



Wednesday 23 April 2025

Bread for the World

An Informal Eucharist

Introit This joyful Eastertide arr. Bullard

Welcome and Opening Prayers Revd Catherine Duce

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 Dear Lord, we long to see your face,
to know you risen from the grave,
but we have missed the joy and grace
of seeing you, as others have;
yet in your company we'll wait,
and we shall see you, soon or late.**
- 2 Dear Friend, we do not know the way,
nor clearly see the path ahead,
so often, therefore, we delay
and doubt your power to raise the dead;
yet we with you will firmly stay--
you are the Truth, the Life, the Way.**

Continued...

**3 We find it hard, Lord, to believe.
Long habit makes us want to prove:
to see, to touch, and thus perceive
the truth and person whom we love;
yet when in fellowship we meet,
you come yourself, each one to greet.**

**4 You come to us, our god, our Lord.
You do not show your hands and side,
but give, instead, your best reward
as in your promise we abide.
By faith we know, and grow, and wait
to see and praise you, soon or late.**

J R Peacey (1896-1971)

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, we need you.

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 Luke 24.13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Anthem I know that my redeemer lives Richard Jeffrey-Grey

Prayers

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of Concern

Prayer of Hope

Each prayer ends with 'We pray to you'.

Prayer Chant Mayenziwe (Your will be done on earth, O Lord)

Ma - ye - nzi - we__ 'nta - ndo - ya - kho. Ma -

ye - nzi we__ 'nta - ndo - ya - kho. Ma - ye - nzi we__ 'nta

ndo__ ya kho.. Ma - ye - nzi - we 'nta - ndo ya -

kho. Ma - ye - nzi - we 'nta - ndo ya - kho.

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.

Richard Gillard (born 1953)

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 Now the green blade rises arr. Bullard

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 We have a gospel to proclaim,
good news for all throughout the earth;
the gospel of a Saviour's name:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.**
- 2 Tell of his birth at Bethlehem
not in a royal house or hall
but in a stable dark and dim,
the Word made flesh, a light for all.**
- 3 Tell of his death at Calvary,
hated by those he came to save,
in lonely suffering on the Cross;
for all he loved his life he gave.**
- 4 Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
empty the tomb, for he was free.
He broke the power of death and hell
that we might share his victory.**
- 5 Tell of his reign at God's right hand,
by all creation glorified.
He sends his Spirit on his Church
to live for him, the Lamb who died.**
- 6 Now we rejoice to name him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel-message we proclaim:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.**

Edward J Burns (born 1938)

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 Christ the Lord is risen again! Alan Smith

President: Revd Catherine Duce

Preacher: Revd Janet Allan

Soloist: Saskia Bibb

Pianist: Jonathan Dods

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