



Welcome to the Parish Church of St Mark
Serving the people of Broomhill & Broomhall

THE FEAST OF OUR RENEWING

A Service of Christian Hospitality
for the Season of Lent

25 March 2012 at 10.00 am
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Welcome

Welcome and greetings, especially if you are new to St Mark's. May you discover here what you are seeking and find companionship for life's journey. Please say hello before you go.

This service takes the form of a simple, yet profound, meal of thanksgiving and companionship, a Eucharist or Holy Communion, which originates in the ministry of Jesus and has characterised Christian worship through the centuries.

To use the *Induction Loop*, please select the *T Setting* on your hearing aid. We ask that *mobile phones* and *paggers* be switched off or set to silent mode. Large print versions of worship materials are available.

Preparing for worship

Lent is a time in the year when we are invited to contemplate our true worth by daring to look at ourselves through God's eyes, in love's light – a gaze reaching beyond appearance, tarnished by bad choices, to rest upon our authentic selves. It is no coincidence that Lent falls in Spring – the season of new life and hopefulness.

Faith is more like a craft to practice
than a creed to recite;
we are apprentices
of Christ.

Gathering

*Organ Voluntary: Prelude on 'Rockingham' - Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)
followed by a time of stillness.*

Welcome

Hymn

WHEN I SURVEY the wondrous cross,
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ, my God:
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingling down:
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748).

Prayers of Approach

May God be with you.
And also with you.

GOD OF ALL HOPEFULNESS,
you call us out of darkness
to dwell in your glorious light:
open our hearts to your love
and our minds to your truth,
that we may learn to worship what is worthy
and to serve what is good,
in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

The Way of Christ

Hear the teaching of Christ:

you shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind and with all your strength.

This is the first commandment.

And the second is this:

You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

Spirit of God, search our hearts.

Hear the teaching of Christ:

a new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.

Spirit of God, search our hearts.

Collect

Let us pray. *(please remain standing)*

God of all hopefulness,
whose undying love
flows into our fractured world
through the life-blood of your son:
give us humble hearts
to acknowledge our frailty
that we may receive your gift
of life in all its fullness,
revealed in Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Attending

Reading – Romans 12. 1 – 18, read by Anna Ryder

A reading from Paul's letter to the church in Rome.

I APPEAL TO YOU therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

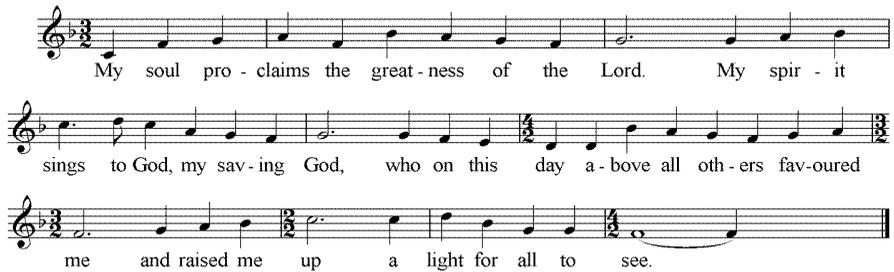
⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Let us listen for the word of the Lord.

A time of quietness for reflection.

Canticle – ‘Magnificat’

Children and young people leave for their groups.



My soul pro - claims the great - ness of the Lord. My spir - it
sings to God, my sav - ing God, who on this day a - bove all oth - ers fav - oured
me and raised me up a light for all to see.

MY SOUL PROCLAIMS the greatness of the Lord.
My spirit sings to God, my saving God,
who on this day above all others favoured me
and raised me up, a light for all to see.

Through me great deeds will God make manifest,
and all the earth will come to call me blest.
Unbounded love and mercy sure will I proclaim
for all who know and praise God's holy name.

God's mighty arm, protector of the just,
will guard the weak and raise them from the dust.
But mighty kings will swiftly fall from thrones corrupt,
the strong brought low, the lowly lifted up.

Soon will the poor and hungry of the earth
be richly blest, be given greater worth,
and Israel, as once foretold to Abraham,
will live in peace throughout the promised land

All glory be to God, Creator blest,
to Jesus Christ, God's love made manifest,
and to the Holy Spirit, gentle Comforter,
all glory be, both now and evermore.

Luke 1.46-55; arranged by Owen Alstott (b 1947).

Gospel – Luke 10. 1 – 11, 16.

The good news is proclaimed from the heart of the worshipping community.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

AFTER THIS THE LORD appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ² He said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. ³ Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' ⁶ And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house.

⁸ Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹ cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' ¹⁰ But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹ 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near' ...

¹⁶ 'Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – 'Practising Hopefulness,' Rev'd Shan Rush.

Followed by a time of quietness for reflection.

Responding

Affirmation

Let us give voice to our convictions
and substance to our hopes. *(please stand)*

**WE BELIEVE in God,
robed in splendour,
veiled in mystery,
ruler alike of darkness and light.**

**We encounter God
in Jesus Christ,
who was tortured and put to death,
but whose radiance could not be quenched;**

**whose touch brings a blaze of colour
to a dull, drab world:
reviving the weary,
healing the wounded,
dazzling the satisfied.**

**We walk with God,
guided by the light of God's loving Spirit,
who enters the shadowed places of our hearts
and leads us into truth and life.**

**We wait for God,
and for the fulfilment of God's promises,
when the darkness will hold no fear
and the light will no longer blind,
for creation will be transfigured
by the glory of God's justice and peace.**

Cally Booker.

Prayers of Solidarity & Concern, led by Caroline Fisher

One of these or another set of biddings and responses is used.

Your kingdom come.
Your will be done.

God of our yearning.
We seek you.

God of justice, truth and love.
**Inspire us with your Spirit
to let your Kingdom come. Amen.**

Ever-beckoning God.
**We seek your presence
and will serve you. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence & Renewal

Jesus said:
Above all else, strive for God's reign
of justice and peace.

Matthew 6.33.

We do not always live up to our calling.

Let us acknowledge
our wrongdoings and failures,
seeking God's forgiveness.

Pause. The Kyries are sung.

Alan Brown

Org. Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy.

Poco rit. Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

**God of Compassion,
when our hearts were hardened
to the call of Christ
or to the cries of the needy,
when our words and actions
caused division
or thwarted peace;
set us free from past wrongs
and liberate us for the service of your Son. Amen.**

May God forgive you,
Christ renew you
and the Spirit enable you
to grow in love. **Amen.**

Greeting of Peace

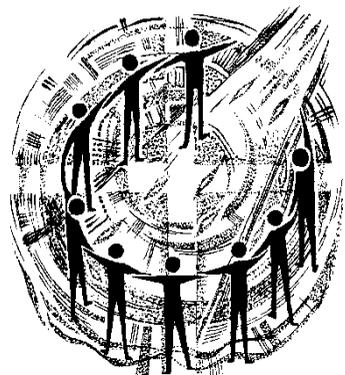
Christ is our peace,
creating in himself a new humanity,
reconciling all people to one another and to God.

cf Ephesians 2.14-16.

We meet in Christ's name and share in his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

*We share Christ's peace with one another,
especially with those who are unfamiliar
or from whom we are estranged.*



Hymn

A collection is taken for the ministry of St Mark's. If you are a taxpayer and are not currently a member of the church's planned giving scheme, please place your gift in one of the envelopes provided, writing your name and address on the front. Thank you.

GREAT GOD, your love has called us here,
as we, by love for love were made.
Your living likeness still we bear,
though marred, dishonoured, disobeyed.
We come, with all our heart and mind
your call to hear, your love to find.

Great God, in Christ you call our name
and then receive us as your own,
not through some merit, right or claim,
but by your gracious love alone.
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat
and find you kneeling at our feet.

Then take the towel, and break the bread,
and humble us, and call us friends.
Suffer and serve till all are fed,
and show how grandly love intends
to work till all creation sings,
to fill all worlds, to crown all things.

Great God, in Christ you set us free
your life to live, your joy to share.
Give us your Spirit's liberty
to turn from guilt and dull despair
and offer all that faith can do
while love is making all things new.

Brian A Wren (b 1936).

Abiding

Preparation

Tokens of our response to God, bread and wine, and the collection, are offered.

God of humility,
humbly we seek you,
bearing the offering of our lives,
needful of your grace.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray. *(please sit or kneel)*

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

God of the Jubilee,
in Christ,
you shatter the temples
we create to contain you
and reveal your will
to loose the bonds of injustice
and let the oppressed go free,
to share your bread with the hungry
and shelter the homeless poor.

Silence our pretensions
and prepare our hearts
to suffer the cries of your suffering people
and respond with the offering of our lives.

With all in every age
who have been stirred by your passion
or longed for your presence,
who yearn for your light
to break forth like the dawn
and your healing to spring up swiftly,
we raise our voices in acclamation.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Especially, we praise you
 for coming among us in Jesus,
 in him,
 your kingdom is made manifest,
 through him,
 your will is fulfilled,
 with him,
 we are called into your service.

And now,
 in obedience to his command,
 it is our duty and our joy,
 to remember the night he gave himself up
 and was handed over to death.

One final time,
 in the company of his own,
 gathered around a table,
 Jesus took bread, gave thanks,
 broke it and offered it to them,
 saying, This is my life,
 all that I embody,
 I entrust it to you.

Later, he took a cup of wine,
gave thanks and offered it to them, saying,
With this we celebrate our new relationship with God,
forged from forgiveness,
sealed with my blood.
This is how you will remember me.

And so, Lord of the Fast,
breathe your passionate Spirit
into this communion
that all who share this bread and wine
may feed on Christ
and taste his sacred hunger
for a world renewed by your promises
and fulfilled through your love. **Amen.**

Inspired by Isaiah, chapter 58.

Lord's Prayer & Communion

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.

The bread is broken.

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

Words of invitation follow.

All Christ once was and continues to be
is offered to us in bread and wine;
so come, let us celebrate the feast.

Everyone is invited to share in the communion through receiving the bread and wine or, if preferred, a prayer of blessing. Please approach the altar rail with those around you. Gluten-free bread rolls are used.

During administration, we sing together:

LORD JESUS, think on me,
and purge away my sin;
from earth-born passions set me free,
and make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
With care and woe opprest;
let me thy loving servant be
and taste thy promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me
amid the battle's strife;
in all my pain and misery
be thou my health and life

Lord Jesus, think on me,
nor let me go astray;
through darkness and perplexity
point thou the heav'nly way.

Lord, Jesus, think on me,
when flows the tempest high:
when on doth rush the enemy,
O Saviour, be thou nigh.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
that, when the flood is past,
I may th'eternal brightness see,
and share thy joy at last.

Afterwards, the choir will sing, Veni Creator, Orlando Gibbons (1583 - 1625)

At the conclusion, silence is shared.

Venturing

Prayers of Commitment

Let us pray.

**GOD of undying love,
you have fed our minds,
inspired our faith,
and revived our spirits,
send us out to serve you
in the wilderness of this world.
May the offering of our lives
be a channel for your grace. Amen.**

Notices

Blessing

May the God of life and light
illuminate your way,
sustain your journeying
and lead you into truth;

and the blessing of God,
Creator, Christ and Sacred Spirit
rest upon you and all whom you love,
both living and departed,
now and always. **Amen.**

Hymn

WE DO NOT HOPE to ease our minds
by simple answers, shifted blame,
while Christ is homeless, hungry, poor,
and we are rich who bear his name.

As long as justice is a dream
and human dignity denied,
we stand with Christ; disturb us still
till every need is satisfied.

We cannot ask to live at peace
in comfort and security
while Christ is tried in Pilate's hall
and drags his cross to Calvary.
As long as hatred stifles truth
and freedom is betrayed by fear,
we stand with Christ; give us no peace
till his peace reigns in triumph here.

We will not pray to be preserved
from any depths of agony
while Christ's despairing cry rings out:
God, why have you abandoned me?
As long as we have hope to share
of life renewed beyond the pain,
we stand with Christ all through the night
till Easter morning dawns again.

Marnie Barrell (b.1952).

Closing Responses

Christ's food in our souls,
Our food shared like his.

Christ's life in our hands,
Our lives shaped by his.

Christ's love in our hearts,
Our love warmed by his.

Christ's peace on our path,
Our path following his.

Iona Community.

Organ voluntary: Herzlich tut mich verlangen - J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

*Refreshments are served in the church lounge
followed by a full Sunday lunch around 12.15 pm.
Everyone is welcome to stay!*

Printed on recycled paper.

The following sources have been used in compiling this service: 'Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England'; 'Candles and Conifers', by Ruth Burgess; 'A Wee Worship Book (1999)', by the Wild Goose Worship Group; and locally-crafted texts. The choral arrangement of the liturgy is by Dr Alan Brown. Hymns and songs are reproduced under Church Copyright Licence Number 294846. The images are by the sisters of Turvey Abbey.