham Maule; music: 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] God who has nourished us with himself, the living bread, make *you* one in praise and love, and raise *us* up at the last day; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among *us* and remain with *us* always . **Amen.**

SONG

We are marching in the light of God. (x4)
We are marching, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, we are marching in the light of God.

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos. (x4)
Siyahamb', siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos.
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos.

We are marching in the light of God. (x4)
We are marching, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, we are marching in the light of God.

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos. (x4)
Siyahamb', siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos.
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos.

(words & music: Traditional South African, arr Anders Nyberg)

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.



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Eucharistic Prayer from Joining the Angels' Song, Samuel Wells and
Abigail Kocher, Canterbury Press 2016

*This evening, **4pm Memorial Service**, remembering those who have died and those who have been bereaved in the last year. If you would like to come and remember anyone from further back, of course, you are very welcome.*

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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