

Welcome to  
your Parish Church  
in the Diocese of Birmingham



ALL SAINTS  
KINGS HEATH

## Holy Communion in Refugee Week

Trinity 4, Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2024

### 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:*

#### [Will your anchor hold](#)

1. Will your anchor hold in the storms of life,  
when the clouds unfold their wings of strife?  
When the strong tides lift, and the cables strain,  
will your anchor drift, or firm remain?

*We have an anchor that keeps the soul  
steadfast and sure while the billows roll;  
fastened to the rock which cannot move,  
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!*

2. Will your anchor hold in the floods of death,  
when the waters cold chill your latest breath?  
On the rising tide you can never fail,  
while your anchor holds within the veil.

3. Will your eyes behold through the morning light,  
the city of gold and the harbour bright?  
Will you anchor safe by the heav'nly shore,  
when life's storms are past for evermore?

*(words: Priscilla Jane Owens; music: William James Kirkpatrick)*

*When the song finishes we stand in silence.*

*We sing:* [He who would valiant be](#)

1. He who would valiant be 'gainst all disaster,  
let him in constancy follow the Master.  
There's no discouragement shall make him once relent  
his first avowed intent to be a pilgrim.
2. Who so beset him round with dismal stories,  
do but themselves confound – his strength the more is.  
No foes shall stay his might, though he with giants fight:  
he will make good his right to be a pilgrim.
3. Since, Lord, thou dost defend us with thy Spirit,  
we know we at the end shall life inherit.  
Then fancies flee away! I'll fear not what men say,  
I'll labour night and day to be a pilgrim.

*(words: Percy Dearmer, after John Bunyan; music: Traditional English melody, coll & arr Ralph Vaughan Williams)*

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 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)

**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:*

*[May]* the God of love and power forgive *you* and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen *you* by his Spirit, and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

*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.

THE COLLECT for the fourth Sunday after Trinity

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

READINGS [Job 38:1-11](#) and [2 Corinthians 6:1-13](#)

HYMN Oft in danger, oft in woe

1. Oft in danger, oft in woe,  
onward, Christians, onward go;  
bear the toil, endure the strife,  
strengthened with the bread of life.

2. Onward through the desert night,  
keeping faith and vision bright;  
face the challenge of the hour  
trusting in your Saviour's pow'r.

3. Let not sorrow dim your eye,  
soon shall ev'ry tear be dry;  
let not fears your course impede,  
great your strength if great your need.

4. Let your drooping hearts be glad;  
march in faith and honour clad;  
march, nor think the journey long,  
march to hope's eternal song.

5. Onward, then, undaunted, move;  
more than faithful God will prove;  
though the raging waters flow,  
Christian pilgrims, onward, go.

*(words: Henry Kirke White & others; music: Henry John Gauntlett)*

*We remain standing for the* GOSPEL READING [Mark 4: 35 – end](#)

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

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

## SERMON in church from Tariro

I have never been a teacher in the sense of children or even adults in classes and teaching for hours and trying to make sure they understand and furthermore do extra lessons or should I say private tutoring for those few that maybe did not get what the listen was about or maybe who need more depth. I however have friends who are teachers and have sat across many others who were teachers some of whom are in our church and they have shared of the tiredness at the end of the day, week, term. How much they have needed or even earned a glass of something nice, how much they have looked forward to the weekend, half term or even just getting home to some quiet.

When we encounter Jesus in this chapter of Mark, he has been doing that, teaching in parables using analogies that are better understood on the ground even though he is talking about the kingdom of God. And on this specific day Jesus tells his disciples let cross to the other side and he leaves the crowd behind. And the storm hits as he is in the stern, asleep on the cushion and they ask, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing? He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?'

I cannot help but be drawn to the many stories that have made headlines on our news. The thousands of boats that have attempted to cross the channels in search of a better life. In search of some peace. In search of a quiet life. In search of life, better life. In survival mode. I wonder how many of them were afraid? I wonder at the choices they made that said it's better to face the storm than to remain here, here being where they were before embarking on such a risky journey.

It's easy to speak of risk, not safe and dangerous when you are in a place of comfort. But when your options are a rock and a hard place I'm not sure it is the same. I am not being political here but I want us to imagine, to put ourselves in those uncomfortable shoes because only then can we truly grasp where these disciples are at, where all those who have come as refugees and asylum seekers find themselves.

Jesus asks the question, 'Why are you afraid?' I can't really say I blame the disciples. When you read of them in other gospels well, they did not come from affluent backgrounds, they had to toil all night fishing, they had to cheat people out of their money to earn a living to name a few things so this life of 'God will take care of it' had to get some used to before they could really own it and walk in it. In fact, it took up to the Holy Spirit to falling on them to have that kind of boldness.

Each of us when we sit down, have our own fears buried deep in our hearts. Some we can share, others we share to a point and others, well we are in the, 'I could tell you but the I will have to kill you' category.

Jesus however is bringing us the good news that, it doesn't matter the storms that darken your life, He is able to calm them down. He is the same Jesus that went to the cross for you and me and so we need not be afraid because he is there.

Paul when he writes to the Corinthians he is very direct in fact others have named his second letter severe because he is very direct about some of the things he has had to go through, as he says, 'but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger;'

Some of the storms if not most of them will be at the hands of other people and or other things like natural disasters and literal storms that will wash things away etc. Paul adds that, 'We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.'

As some of you might know, the world refugee day was the 20<sup>th</sup> of June, and this has been refugee week where throughout Birmingham there were many events that were celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary. Celebrating the people who have had the attitudes as Paul writes that look to rejoice despite their difficulties, who do not get to see their families but do not begrudge anyone but in fact give of themselves to enrich the lives of others. They will look like they have nothing and yet live with the little they have like they have everything. Maybe, just maybe we need to sit down with them and ask what is it that is at the core of their attitude and response that gives despite being robbed themselves of some of their freedom.

Paul says for them it is 'by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute.' God is the source of their strength and attitude and positive outlook. He doesn't stop there but pleads with the Corinthians to open their hearts wide open to receiving from God just as they openly shared their God given affection.

We need not be afraid to trust God or to ask him to help us in our storms. When God replies to Job in the passage we heard he asks of him and us,

*'Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?*

*Tell me, if you have understanding.*

*Who determined its measurements—surely you know!*

*Or who stretched the line upon it?*

*On what were its bases sunk,*

*or who laid its cornerstone*

*when the morning stars sang together*

*and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?*

*'Or who shut in the sea with doors*

*when it burst out from the womb?—*

*when I made the clouds its garment,*

*and thick darkness its swaddling band,*

*and prescribed bounds for it,*

*and set bars and doors,*

*and said, "Thus far shall you come, and no farther,*

*and here shall your proud waves be stopped"?*

God already knows all these things, our circumstances, our storms. He was there in the beginning. There is nothing we can teach him. All he wants is for us to put our trust in him. Will you give him a chance? Will you open up your heart to him?

# 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:*

## Affirmation of Faith

Deacon: Let us declare our faith in God.

**All: We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.  
We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.  
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.  
We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

## INTERCESSIONS

We pray for our world, for peace and love, we pray especially for the general elections taking place soon, for those who are campaigning and all involved in the elections and the wider population for love respect and grace towards one another.

We pray for our Bishops, priests, deacons, lay leaders, those who lead children's and young people's group we think especially of those preparing for their ordinations for God's light to shine on them and the Spirit leads them.

As refugee week comes to an end, we give thanks as we celebrate the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary.

Here is a prayer from The Church of England:

*'Almighty and merciful God,*

*whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own;*

*look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger,*

*homeless and hungry.*

*Bless those who work to bring them relief;*

*inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts;*

*and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace;*

*through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.'*

Among those in our community who are unwell, we remember Adrian Koslowski, Tricia Howard, Bill Myring, Howard Drury, John Wallace-Howell, Charlotte Dunlop and Martina Osborne.

We give thanks for Robert Rigby's funeral and continue to pray for his wife Margaret and all the families grieving during this time.

*We stand for* THE PEACE

Deacon: We are all one in Christ Jesus. We belong to him through faith, heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

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 Beth'lem'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)*



*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.**

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. From sunrise to sunset this day is holy, for Christ has risen from the tomb and scattered the darkness of death with light that will not fade. This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered people, unfolds for us your word, and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread. And though the night will overtake this day you summon us to live in endless light, the never-ceasing sabbath of the Lord. And so, with choirs of angels and with all the heavenly host, we proclaim your glory and join their unending song of 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.**

Faithful God, in christ you speak to us amidst the storm of our fear and dwell with us when our faith is weak. You are with us even when we lament our peril and doubt our destiny. Come upon your church today in the power of your Spirit, that your people may be reborn as children of hope and courage and endurance. Send that same Spirit upon this bread and this cup that we may find in them the joy of your presence and 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.**

Sustaining God, inspire all whom you call to serve you that now is the day of salvation. Infuse your church with purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit and genuine love. When your disciples face afflictions, hardships, calamities, imprisonments and hunger, make them possessors of all things in you, until that day when dishonour and distrust and death are no more and your Spirit fills your creation with the glory of your risen Son, eternal Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Deacon: As our Saviour taught us, in our own language, 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*

**Faithful One (*sing twice*)**

Faithful One, so unchanging,  
Ageless One, you're my rock of peace.  
Lord of all I depend on you,  
I call out to you again and again.  
I call out to you again and again.

You are my rock in times of trouble.  
You lift me up when I fall down.  
All through the storm your love is the anchor,  
my hope is in you alone.

*(words & music: Brian Doerksen)*

**Be still and know that I am God**

1. Be still and know that I am God. *(x3)*
2. I am the Lord that healeth thee. *(x3)*
3. In thee, O Lord, I put my trust. *(x3)*

*(words: Unknown, based on Psalm 46; music: Unknown, arr Adrian Vernon Fish)*

## 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]* God the Father humble *us*; God the Son uphold *us*; God the Holy Spirit inspire *us*, 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)*

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

This evening, 6.30pm  
Making room for God worship service.



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