



Wednesday 10 April 2024

Bread for the World

An Informal Eucharist

Introit God be in my head *Rutter*

Welcome and Opening Prayers Revd Richard Carter

Creator God,
Come to us, in the difference of every life gathered
Come to us in song
Come to us in word
Come to us in stillness and silence
Come to us in our care for one another
Come to us in bread and wine
Come to us in flesh and blood
Reach out across time
Be present in all time.

All **Amen.**

All **Come Jesus, be our guest,
Stay with us for day is ending.
With friend, with stranger,
With young and old,
With the lost and found
Be among us tonight
Our guest our host
The one who says all – all are welcome here.**

Opening Hymn

**1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
all are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

Continued...

- 2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
all are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**
- 3 Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
all are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**
- 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
all are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

Marty Haugen (born 1952)

Prayers of Forgiveness

God longs to be with us. But we often live in alienation from God, ourselves, one another and God's creation. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept.

Because the world is beautiful but beauty is easily destroyed, we need you.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Because we often abandon you and turn away and walk past and are afraid and countless times betray you but you love us to the end and win a victory over all hatred, we need you.

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Because we have your message to proclaim, because we have your kingdom to build, because there are so many in need of your love, because we have your life to live.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

And Jesus said 'Your sins are forgiven'

In the name of the Father who created you and waits to welcome you home, in the name of the Son who searches for you, in the name of the Spirit who brings the healing of forgiveness and calls you to do the same, you have been set free.

All **Amen.**

Words on the Edge John 4.1-30

Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, 'Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John'— although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized— he left Judea and started back to Galilee. But he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You

are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him.

Reflection Revd Angela Sheard - Prayeful Dialogue

Anthem Have you heard God's voice *Jones arr. Clarke*

Prayers

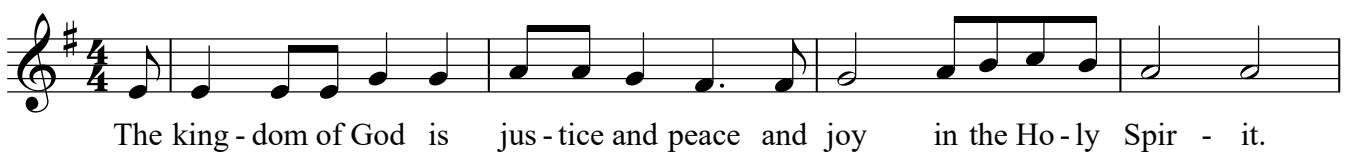
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of Concern

Prayer of Hope

Each prayer ends with 'We pray to you'

Prayer Chant The kingdom of God is justice and peace



Sharing of the Peace

God of eternal peace, who offers the gift of peace and whose children are the peacemakers; pour your peace into our hearts, that conflict and anger may cease. Peace is the gift of the Risen Christ.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Let us offer each other a sign of that peace

As the congregation sings, all are invited to gather around the altar.

Gathering Hymn

- 1 Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant, too.**
- 2 We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.**
- 3 I will hold the Christlight for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.**
- 4 I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.**
- 5 When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.**
- 6 Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant, too.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Together we pray

All **Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free, and fill each one of us with your love from on high. Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast at your table with all your saints.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray each in our own preferred language the prayer our Saviour taught us:

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.
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 Breaking of the Bread

Look, Jesus Christ, the Bread of Heaven, is broken for the life of the world. The gifts of God for the people of God.

All **Jesus Bread of Life, Bread which is broken, Bread for the world.**

Communion Anthem The true and living bread *Blackwell*

Prayer after Communion

All **Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Word for us to speak, You are the Truth for us to tell; You are the Light for us to light in the darkness, You are the Bread of Life for us to share.**

Notices

Thanksgiving Hymn

- 1 Put peace into each other's hands
and like a treasure hold it,
protect it like a candle-flame,
with tenderness enfold it.**
- 2 Put peace into each other's hands
with loving expectation;
be gentle in your words and ways,
in touch with God's creation.**
- 3 Put peace into each other's hands
like bread we break for sharing;
look people warmly in the eye:
our life is meant for caring.**
- 4 Give thanks for strong - yet tender - hands,
held out in trust and blessing.
Where words fall short, let hands speak out,
the heights of love expressing.**
- 5 Reach out in friendship, stay with faith
in touch with those around you.
Put peace into each other's hands:
the Peace that sought and found you.**

Fred Kaan (1929-2009)

Blessing

Go simply, lightly, gently

Go with obedience

Go with love

And the blessing of Almighty God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and forever.

All **Amen.**

Blessing Anthem Go forth into the world in peace *Rutter*

President: Revd Richard Carter
Preacher: Revd Angela Sheard
Soloist: Tamsin Riatt
Pianist: Jonathan Dods

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