

St
Martin
in
the
Fields

Wednesday 24 April 2024, 6.30pm

Bread for the World

*with the Admission of New Members
of the Nazareth Community*



Celebrant Revd Richard Carter

Preacher and Admission of New Members of the Nazareth
Community Revd Dr Sam Wells

Choral Scholars of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Accompanist Polina Sosnina

Please pray for these new members of the Nazareth
Community who make their promises today:

Ursula Sullivan

Abraham Ruge (son of Beth And Bobby)

Bobby Ruge

Christina Kumar

Dan Amofah

Introit Walk Softly *Bob Chilcott*

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Loving 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 and transform us
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 the 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.**

Hymn

- 1 O God, you search me and you know me.
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.
When I walk or lie down you are before me:
ever the maker and keeper of my days.**
- 2 You know my resting and my rising.
You discern my purpose from afar,
and with love everlasting you besiege me:
in every moment of life and death, you are.**
- 3 Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,
you have known its meaning through and through.
You are with me, beyond my understanding:
God of my present, my past and future, too.**

continued...

4 Although your Spirit is upon me,
still I search for shelter from your light.
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you:
even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

5 For you created me and shaped me,
gave me life within my mother's womb.
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you:
safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957) based on Psalm 139

Please sit.

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.**

First Reading What Do We Seek?

The Trellis of the Spirit of Nazareth read by Jolley Gosnold

Each of us come with different questions and longings but each one of us is seeking to live and walk more closely with God and more attentively to God's divine presence in the midst of our lives. We aim to support each other in this shared path.

We seek to hear the voice of Christ and to see his face in the world in which we live even in the pain of the world.

We seek to make space for Christ and to allow his love, compassion, joy, and forgiveness to form us. We know we are saved by his mercy and grace and called to reflect that same grace.

We believe that the kingdom of God is coming but is also here now, if only we turn and return and recognise Christ's presence in the midst of our lives.

The life of our prayer underpins the life of service: Martha can do her work only if she regularly joins Mary in silent meditation. Prayer leads us to practice justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with God.

We begin with silence. Contemplative silent prayer is at the centre of our community life. The ground of all our seeking is a deeper listening, a deeper presence. In regular times of contemplative prayer we make space for God.

We seek to live generously and hospitably, radically attentive to Christ present in friend, guest and stranger. Our community is porous. We look outwards and welcome those outside our community who want to join us and all aspects of our simple rule of life.

We seek a trellis of life where the buds and blossoms of our beseeching find stability in silence, the beauty of the stranger and a door wide open for all who feel they have no place to belong. We seek a common home in which we may all find ourselves and each other.

Richard Carter

Silence.

Words on the Edge John 15: 9-17 read by Revd Catherine Duce

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Reflection Revd Dr Sam Wells

Anthem Day by day *Martin How*

Prayers

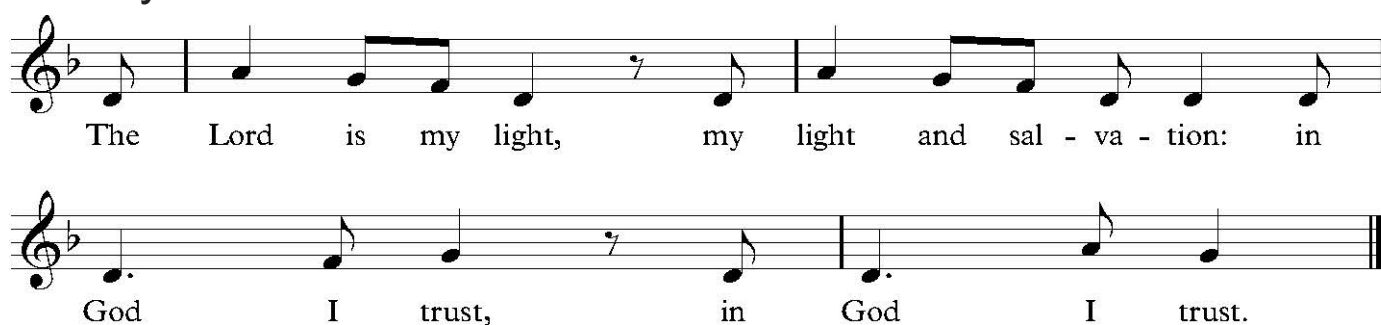
Prayer of Thanksgiving Revd Catherine Duce

Prayer of Concern Revd Angela Sheard

Prayer of Hope Christina Kumar

Each prayer ends with 'We pray to you'.

Prayer Chant



The Lord is my light, my light and sal - va - tion: in
God I trust, in God I trust.

Blessing of the Nazareth Community

Introduction Revd Richard Carter

Members of the Nazareth Community are invited to take off their shoes and come slowly forward with the five new members to be admitted kneeling at the altar rail.

Admission Revd Dr Sam Wells

Beloved in Christ, through prayer and discernment you have been called by God to become members of the Nazareth Community. This is an experiment in being with, enjoying God, cherishing life and discovering God's revelation in others. I therefore now ask these questions to all who wish to join the Community and all those who wish to renew their promises.

To those to be admitted to the Nazareth Community

What do you seek?

We seek to live the Gospel with the Spirit of simplicity, compassion, forgiveness and joy.

What grace do you ask?

The mercy of God and the community of my sisters and brothers.

Do you wish to become a member of the Nazareth Community and live the Nazareth rule of life - with Silence, Service, Scripture, Sharing, Sabbath and Staying With?

With the help of God I do.

To the Nazareth Community and congregation

From where will your help come?

All **Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.**

Will you, the Nazareth Community, support them in this calling, and uphold them in your prayers?

All **We will, the Lord being our helper.**

Let us all keep silence as we pray for God's Holy Spirit to bless them and uphold them in this calling.

Silence is kept.

The Blessing of the Crosses

Almighty God, bless these crosses; the sign of the Nazareth Community. May they become for those who wear them a sign of your resurrection revealed in the pain and hope of the cross.

I invite you who wish to be admitted into the Nazareth Community to make your promise and all those who would like to renew their Nazareth Promise to join together with them.

The Promise

New members of the Nazareth Community say together

Most high and everlasting God, accept me now as I come before you in love. I dedicate myself to the service of my Lord Jesus Christ, with silence, with sacrament, with compassionate service, with the study of your word and the sharing of your love for others, with Sabbath rest and staying with your call: I want to live the Gospel. O Lord give me grace. Amen.

We give thanks for the promises you have made this day. May God keep you faithful, continue all that has been begun in you, and encourage you at all times in this path of discipleship to which you have been called.

During the singing of the next anthem, Revd Dr Sam Wells admits those joining the Nazareth Community.

Anthem Give us the wings of faith *James Whitbourn*

I receive you as a member of the Nazareth Community in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ may God continue, by the power of the Holy Spirit all he has begun in you.

Sharing of the Peace

God is love and those who live in love, live in God, and God lives in them.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Hymn

*A new commandment I give unto you
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.*

1 By this shall all know that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another.

**By this shall all know that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another.**

Chorus

2 You are my friends if you do what I command you.
Without my help you can do nothing.

**You are my friends if you do what I command you.
Without my help you can do nothing.**

Chorus

3 I am the true vine, my Father is the gardener.
Abide in me: I will be with you.

**I am the true vine, my Father is the gardener
Abide in me: I will be with you.**

Chorus

4 True love is patient, not arrogant nor boastful;
love bears all things, love is eternal.

**True love is patient, not arrogant nor boastful;
love bears all things, love is eternal.**

Chorus

Verse 1 and refrain Anonymous; Verses 2-4 Aniceto Nazareth

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

All **And also with you**

Lift up your hearts

All **We lift them up to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

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

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 in our first language the prayer our Saviour taught us:

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
for ever and 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 that is broken, Bread for the world.**

Communion Motet Come before the table *Karen Marolli*

Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus Christ

We have recognised you in bread and wine

May our hearts burn within us on the road

Remember each day that Jesus Christ is in you.

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.

Hymn

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.**

- 2 Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.**

- 3 Finish then thy new creation:
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Notices

Blessing

Blessing Anthem A Prayer of St Patrick *John Rutter*

If you have enjoyed this service and would like to help us continue with this work, we would be grateful to receive donations towards the worshipping life of the church. You can give:

- online at stmartininthefields.myknowchurch.co.uk/giving
- by texting COLLECTION to 70450 to donate £10 (texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message)

Thank you.

Hymns reproduced using CCLI 284612 and Calamus 1744; Streaming Licence 59787. One License A-631744.
O God, you search me and you know me, © 1992 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo Portland OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used with permission; *A new commandment I give unto you*, © 1984, 1999 Kevin Mayhew Ltd