

Sunday Morning Communion

23rd August 2020



¶ *Gathering*

Welcome & Introduction

Opening responses

Leader: Welcome to this ancient place:

All: **House of Prayer for many;
home to all who come.**

Leader: Welcome to this gathering place:

All: **Friend and stranger, saint and sinner; all who gather here.**

Leader: Come with hope or hesitation;
come with joy or yearning;
all who hunger, all who thirst
for life in all its fullness.

All: **Generous God and generous Saviour,
touch us through your Spirit.**

Leader: O God, who brought us to the bright light of this new day

All: **Bring us to the guiding light of eternity.**

Song

**I waited patiently for God,
for God to hear my prayer;
and God bent down to where I sank
and listened to me there.**

**And on my lips a song was put,
a new song to the Lord.
Many will marvel open-eyed
and put their trust in God.**

**Great wonders you have done, O Lord,
all purposed for our good.
Unable everyone to name,
I bow in gratitude.**

*Words: © The Iona Community 1993 WGRG
Based on Psalm 40*

Call to Prayer

Leader: We gather in God's name.

All: We claim Christ's promised presence.

Leader: My brothers and sisters,
not out of dread and fear,
but believing that God is faithful to forgive,
let us rid ourselves of what we need to carry no longer.

Prayer of Confession and Restoration

Leader: Eternal God, maker of the skies above,
lowly Christ, born amidst the growing earth,
Spirit of life, wind over the flowing waters,
in earth, sea and sky,
you are there.

O hidden mystery,
sun behind all suns,
soul behind all souls,
in everything we touch,
in everyone we meet,
your presence is around us,
and we give you thanks.

But when we have not touched
but trampled you in creation,
When we have not met
but missed you in one another,
When we have not received
but rejected you in the poor; forgive us,
and hear now our plea for mercy.

Leader: Holy God,
All: **Holy and mighty,
Holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

Absolution

Leader: Lead us now, O Lord,
to acknowledge your costly generosity
by living as forgiven people,
until heaven and earth rejoice
and the whole earth cries Glory!
through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

Prayer for the Day

Leader: Let us pray:

O God, you declare your almighty power
most chiefly in showing mercy and pity:
mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace,
that we, running the way of your commandments,
may receive your gracious promises,
and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure;
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.

All: **Amen.**

Reading

Leader: Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God
as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scripture.

All: **Our hearts and minds are open.**

Reader: A reading from St Paul's letter to the Romans (12:1-8)

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. 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.

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 judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Reader: For the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.**

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.**

**Make me, meld me,
mould me, fill me.**

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.**

*Text and music: Daniel Iverson (1890-1972)
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Gospel Reading

Duncan Alleluia

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: A reading from St Matthew's Gospel (16:13-20).

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ.
All: Praise to Christ our Lord.

Sermon

An affirmation of Faith

Please stand:

**All: We believe in God above us,
maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon,
of water and earth,
of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ,
the Word made flesh,
born of a woman,
servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.**

**A man of sorrows,
he died forsaken.
He descended into the earth
to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven
to be everywhere present,
and his Kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of Resurrection and of eternal life.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

(ending with the Lord's Prayer)

**All: 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.
Save us in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the Kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

(Please stand for the Peace)

Celebrant: Many grains were gathered together
to make the bread of our Thanksgiving;
many grapes were mixed to make the wine;
So we who are many,
and come from many places,
are one in Christ.
May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Offering and Communion Song

**Breathe on me, breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.**

**Breathe on me, breath of God,
until my heart is pure:
until with thee I have one will
to do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.**

**Breathe on me, breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.**

The Story of the Last Supper

(All remain standing as the story is told, then sit for the prayer of Consecration.)

Celebrant: Let us pray together:

All: **Loving God,
through your goodness
we have this bread and wine to offer,
which earth has given
and human hands have made.**

**May we know your presence
in the sharing of this bread,
so that we may know your touch
in all bread, all matter.**

**We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared
among his community through the centuries,
and shares with us now.**

**Made one in Christ
and one with each other,
we offer these gifts and with them ourselves,
a single, holy, living sacrifice.
Amen.**

The Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you,

All: **and also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts,

All: **We lift them up to God.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God,

All: **It is right to give both thanks
and praise.**

Celebrant: We offer you praise, dear God,
and hearts lifted high,
for in the communion of your love
Christ comes close to us
and we come close to Christ.

Therefore with the whole realm of nature around us,
with earth, sea and sky,
we sing to you.

With the angels of light who envelop us,
with the Blessèd Virgin Mary
and the host of heaven,
with all the saints before and beside us,
with brothers and sisters, east and west,
we sing to you.

And with our loved ones,
separate from us now,
who yet in this mystery are close to us,
we join in the song of your unending greatness:

Sanctus and Benedictus

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth
are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Consecration

Celebrant: Hear us, O Christ,
and breathe your Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and wine.
May they become for us your body,
vibrant with your life,
healing, renewing and making us whole.
And as the bread and wine
which we now eat and drink
are changed into us,
may we be changed again into you,
bone of your bone,
flesh of your flesh,
loving and caring in the world.

The Communion

Agnus Dei

All: **Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world.
Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world.
Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world.
Grant us your peace.**

Invitation

Celebrant: Look, the Body of Christ is broken
for the life of the world.
Here is Christ coming to us
in bread and in wine.
The gifts of God
for the people of God.

Giving of Communion

Prayer after Communion

The Celebrant prays,

Lord of all mercy,
we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice
which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace:
by our communion, keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel
and preserve us from all sin;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

followed by:

**All: Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

Hymn

**One is the body and one is the Head,
one is the Spirit by whom we are led;
one God and Father,
one faith and one call for all.**

**Christ who ascended to heaven above
is the same Jesus whose nature is love,
who once descended
to bring to this earth new birth.**

**Gifts have been given well suited to each;
some to be prophets, to pastor or preach,
some, through the Gospel,
to challenge, convert and teach.**

**Called to his service are women and men
so that his body might ever again
witness through worship,
through deed and through word
to Christ our Lord.**

Paraphrase of Ephesians 4:11-16

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Blessing

Celebrant: May the everlasting God
shield you,
east and west and
wherever you go,
And the blessing of God
be upon you.

All: The blessing of the God of life.

Celebrant: The blessing of Christ
be upon you,

All: The blessing of the Christ of love.

Celebrant: The blessing of the Spirit
be upon you,

All: The blessing of the Spirit of grace.

Celebrant: The blessing of the Trinity
be upon you.

Now and for evermore.

All: Amen.

Voluntary

Aire by H Purcell

Played on the organ at All Saints, Bawdeswell

by James Lilwall

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