

Welcome to
your Parish Church
in the Diocese of Birmingham



ALL SAINTS
KINGS HEATH



Synagoga del Agua, Ubeda, Andalusia

Holy Communion Trinity 15, Sunday 8th September 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: [Be still, for the presence of the Lord](#)

1. Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here; come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground;
be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

2. Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

3. Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place;
he comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace.
No work too hard for him, in faith receive from him;
be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

(words & music: David J Evans, arr Richard Shephard)

When the song finishes we stand in silence.

We sing: [All creatures of our God and King](#)

1. All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing
alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam:
*O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

2. Thou rushing wind that art so
strong,
ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise him, alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice:
O praise him...

3. Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
alleluia, alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
that givest us both warmth and light:
O praise him...

4. Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One.
O praise him...

*(words: William Henry Draper alt, based on the 'Cantico di Frate Sole' of St Francis of Assisi;
music: 'Geistliche Kirchengesang', Cologne [1623], 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 Let us confess the sins which separate us from God and neighbour, which divide people from the land, and which narrow our vision for community.

Silence

We will hear of restoration to community for those excluded by poverty or disability. For our knowing and unwitting participation in exclusion: Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

We will hear of restoration of ecology and natural habitat. For our knowing and unwitting desecration of the land, Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

We will hear of restoration between people of different culture and faith. For our knowing and unwitting prejudice and hostility, Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

FORGIVENESS *is declared:*

[May] The God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins and assure us of his eternal love in 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 fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ 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 35:4-7a](#) and [James 2:1-17](#)

HYMN [Give thanks with a grateful heart](#) (*sing twice*)

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich,"
because of what the Lord has done for us. (*repeat*)

Give thanks. *(words & music: Henry Smith)*

We remain standing for the GOSPEL READING [Mark 7:24-end](#)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

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 David*

At home:

Think of a time when you felt you had no voice, or no one would listen to you.

Think of a time when someone has drawn you into a group you weren't sure you could belong to.

Perhaps you have lived with a disability for a long time, or have experienced temporary disability, for example, while recovering from surgery. Many of us live with sight or hearing loss.

The thing our readings emphasise about such circumstances is the isolation they cause. Or rather, the isolation that ensues because others cause it. Juxtaposing the two different needs of the Syrian mother and the physically disabled man, Mark invites us to compare their isolation. The man is unfortunate in his isolating disability, and perhaps has the additional humiliation of being treated as a sort of trophy, or curiosity but the crowd (hence Jesus taking him somewhere private to heal him). The woman is unfortunate because her daughter is gravely ill but, to add to that isolating worry, when she appeals for help she has to navigate prejudice about her religious and ethnic identity.

It is the people and culture around them that makes their needs isolating, not the needs themselves.

Think about who might be excluded, or whose voices may not be heard: in Church, in Politics, in your personal networks and groups.

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. (At home, simply begin each paragraph "I believe..." as statement rather than question.)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Deacon: Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

All: I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the
people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him/her.

This is the Faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

INTERCESSIONS in Church are led by Clare Noakes.

For those at home:

*The pattern of exclusion, then restoration, in our three readings prompts us to pray:
For the land, where human behaviour has leached the goodness out of the soil,
where climate change makes it barren, where wildlife habitats are destroyed.*

*For those whose disabilities leave them marginalised or, worse, objects of voyeurism
or mockery.*

For any who feel they have no political voice.

For those on the receiving end of hostility, class-based prejudice or xenophobia.

*We pray not only for them, but for change in the culture around them, that
disability, poverty, religious devotion and ethnicity may bring out the best in others.
We pray that healthy enjoyment of diversity may be restored.*

*Among those who are unwell we pray for Gill Parkin and Jenny Watling. We
remember Jean Caswell as she settles into a new residential care home.*

*Among those who have died we remember Elaine Apps, Mark Santer and Timothy
Dudley-Smith.*

(Mark and Timothy, whose hymns we sing, were consecrated as bishops together)

We stand for THE PEACE

Deacon: Jesus was lifted up so that he might draw all people to himself.

(cf John 12:32)

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: The peace of the Lord be always with you

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

HYMN

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)

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.

Maker and redeemer of all, we lift our hearts to thank you, because you open our ears to hear your voice and release our tongue to sing your praise. You created the earth as a place of encounter between you and your creatures. You called your people from slavery and wilderness to covenant and abundant life. You gave your children manna to share and from the crumbs that fell from their table you made a banquet to welcome the Gentiles to the joy of your companionship. You made the body of your crucified and risen son the altar of your mercy and of our redemption. And so we zealously proclaim the triumphs of your grace, joining with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven in the hymn of your eternal glory.

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.

Life-giving God, you share your bread with the poor and you make this banquet the place where in the power of your Spirit we are united as one body in your Son. Make this meal a moment of reconciliation between you and your people, and let those who share in it be ambassadors of reconciliation within your wounded world. Send your

Holy Spirit upon this bread and this cup that they may 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.

God of the afflicted, you have chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that you have promised to those who love you. Make your church rich as you are rich, in compassion and mercy, in wisdom and grace; and make your people poor as you are poor, in sharing the calamity of those who endure injustice and in knowing the pain of all who live with the world's anger. Take away the mask of poverty, that all may see with joy the riches of those the world calls poor; and remove the mask of wealth, that all may see with love the poverty of those the world calls rich. Hasten the day when your gentle mercy triumphs over the world's harsh judgement and all find a place at the feast of your kingdom, ever one 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.

SONGS *during Communion* [We cannot measure](#)

1. We cannot measure how you heal
or answer ev'ry sufferer's prayer,
yet we believe your grace responds
where faith and doubt unite to care.
Your hands, though bloodied on the
cross,
survive to hold and heal and warn,
to carry all through death to life
and cradle children yet unborn.

2. The pain that will not go away,
the guilt that clings from things long
past,
the fear of what the future holds,
are present as if meant to last.
But present too is love which tends
the hurt we never hoped to find,
the private agonies inside,
the memories that haunt the mind.

3. So some have come who need your help
and some have come to make amends,
as hands which shaped and saved the world
are present in the touch of friends.
Lord, let your Spirit meet us here
to mend the body, mind and soul,
to disentangle peace from pain
and make your broken people whole.

(words The Iona Community; music: Traditional Scottish melody, arr John L Bell & Graham Maule)

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

Christ, who has nourished us with himself the living bread, make you one in praise and love, and raise you 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.**

(+Mark chose John 6:35-40 for his funeral. This blessing flows from it.)

HYMN [Thou, whose almighty word](#)

1. Thou, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

2. Thou, who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing,
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to humankind
let there be light.

3. Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move on the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

4. Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide
let there be light.

(words: John Marriott alt; music: Melody from Madan's 'Collection' [1769], adapt Felice de Giardini)

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

*This evening, 6.30pm **Evening Prayer***



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- leave a gift of cash on the collection plate on your way out of church;
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