

Welcome to the
Parish Church of St Mark
Living thinking faith

THE HOSPITALITY OF CHRIST

A Service of Holy Communion

Sunday 1 July 2012 at 10.00 am

4th Sunday after Trinity

Welcome

Welcome and greetings, especially if you are new to St Mark's. May you soon discover what you are seeking and find companionship for life's journey. This communion is more complete with your presence.

Today's liturgy takes the form of a simple, yet profound, meal of thanksgiving and hospitality, 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.

Before the service begins, we are all invited to share in a few moments of quietness in preparation for worship.

Preparing for worship

Wait without expectation
which might focus attention too narrowly,
so that we miss the coming.

Wait with expectancy,
alert, hearts, minds, hands,
ears open to receive the gift.

Ann Lewin

Gathering

Organ Voluntary

Welcome

Hymn

SING FOR GOD'S GLORY

that colours the dawn of creation,
racing across the sky,
trailing bright clouds of elation;
sun of delight,
succeeds the velvet of night,
warming the earth's exultation.

Sing for God's power
that shatters the chains that would binds us,
searing the darkness of
fear and despair that could blind us,
touching our shame,
with love that will not lay blame,
reaching out gently to find us.

Sing for God's justice
disturbing each easy illusion,
breaking down barriers
and putting our pride in confusion;
lifeblood of right,
resisting evil and slight,
offering freedom's transfusion.

continued ...

Sing to God's saints
who have travelled faith's journey before us,
who in our weariness
give us hope to restore us;
in them we see,
the new creation to be,
sp'rit of love made flesh before us.

*Kathy Galloway (b 1952).
Tune: Lobe den Herren.*

Prayers of Approach

May God be with you:
and also with you.

EVER-LOVING 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.

Gloria

LAUDATE Dominum,
laudate Dominum,
omnes gentes, alleluia.
LAUDATE Dominum,
laudate Dominum,
omnes gentes, alleluia.

*Praise the Lord,
Praise the Lord,
peoples, nations. Alleluia.
Praise the Lord,
Praise the Lord,
peoples, nations. Alleluia.*

Jacques Berthier (1923-94).

Collect

Let us pray. *(please remain standing)*

God of wholeness,
in Christ, you have shown us
that the way of the cross
is the threshold to authentic life:
sustain us when we suffer
through illness or fear of death,
that we may find in our darkness
the comfort of your presence
and the courage to be;
through Jesus, our wounded healer. **Amen.**

Attending

Reading – 2 Corinthians 8. 7 – 15, read by Robin Saunders

A reading from Paul's second letter to Christians in Corinth.

NOW AS YOU EXCEL in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you - so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking. ⁸ I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others. ⁹ For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. ¹⁰ And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something - ¹¹ now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means. ¹² For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has - not according to what one does not have. ¹³ I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between ¹⁴ your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance. ¹⁵ As it is written, 'The one who had much did not have too much, and the one who had little did not have too little.'

Let us listen for the word of the Lord.

A time of quietness for reflection.

Hymn

Children and young people leave for their groups

WE CANNOT measure how you heal
or answer every 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.

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.

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.

*John L Bell (b 1949) & Graham Maule (b 1958).
Tune: Ye Banks and Braes.*

Gospel – Mark 5.21 – 43.

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

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

WHEN JESUS had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea. ²² Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet ²³ and begged him repeatedly, ‘My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.’ ²⁴ So he went with him. And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him.

²⁵ Now there was a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years. ²⁶ She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. ²⁷ She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸ for she said, ‘If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well.’ ²⁹ Immediately her haemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. ³⁰ Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, ‘Who touched my clothes?’ ³¹ And his disciples said to him, ‘You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, ‘Who touched me?’” ³² He looked all around to see who had done it. ³³ But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. ³⁴ He said to her, ‘Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.’

³⁵ While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader’s house to say, ‘Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?’ ³⁶ But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, ‘Do not fear, only believe.’ ³⁷ He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. ³⁸ When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. ³⁹ When he had entered, he said to them, ‘Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.’ ⁴⁰ And they laughed at him.

Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. ⁴¹ He took her by the hand and said to her, 'Talitha cum,' which means, 'Little girl, get up!' ⁴² And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. ⁴³ He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – Rev'd Sue Hammersley.

The sermon is followed by a time of quietness for reflection.

Responding

Prayers of Solidarity & Concern, led by Helen Hillman

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 & Forgiveness

Hear the teaching of Christ:
you shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart and with all your soul
and 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.

In the light of Christ's teaching,
let us acknowledge our wrongdoing and failure,
seeking God's forgiveness.

Silence for preparation.

**GRACIOUS GOD,
when we have failed
to walk in the way of your commandments
or to heed the cry of those in need;
when our words and actions
have caused suffering to others
or diminished ourselves,
set us free from past wrongs
and liberate us for the service of Christ. Amen.**

May God's forgiveness be your freedom
and God's wisdom be your guide. **Amen.**

Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

1 Corinthians 12.12-13.

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, please place your gift in one of the yellow envelopes provided, writing your name and address on the front. If you leave the envelope blank, we are unable to reclaim tax under the 'Gift Aid' scheme. Thank you.

JESUS, LOVER of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the gathering waters roll,
while the tempest still is high;
hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none,
hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah, leave me not alone,
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenceless head
with the shadow of thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
more than all in thee I find;
raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
false and full of sin I am,
thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cleanse from every sin;
let the healing streams abound,
make and keep me pure within.
thou of life the fountain art;
freely let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart,
rise to all eternity.

*Charles Wesley (1707-88).
Tune: Aberystwyth.*

Abiding

Preparation

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

Gather us in, O God:

From every age and outlook.

Gather us in, O God:

From every creed and colour.

Gather us in, O God:

From every circumstance and walk of life.

Be found among us:

**In the sharing of bread and wine,
in the offering of friendship and service,
in the openness of thankful hearts
and outstretched hands,
be found among us.**

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

Ever-beckoning God,

we thank you that in every age
you are calling people to venture forth in faith -
leaving behind the securities of self-interest
in pursuit of justice, truth and peace.

We thank you that in Jesus
your word has been fulfilled –
through life, through death,
through life beyond death –
drawing humanity into your presence
that all may find their integrity in you.

We thank you that through him
we can approach this table,
no matter who we are or where life has led us,
no matter what our confusion or how deep our doubts.

And so we praise you
with the faithful of every time and place
who have struggled to embody your word
and live out your wisdom, saying,

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of truth and love.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

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

One final time, among friends,
gathered round a table,
Jesus took bread,
and after giving you thanks,
he broke it and offered it to them, saying,
'This is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me'

Afterwards, he took the cup of wine,
blessed it, and offered it to them, saying,
'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.'

As we remember his life,
proclaim his death and celebrate his resurrection,
may your Holy Spirit inspire this communion
that all who share this bread and wine
may feed on Christ and become one with him.

**Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your people
and kindle in us the fire of your love. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer & Sharing in 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.

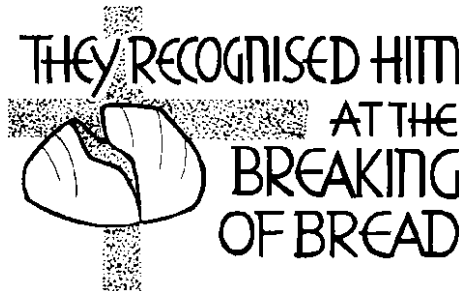
The bread is broken.

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.**

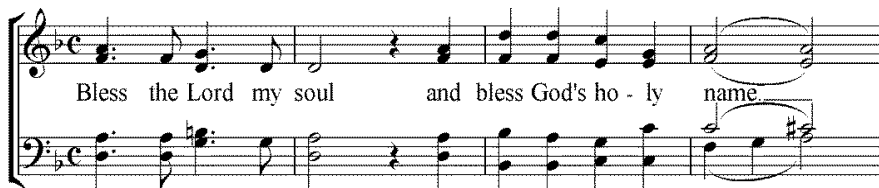
Words of invitation follow.

Christ's table has been prepared
and Christ is the one who beckons.
Come take your place and feed on him.

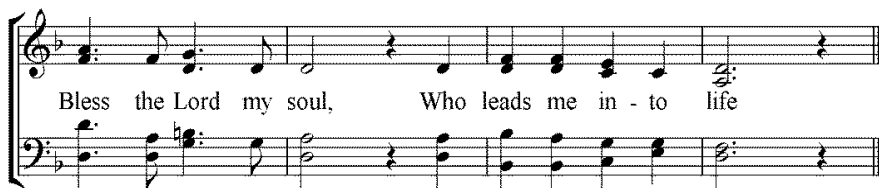
Everyone is invited to share in the communion through receiving the bread and wine or, if preferred, a prayer of blessing. Please approach the altar rail with those around you. Gluten-free bread rolls are used.



During administration, we sing together the following chant:



Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.



Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in - to life

Taizé.

*Afterwards, the choir will sing 'Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake,'
Richard Farrant (1530-80).*

At the conclusion, silence is shared.

Venturing

Prayers of Commitment

Let us pray.

**GOD of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water
and fed us on the bread of life:
refresh and sustain us by your Spirit
as we go forth on our journey,
in the companionship of Christ
and in the service of your kingdom. Amen.**

Notices

Blessing

Go forth in peace:

let the wisdom of God guide your way,
let the compassion of Christ be your gift to the world,
let the fire of the Spirit be your inspiration;

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

FOR THE HEALING of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord,
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom,
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase

All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.

continued ...

You, Creator-God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.

*Fred Kaan (1929-2009).
Tune: Alleluia Dulce Carmen.*

Commission *(please face the back of church)*

Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life in our hands.
Now we put our lives in yours.

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

Organ voluntary

Refreshments are served in the lounge.



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