



Welcome to the
Parish Church of St Mark
Living thinking faith

THE HOSPITALITY OF CHRIST

A Service of Holy Communion

Sunday 5 August 2012 at 10.00 am

9th 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

The opposite of faith is not doubt, but certainty;
a trusting openness is the Way of Life.

Gathering

*Organ Voluntary:
Prelude in D minor, J Pachelbel.*

Welcome

Hymn

LORD OF ALL hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever child-like, no care could destroy,
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

*Jan Struther (1901-53).
Tune: Slane.*

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

The musical score is written in 3/4 time. The first system consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line has the lyrics: "Lau - da - te Do - mi - num, Lau - da - te Do - mi - num". The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines. The second system also has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line has two endings: "1. om - nes gen - tes, Al - le - lu - ia." and "2. Al - le - lu - ia." The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines.

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), Taizé.

Collect

Let us pray. *(please remain standing)*

Mysterious God,
beyond the reach of human language
and the compass of our thoughts,
whose glory is revealed
wherever love is true
and justice reigns;
free us from our need
for certainty and control
that we be open to your presence
and receptive to your call;
in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Attending

Reading – James 2. 13 – 26, read by Tanya Ralph

A reading from the letter of James.

WHAT GOOD IS IT, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,' and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷ So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. ¹⁸ But someone will say, 'You have faith and I have works.' Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith. ¹⁹ You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe – and shudder. ²⁰ Do you want to be shown, you senseless person, that faith apart from works is barren? ²¹ Was not our ancestor Abraham justified by works when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was brought to completion by the works. ²³ Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,' and he was called the

friend of God. ²⁴ You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. ²⁵ Likewise, was not Rahab the prostitute also justified by works when she welcomed the messengers and sent them out by another road? ²⁶ For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead.

Let us listen for the word of the Lord.

A time of quietness for reflection.

Hymn (*children and young people gather at the back of church*)

CHRISTIAN, rise and act thy creed,
let thy prayer be in thy deed;
seek the right, perform the true,
raise thy work and life anew.

Hearts around thee sink with care;
thou canst help their load to bear,
thou canst bring inspiring light,
arm their faltering wills to fight.

Wrong shall die in open day,
virtue shine beyond decay,
falsehood flee from candour's face,
health reflect eternal grace.

Let thine alms be hope and joy,
and thy worship God's employ;
give him thanks in humble zeal,
learning all his will to feel.

Come then, law divine, and reign,
freest faith assailed in vain,
perfect love bereft of fear,
born in heaven and radiant here!

Francis Albert Rollo Russell (1849-1914).
Tune: Savannah.

Gospel – Luke 6. 31 – 38, 43 – 49.

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.

JESUS SAID, Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³² If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷ Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.

⁴³ No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit; ⁴⁴ for each tree is known by its own fruit. Figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. ⁴⁵ The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil person out of evil treasure produces evil; for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks. ⁴⁶ Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I tell you? ⁴⁷ I will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them. ⁴⁸ That one is like a man building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it, because it had been well built. ⁴⁹ But the one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the river burst against it, immediately it fell, and great was the ruin of that house.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father (and the Son),
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Sermon – ‘Why don’t we regularly recite the creed?’, the Vicar.

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

Prayers of Solidarity & Concern, led by Pat Lane

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
and in the strength of God's forgiveness,
let us acknowledge our wrongdoing and failure.

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.

Michael Forster

David Sanderson



1. What kind of faith is this, mys - ter - ious and di -
vine, that neith - er creed nor dog - ma can de - fine; that
speaks to us of truths un - wel - come to the ear,
what kind of faith is this, what kind of fear?

WHAT KIND of faith is this, that cuts into our soul,
and makes us bleed before it makes us whole;
that leads us on the path where wounded feet have trod,
what kind of faith is this, what kind of God?

What kind of faith is this, by which our jaded eyes
discover Christ in those we would despise?
As piercing as a sword, as gently as a dove,
what kind of faith is this, what kind of love?

What kind of faith is this, which challenges our pride,
to put to shame the vainly dignified;
by which we learn again the eagerness of youth;
what kind of faith is this, what kind of truth?

What kind of faith is this, so cloudy yet so bright,
that leads us on through darkness and through light;
that holds our common fears within a shared embrace;
what kind of faith is this, what kind of grace?

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:

Take, oh take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be;
set your seal up - on my heart and live in me

Take, oh take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart
and live in me.

Wild Goose Resource Group.

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

O GOD OF HOPES, desires and dreams,
you plant within our mind
the vision of a better world,
more just and fair and kind.
Give us the strength to carry through
those dreams and make them real,
in every corner of your world
that we can touch and heal.

O Christ, who faced the hostile crowd,
enduring scorn and pain.
you know the fears that hold us back,
and bind us like a chain.
Give us the courage that can face
the fear and still stand fast,
that we, like you, may bear the cross
that sets us free at last.

O Spirit of the living God,
you plant within our soul
a yearning for a deeper life -
a life that's full and whole.
God, may that yearning be the heart
of all we think and do,
until we're filled with your great love
and live complete in you.

*Ray Vincent.
Tune Kingsfold.*

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
Epilogue, H Howells.*

*With our thanks and good wishes
to our organist this morning, Dr Julian Gunn.*

Refreshments are served in the lounge.

The Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen.



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