

Mid - Week Communion Service

The Gathering

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you

Prayer of Preparation

Jesus Christ, whom we worship, is our crucified, risen and ascended Lord and we have walked with him through his journey of love. We have faced the agony of his suffering and death on a cross. We have rejoiced at his bursting free from the bonds of death. We have enjoyed his risen presence with us and his revelation of himself through the breaking of bread. We have seen his return to the throne before which every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that this Jesus is Lord. And now, with the followers of his own time, we await the coming of the promised Holy Spirit, his gift to his people, through whom we make Christ known to the world.

Amen

The Comfortable Words

Here the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who truly turn to him:
Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
Matthew 11.28

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
John 3.16

Hear what St Paul says: This saying is true and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ
Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
1 Timothy 1.15

Hear what St John says: If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ
the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.
1 John 2.1-2

The Confession

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen**

The Absolution

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

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 sin 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

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

After the epistle we say:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For the Gospel we say:

Hear the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ

Glory to you O Lord.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you O Christ.

The Reflection

Each week we will hear from a variety of reputable and orthodox teachers from centuries past. Extracts will be read to us from sermons, hymns, theological treatises, Biblical commentaries, letters, prayers and poems ... to deepen our faith. This should remind us that all scripture is God breathed and that it's truths and the lessons learnt from them, through the ages, are still useful for us today.



This week's reflection is from Bishop Tom Wright, on John 7.37-39, read from 'Twelve Months of Sundays', SPCK 2012.

Bishop Tom currently serves as Research Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. Previously he served as Bishop of Durham, Canon Theologian of Westminster Abbey, and Dean of Lichfield Cathedral. Over the past twenty years he served as Professor of New Testament Studies at Cambridge, McGill, and Oxford Universities. His commentaries and books adorn many a sermon writer's bookshelf, hence why you will

hear me quoting him on occasion as we meet to worship God each week.

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God

**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**

Prayers of Intercession

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you promised through your Son Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith.

We pray for the Church ...

(and so we pray)

**Strengthen our bishops and all your Church in the service of Christ,
that those who confess your name may be united in your truth,
live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.**

In you O Lord

do we put our trust.

We pray for the World ...

(and so we pray)

**Bless and guide Elizabeth our Queen;
give wisdom to all in authority;
and direct this and every nation in the ways of justice and of peace;
that we may honour one another, and seek the common good.**

In you O Lord

do we put our trust.

We pray for our Community ...

(and so we pray)

**Give grace to us, our families and friends, and to all our neighbours,
that we may serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.**

In you O Lord

do we put our trust.

We pray for those in special need ...

(and so we pray)

**Comfort and heals all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;
give them courage and hope in their troubles;
and bring them the joy of your salvation.**

In you O Lord

do we put our trust.

We remember those who have died and pray for the bereaved ...

(and so we pray)

Remembering all who have gone before us in faith, and in communion with all the saints, we commit ourselves, one for another and our whole life to Christ our God;

to you O Lord.

**Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace. If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here

His Spirit is with us.

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.

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour. By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people. And now we give you thanks that, after he had ascended far above all heavens, and was seated at the right hand of your majesty, he sent forth upon the universal Church your holy and life-giving Spirit; that through his glorious power the joy of the everlasting gospel might go forth into all the world. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with

all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; 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. 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.

Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death,
Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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.**

Breaking of the bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in the one bread.**

Giving of Communion

Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast.

*As we make our spiritual communion together please listen to 'Holy Spirit, living breath'.
Written by Stuart Townsend & Keith Getty; performed by Gabriella Noble & Gavin Roberts,
from their homes, RSCM.*

Prayer after Communion

We say together
**Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter
by sending us your Holy Spirit
and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal:
open our lips by your Spirit,
that every tongue may tell of your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

The Dismissal

Blessing

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth,
give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,

Be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Thank you for joining us today.