

Welcome to  
your Parish Church  
in the Diocese of Birmingham



ALL SAINTS  
KINGS HEATH

## Holy Communion for Epiphany II

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024

### We gather

*If you are 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: [In Christ alone](#)*

1. In Christ alone my hope is found,  
he is my light, my strength, my song;  
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All,  
here the love of Christ I stand.

2. In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,  
fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
scorned by the ones he came to save:  
till on that cross as Jesus died,  
the will of God was satisfied –  
for every sin on him was laid;  
here in the death of Christ I live.

3. There in the ground his body lay,  
light of the world by darkness slain:  
then bursting forth in glorious day  
up from the grave he rose again!

And as he stands in victory  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
for I am his and he is mine –  
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
this is the power of Christ in me;  
from life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
can ever pluck me from his hand;  
till he returns or calls me home,  
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

*(words & music: Stuart Townend & Keith Getty)*

*When the song ends we stand to sing:*

1. All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name,  
let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem  
and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.

2. Crown him, all martyrs of your God,  
who from his altar call;  
praise him whose way of pain you trod,  
and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.

3. O prophets faithful to his word,  
in matters great and small,  
who made his voice of justice heard,  
now crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.

4. All sinners, now redeemed by grace,  
who heard your Saviour's call,  
now robed in light before his face,  
O crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.

5. Let ev'ry tribe and ev'ry race  
who heard the freedom call,  
in liberation, see Christ's face  
and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.

6. Let ev'ry people, ev'ry tongue  
to him their heart enthrall:  
lift high the universal song  
and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.

*(words: Edward Perronet, adapt Michael Forster; music: William Shrubsole)*

Priest: In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus  
Christ be with *us* all. **Amen.**

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: By the mercies of God, let us confess our sins and present our  
bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to him, which is  
our spiritual worship. (Romans 12:1)

*Silence*

Lord Jesus, illuminate the darkness of our hearts.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your saving love.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

(1)

Lord Jesus, unstop our ears to hear your living word.

Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*ABSOLUTION At home we pray for forgiveness. In church, the priest declares forgiveness for all, wherever we worship:*

*May the God of healing and forgiveness draw us to himself, and cleanse us from all our sins that we may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.***

## THE GLORIA

1. Glory be to God in heaven,  
peace to those who love him well;  
on the earth let all his people  
speak his grace, his wonders tell:  
Lord, we praise you for your glory,  
mighty Father, heavenly King;  
hear our joyful adoration  
and accept the thanks we bring.

2. Only Son of God the Father,  
Lamb who takes our sin away,  
now with him in triumph seated,  
for your mercy, Lord we pray:  
Jesus Christ, most high and holy;  
Saviour, you are God alone  
in the glory of the Father  
with the Spirit: Three in One!

*We pray* THE COLLECT for the Second Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory, 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.**

BIBLE READINGS [1 Samuel 3:1-10](#) and [Revelation 5:1-10](#)

HYMN 1. There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son,  
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

*Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son,  
and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.*

2. Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names,  
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, O for sinners slain.

3. When I stand in glory, I will see his face,  
and there I'll serve my King for ever, in that holy place.

*(words: Melody Green, based on Scripture; music: Melody Green, arr Christopher Tambling)*

## GOSPEL READING [John 1:43-end](#)

*In church we stand and, when it is announced, we say:*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON *in Church is from Tariro.*

*At home,*

*Read Psalm 139 1-10, which is a lectionary choice today.*

*Let the awareness of and awe at God's complete knowledge of us sink in.*

*Being **known** at first may seem uncomfortable, but quite soon is a relief.*

*There is nothing to hide.*

*Then read the Revelation reading and picture the bowl of incense in heaven, an image of the "prayers of the saints." That includes our prayers. The writer conveys how our prayers of lament, petition, praise, confession and thanks are cherished in heaven, held and heard with reverence. Not only are we known. We are **heard**.*

*Then watch the delightful social interaction around Jesus where people keep inviting and questioning and gathering around him. Andrew, Simon, Philip, Nathaniel are called to join Jesus' learning community. They will eventually be called to specific ministry within and beyond it. We are known. We are heard. We are **called**.*

*How humanity craves these three things: being understood, being listened to and having purpose. How these good desires become distorted and we try to satisfy them in unhealthy ways, leading to all kinds of social and religious and international dysfunction and violence. How quickly the politics of envy would melt away if these three longings could be met healthily. They can. In God, made known in Christ, we have all we need to rebalance and orientate our lives.*

## We affirm our faith

## APOSTLES' CREED

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

Deacon: We stand to affirm our faith in God in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**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

*At home, pray for all who feel misunderstood, isolated or unloved, that they may feel aware of God's knowing company.*

*As we pray for those who have asked for our prayers, picture the angels receiving and honouring those needs, holding them before God like a beautiful bowl of incense.*

*Mark Santer, home after time in hospital; Kathy Farbrother, Trish Howard and Rachel Prince; Mthanki in hospital in the Netherlands, the granddaughter of a Hindu Kings Heath neighbour who has asked for our prayers.*

*Among those who grieve, we pray for Pat and Jean Tilley mourning their sister Janet.*

*Pray for the Church, especially for the nurture of vocations to ministry of every kind, from ordination to readership, from flower arrangers and Sunday school leaders to Churchwardens and PCC representatives and hidden pray-ers. Pray for you own calling to evolve. Pray for all whose work is tiring or dispiriting, that a sense of vocation re-ignite motivation and inspire them anew.*

## THE PEACE

*We pause to remember each other: those worshipping at home, and those worshipping in Church.*

Deacon: Christ is our peace. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new. The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## HYMN [Alleluia, sing to Jesus](#)

1. Alleluia, sing to Jesus,  
his the sceptre, his the throne;  
alleluia, his the triumph,  
his the victory alone:  
hark, the songs of peaceful Sion  
thunder like a mighty flood:  
Jesus, out of ev'ry nation,  
hath redeemed us by his blood.

2. Alleluia, not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
alleluia, he is near us,  
faith believes, nor questions how;  
though the cloud from sight received  
him  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise,  
"I am with you evermore"?

3. Alleluia, bread of angels,  
here on earth our food, our stay;  
alleluia, here the sinful  
come to you from day to day.  
Intercessor, friend of sinners,  
earth's redeemer, plead for me,  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.

4. Alleluia, King eternal,  
he the Lord of lords we own;  
alleluia, born of Mary,  
earth his footstool, heav'n his  
throne;  
he within the veil has entered  
robed in flesh, our great High  
Priest;  
he on earth both priest and victim  
in the Eucharistic Feast.

*(words: William Chatterton Dix, alt editors of 'Complete Anglican Hymns Old & New';  
music: Rowland Huw Pritchard, arr Ralph Vaughan Williams)*

*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, first praying:*

God, whose Spirit unites and inspires us, with this symbolic meal bind me into the fellowship of the world wide church, and assure me of my place in your heart. **Amen.**

## We tell the story of God's faithfulness

*In Church we stand, if able, for the Eucharistic Prayer*

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.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. And now we give you thanks because in the incarnation of the Word a new light has dawned upon the world, that all the nations may be brought out of darkness to see the radiance of your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing:

**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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ and, as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; who in the



same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

*A bell is rung.*

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, 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.*

Great is the mystery of faith.

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

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise.

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

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Redeemer of the world, give us your peace. (x2)**

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

SONG *during Communion* [O God, you search me and you know me](#)

1. O God, you search me and you know me.  
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.  
When I walk or lie down you are before me:  
ever the maker and keeper of my days.

2. You know my resting and my rising.  
You discern my purpose from afar,  
and with love everlasting you besiege me:  
in every moment of life and death, you are.

3. Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,  
you have known its meaning through and through.  
You are with me beyond my understanding:  
God of my present, my past and future, too.

4. Although your Spirit is upon me,  
still I search for shelter from your light.  
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you:  
even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

5. For you created me and shaped me,  
gave me life within my mother's womb.  
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you:  
safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

*(words & music: Bernadette Farrell, based on Psalm 139)*

**We are sent out**

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

THE BLESSING

*May* Christ the Son of God perfect in *us* the image of his glory and gladden *our* hearts with the good news of his kingdom and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among *us* and remain with *us* always.  
**Amen.**

HYMN [O Jesus, I have promised](#)

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;  
be thou for ever near me, my Master and my friend:  
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.
  
2. O let me feel thee near me: the world is ever near;  
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;  
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;  
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.
  
3. O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,  
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;  
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;  
O speak and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.
  
4. O let me see thy foot-marks, and in them plant mine own;  
my hope to follow duly is in thy strength alone:  
O guide me, call me, draw me, uphold me to the end;  
and then in heav'n receive me, my Saviour and my friend.

*(words: John Ernest Bode; music: James William Elliott)*

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



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