

Welcome to
your Parish Church
in the Diocese of Birmingham



ALL SAINTS
KINGS HEATH

Afraid to be called?

Holy Communion for the fourth Sunday before Lent
Sunday 9th February 2025

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.

Giving to All Saints: Please see the note at the end of this service sheet.

Music as we gather: [Follow me](#)

*Follow me, follow me, leave your home and family,
leave your fishing nets and boats upon the shore.
Leave the seed you have sown, leave the crops that you've grown,
leave the people you have known and follow me.*

1. The foxes have their holes and the swallows have their nests,
but the Son of Man has no place to lie down,
I do not offer comfort, I do not offer wealth,
but in me will all happiness be found.

2. If you would follow me, you must leave old ways behind.
You must take my cross and follow on my path.
You may be far from loved ones, you may be far from home,
but my Father will welcome you at last.

3. Although I go away you will never be alone,
for the Spirit will be there to comfort you.
Though all of you may scatter, each follow his own path,
still the Spirit of love will lead you home.

(words: Michael Cockett; music: Cuddy Madeleine, arr Donald Thomson)

When the song ends we stand to sing:

HYMN [To God be the glory!](#)

1. To God be the glory! great things he hath done;
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son;
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord! let the earth hear his voice;
praise the Lord, praise the Lord! let the people rejoice:
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory; great things he hath done!*

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
to ev'ry believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.

(words: Frances Jane van Alstyne [Fanny J Crosby]; music: William Howard Doane)

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.

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: We confess our sins to God, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

Silence

**Almighty God, long-suffering and of great goodness:
I confess to you, I confess with my whole heart
my neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments,
my wrong doing, thinking and speaking;
the hurts I have done to others,
and the good I have left undone.
O God, forgive me, for I have sinned against you;
and raise me to newness of Life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

[May] God forgive us our sins and bring us to the fellowship of his table with his saints for ever. Your guilt has departed. Your sin is blotted out. Amen. (Isaiah 6:7)

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

Almighty God, by whose grace alone we are accepted and called to your service: strengthen us by your Holy Spirit and make us worthy of our calling; 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 [Isaiah 6:1-8](#) and [1 Corinthians 15:1-11](#)

HYMN

1. My God, how wonderful you are,
your majesty how bright;
how beautiful your mercy-seat
in depths of burning light!

2. Creator from eternal years
and everlasting Lord,
by holy angels day and night
unceasingly adored!

3. How wonderful, how beautiful
the sight of you must be –
your endless wisdom, boundless
power,
and awesome purity!

4. O how I fear you, living God,
with deepest, tenderest fears,
and worship you with trembling hope
and penitential tears!

5. But I may love you too, O Lord,
though you are all-divine,
for you have stooped to ask of me
this feeble love of mine.

6. Father of Jesus, love's reward,
great King upon your throne,
what joy to see you as you are
and know as I am known!

(words: Frederick William Faber; music: James Turle)

GOSPEL READING [Luke 5:1-11](#)

In church we remain standing and, when it is announced, we say:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke.
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: Do you seek the limelight or shy away from it? Perhaps sensibly you sat far back, hoping not to be picked on by the Pantomime Dame. Perhaps you love to be part of the show. Perhaps you don't feel ready or skilled enough for some task. Which weighs more, the fear of missing out, or the fear of failure or ridicule? Do we seek a job that stretches us or one in which we feel reassuringly capable? Most of us, at some time if not all of the time, feel we might be found out as impostors.

Looking at it the other way around, what does allow us to participate in something public? What makes us secure enough to receive something challenging or thought provoking?

Simon was happy to lend his boat to the preacher. He was glad to have a practical job to do while listening, cleaning his nets so it might appear he had more important things to do than listen. It provided a shield for his self-consciousness. Whatever he heard did affect him. For he did what the preacher suggested, even though he'd just cleaned up after his unsuccessful outing. We reach a climax, though, when after the huge apparently miraculous haul of fish, Simon feels too exposed, in the bright light of God's attention. This gift of an abundant catch was undeserved. Any self doubt that had kept him listening to the preacher's message about a kingdom of forgiveness now overflowed in a public display of shame. How startled he must

have been when Jesus declared Simon's closing down, get-away-from-me ending into a new beginning.

Isaiah couldn't really control what he was seeing in his dreamy vision of heaven. There, too, in the light of God's attention he felt shame and inadequacy, only to find it turned on its head: God disarmingly asking for someone to help. Whom shall I send? Having received the gift of forgiveness, Isaiah found the courage to offer.

Paul knew his inadequacy – more than that, his wilful destructiveness (1 Corinthians 15). And yet when stopped in his tracks by Jesus, he too accepted a most unexpected call to be part of the solution instead of part of the problem. He said in the end he worked harder than anyone else, but then carefully said "Yet not I, but God's Spirit within me." This subtle little phrase catches what it is to feel unworthy, yet to step up; to step up, yet with humility.

Whatever it is we are called to be or do, and whatever our avoidance tactics, our readings prompt us to seek our own "yet not I" that allows us both to step up and to serve humbly. This gives us something to pray for any who are in the public eye.

We affirm our faith

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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

Deacon: Brothers and sisters, I invite you to stand as we affirm our faith:

**All: We believe and trust in God the Father,
Source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist.**

We believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again.

**We believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit.
She gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known
in the word.** (cf Proverbs 8:1)

**This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father,
Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

(adapted from Common Worship)

INTERCESSIONS

At home:

Praying for the Church of England and our search for a new Archbishop, we might well wonder who on earth would step up to such an impossible role, especially following the church's ungracious ditching of Justin Welby. We might bring to God our worry that anyone too willing to be Archbishop

might be singularly inappropriate, yet if we really liked anyone for such a role, we wouldn't wish it on them.

We pray for Bishop elect Esther Prior to be consecrated on 27th February, then becoming our next Bishop of Aston.

Praying for those in government and leadership, especially any we find over-bearing, we might pray for them to find their "yet not I."

In the world of education, we pray for those who give children and young people the confidence to stretch their horizons, face challenges, find a public voice and express themselves.

Among those who are unwell we pray for Don Stacey, Rob Hingley, Helga McKiernan and Paula Davies.

Among those who have died we remember Patrick Willis.

THE PEACE

Deacon: The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We honour one another's diverse callings, sharing a sign of peace.

HYMN [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, 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.

Holy, holy, holy are you, Lord God of Hosts, for all the earth is full of your glory. From your heavenly throne you touched the lips of your prophet Isaiah to remove his guilt; and you sent him to awaken your people. In the fullness of time you sent your Son, proclaiming through his lips your promise of life and through his death and resurrection your forgiveness of sins. At his ascension he sent forth his disciples in your name, trusting your good news to the lips of the redeemed. And so we give our thanks and praise in the great company of sinners become saints, joining together in their 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.

Plenteous God, as you transformed fishermen into followers and filled empty nets with more than their boat could hold, show us your abundance in the joy of this feast. Sanctify us by your Holy Spirit that we might be faithful followers, sent into the world in strength. By your same Spirit, make this bread and cup 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 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.

Deacon: Great is the mystery of faith.

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

God of holy presence, in your temple what is ordinary is made holy. Before your throne of grace, make your children into prophets of peace and heralds of mercy. Bless every man and woman, every boy and girl with courage to follow where you call, trusting the depth of your purpose. Meet with your grace every soul rendered an outcast by the judgements of others, and restore the fallen as your faithful followers. Renew your church to seek you in your dwelling places, among the poor and the forgotten, the sick and the imprisoned, the hungry and the homeless. Gather all your children into your holy presence as you draw angels around your throne; until we enter your eternal temple in fullness of joy and dwell with you for 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. 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.*

HYMNS *during Communion* [Be still, my soul](#)

1. Be still, my soul: the Lord is at your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief and pain;
leave to your God to order and provide;
in ev'ry change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'nly friend,
through thorny ways, leads to a joyful end.

2. Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
to guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake,
all now mysterious shall be clear at last.
Be still, my soul: the tempests still obey
his voice, who ruled them once on Galilee.

3. Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
when we shall be for ever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief and fear are gone,
sorrow forgotten, love's pure joy restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

(words: Katherina von Schlegel, trans Jane L Borthwick alt; music: Jean Sibelius)

and

1. Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife;
such a life as killeth death.

2. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length;
such a strength as makes his guest.

3. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
such a joy as none can move;
such a love as none can part;
such a heart as joys in love.

(words: George Herbert; music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, adapt E H Green)

We are sent out

**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 Spirit of truth lead *us* into all truth and embolden *us* to proclaim the word and works of God, and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with *us* and remain with *us* now and always. **Amen.**

HYMN

1. Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
Christ to the world with joy we bring;
Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.

2. King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;
kingship with him his servants gain:
with Christ, the Servant-Lord of all,
Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.

3. Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth
this world of thine to consecrate,
our world of sin by grace to heal,
Christ's world in Christ to re-create.

4. Prophets of Christ, we hear his Word:
he claims our minds to search his ways;
he claims our lips to speak his truth;
he claims our hearts to sing his praise.

5. We are his Church, he makes us one;
here is one hearth for all to find;
here is one flock, one Shepherd-King;
here is one faith, one heart, one mind.

(words: James Quinn; music: Melody attributed to John Hatton)

Deacon: The Lord says, "whom shall I send?" (Isaiah 6:8)
All: Here am I. Send me.

This evening: 6.30pm Evening Prayer



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All Saints Safeguarding and Child Protection Coordinator is Eira Jones. If you have any concerns or worries about children, young people or vulnerable adults and don't know what to do, don't hesitate to contact her on 07497 781681.

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Giving to All Saints

If you wish to contribute financially to sustain All Saints Church and our ministry to Kings Heath you can:

- leave a gift of cash on the collection plate on your way out of church;
- use the card reader near the Church door;
- make a transfer to

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If you would like to find out about arrangements for regular giving to All Saints, please speak to Steve Brittle about the Parish Giving Scheme.