

Zoom Church 24th May 2020

Order of Service

An Agapé is a way of breaking bread together as Jesus did with people in all sorts of settings. You may like to join in at home with some bread and wine or juice.

If you are joining us with children, you might like to have some paper and pens ready for a prayer time activity.

A practical note: during longer prayers, hymns, the talk and the intercessions, we will put everyone on 'mute' except the person leading so that we do not hear any background noise.

If you want to put yourself back on mute, please do so!

Notices for Sunday 24th May

Don't forget you can join:

a service of said Evening Prayer (BCP) this evening from 6.25pm.

The Bible Course on Monday and Friday at 3pm

Morning Prayer at 8.30am every weekday

ask for Zoom links if you don't have them.

If you are able to volunteer to help shop for people, do washing for the rehoused homeless, make phone calls or offer other practical help, please let us know.

Our theme this week is Prayer, joining with Thy Kingdom Come, the Church of England's 10 days of prayer between Ascension Day and Pentecost.

Next week is Pentecost, the Church's birthday! We'd like to celebrate our churches with a birthday party! If you would like to, and are able to find the ingredients, you could bake a cakes or cakes to bring to the party. If you want to bring other things like balloons or party hats then we'd love to see them!

We begin with a Prayer of Gathering

Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
And also with you

Be with us, Spirit of God;
nothing can separate us from your Love.

Breathe on us, breath of God;
fill us with your saving power.

Speak in us, wisdom of God;
bring strength, healing and peace.

Silence is kept

The Lord is here
His Spirit is with us.

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares 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 labors, 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 (Joyce Anstruther) 1901-1953

The Confession

In a dark and disfigured world
we have not held out the light of life:
Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy

In a hungry and despairing world
we have failed to share our bread:
Christ have mercy
Christ have mercy

In a cold and loveless world
we have kept the love of God to ourselves:
Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy

**May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive us our sins
and make us holy
to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Collect

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus
Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour
Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

We watch a video from Thy Kingdom Come: Participate

A reading from Acts 1:6-14

When the apostles had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away.

When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.

All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

We listen to a talk by Mr Nathaniel Moody,
Pioneer Evangelist with the Baptist Union

We watch a video from Thy Kingdom Come: Silence

The Intercessions

We pray in silence, or with those at home with us, for some of the needs around us.

'Through our lives and by our prayers, your Kingdom come'
our world

'Through our lives and by our prayers, your Kingdom come'
our country and local communities

'Through our lives and by our prayers, your Kingdom come'
the Church

'Through our lives and by our prayers, your Kingdom come'
our families, friends and ourselves.

'Through our lives and by our prayers, your Kingdom come'

The intercessions may end by saying together:

**Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

We share in what the children have done

We watch a video from Thy Kingdom Come: Adore

The Peace

Jesus said

‘Peace I leave you; my peace I give you.

I do not give as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid’.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

Hymn

During this next hymn, you might like to make sure you have your bread and wine close by.

Father, hear the prayer we offer:

Not for ease that prayer shall be,
But for strength that we may ever
Live our lives courageously.

2 Not for ever in green pastures
Do we ask our way to be;
But the steep and rugged pathway
May we tread rejoicingly.

3 Not for ever by still waters
Would we idly rest and stay;
But would smite the living fountains
From the rocks along our way.

4 Be our strength in hours of weakness,
In our wanderings be our guide;
Through endeavour, failure, danger,
Father, be thou at our side.

We share together in an Agape meal.
beginning by giving thanks.

*If you want to hold up your bread and wine as we pray,
please do so.*

We have bread and wine,
gifts of this good earth,
enough for all, if we can share!
Gracious God we give you thanks
for all the many blessings in our lives
and ask that you would bless us now
as we share your good gifts
in Jesus' name.

Amen

Breaking Bread

Loving God, you provide enough for everyone:
this earth is fertile, fruitful and abundant,
but we are sometimes greedy, wasteful and selfish.

Many go hungry despite our plenty,
many are left outside while we enjoy a feast.

But on the hillside, in the wilderness,
with five thousand and more hungry people,
Jesus took the bread that they had,
broke it and gave thanks to you.

He shared the bread,
so that no one should be left out,
and they all ate and were satisfied.

Blessed be God for ever!

Blessing Wine

Gracious God, you hurt with our pains,
you weep with our tears;
when you see how we struggle and suffer.

You long for our peace, yet we so often make war.
You long for our healing and wholeness,
yet we so often turn away from you.

But at a wedding in Cana when the wine ran out,
Jesus asked them to fill the empty jars with water,
and by your grace, water became wine,
sadness was turned to joy,
and all were able to share in the best wine of all.
Blessed be God for ever!

Sharing Together

Healing God,
you long for us to dream your dream,
of a world at peace, a people made one,
a feast for all;
where bread is broken and shared with companions on the road,
where wine is blessed
and shared with all who are hurting,
and all are caught up together
in the Kingdom of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The bread is shared, using the words:
Bread for the world to share.

The wine is shared using the words:
The best wine, saved till now.

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God we thank you,
for your abundant love in creation,
your compassionate, healing touch in our hurting,
your inspiration for our venturing.
Thank you for bread, and wine to share.
Give us grace to follow
in the footsteps of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**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**

Hymn

1 **Christ triumphant, ever reigning,**
Saviour, Master, King,
Lord of heav'n, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:

*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

2 Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
Pow'r and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:

3 Suff'ring servant, scorned, illtreated,
victim crucified!
Death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:

4 Priestly King, enthroned for ever
high in heav'n above!
Sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:

5 So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:

Words: Michael Seward (b 1932)

Tune 'Guiting Power' - John Barnard (b 1948)

We watch a video from Thy Kingdom Come: The Light

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore
Amen.**

In peace we love and serve the Lord in our daily lives
**In the name of Christ.
Amen.**

*Will you commit to praying for 5 people over the next week, joining
with Christians around the world as part of Thy Kingdom Come?*