

Welcome to our Holy Communion Service

at St Mary's, Shirehampton

Sunday 12th January 2025

CALL TO WORSHIP

Baptized to begin lives of faith,
**we would witness to all you do in our communities,
in our midst, in our world.**

Baptized to serve,
**we would speak up for the voiceless,
we would bring justice to those who have none.**

Baptized to speak,
**we would heal, and not hurt;
we would bless, and not curse.**

Baptized to do what is right,
**we would not play favourites,
but treat each as your Beloved.**

HYMN

1 O worship the Lord
in the beauty of holiness;
bow down before him,
his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience,
and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him:
the Lord is his name.

2 Low at his feet lay
thy burden of carefulness:
high on his heart
he will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows,
and answer thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps
as may best for thee be.

3 Fear not to enter
his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth
thou wouldst reckon as thine:
truth in its beauty,
and love in its tenderness,
these are the off'rings
to lay on his shrine.

4 These, though we bring them
in trembling and fearfulness,
he will accept
for the name that is dear;
mornings of joy give
for ev'nings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling
and hope for our fear.

5 O worship the Lord
in the beauty of holiness;
bow down before him,
his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience,
and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him:
the Lord is his name.

John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811-1875)
CCL Licence Number 5935

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God who Delivers and Redeems,
we have failed to live into the promise of new life.

We have been afraid to enter troubled waters to help the poor and
downtrodden.

We have been afraid to walk with those burned by the system of sin and
oppression.

We have sought ease and comfort in exchange for ignoring the hungry
and sick in our world.

**Forgive us when we have seen our faith in such narrowness, thinking of
only our own salvation.**

**Forgive us when we have not lived for others, when we have not been
willing to risk ourselves for the sake of others.**

**Call us into new life, a life that is lived in the promise of Your love for the
whole world. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In the darkness, light shines.

In the midst of troubled waters, a hand reaches out.

We are not alone on this journey of faith.

When we seek God, we shall find God.

God forgives, renews, and restores you are forgiven —
let us go forth and do the work of God. **Amen.**

THE GLORIA

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

COLLECT

Heavenly Father,
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:
may we recognize him as our Lord
and know ourselves to be your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

FIRST READING – Acts 8: 14 - 17

please sit for the reading

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

1 Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!

The heav'ns are not too high,
his praise may thither fly;
the earth is not too low,
his praises there may grow.

Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!

2 Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!

The Church with psalms must shout,
no door can keep them out;
but, above all, the heart
must bear the longest part.

Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!

George Herbert (1593-1633)

CCL Licence Number 5935

GOSPEL READING Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end the reader says,

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

We re-commit together

Do you reject evil?

I reject evil.

And all its many forms?

And all its many forms.

And all its empty promises?

And all its empty promises.

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

And put your trust in him?

And put my trust in him.

And promise to follow him for ever?

And promise to follow him for ever.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Do you believe in God the Father,
source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Ending with:

Merciful Father

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

THE PEACE *please stand*

Christ came and proclaimed the gospel, peace to those who are far off
and peace to those who are near.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

HYMN

1 Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know,
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known?
will you let my life be grown
in you, and you in me?

3 Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free,
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you, and you in me?

2 Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind,
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare,
will you let me answer prayer
in you, and you in me?

4 Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside,
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound
in you, and you in me?

5 Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you,
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you, and you in me.

John L. Bell (b.1949) and Graham Maule (b.1958)
CCL Licence Number 5935

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

With this bread that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

With this wine that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

Bread for his body,
wine for his blood,
gifts from God to his table we bring.
We shall remember Jesus.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word;
through him you have created all things from the beginning,
and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;
you raised him from the dead
and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us
your holy and life-giving Spirit,
and made us a people for your own possession.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Accept through him,
our great high priest this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour
and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

**We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

**God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.**

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord
to the glory of God the Father.**

Communion is received.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord God,

you feed us with the living bread from heaven;

renew our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love.

Teach us to hunger for Christ who is the true and living bread,

and to live by every word that comes from your mouth,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

BLESSINGS

NOTICES

BIRTHDAYS

HYMN

Rejoice! Rejoice! Christ is in you

The hope of glory In our hearts

He lives! He lives! His breath is in you

Arise a mighty army

We arise

2 God is at work in us

His purpose to perform

Building a kingdom

Of power not of words

Where things impossible

By faith shall be made possible

Let's give the glory

To Him now.

1 Now is the time for us

To march upon the land

Into our hands

He will give the ground we claim

He rides in majesty

To lead us into victory

The world shall see

That Christ is Lord

3 Though we are weak, His grace

Is everything we need

We're made of clay

But this treasure is within

He turns our weaknesses

Into His opportunities

So that the glory

Goes to Him

SENDING

Baptized to begin lives of faith,
**we would witness to all you do in our communities,
in our midst, in our world.**

Baptized to serve,
**we would speak up for the voiceless,
we would bring justice to those who have none.**

Baptized to speak,
**we would heal, and not hurt;
we would bless, and not curse.**

Baptized to do what is right,
**we would not play favourites,
but treat each as your Beloved.**

BLESSING

God the Father,
who has given to his Son
the name above every name,
strengthen you to proclaim Christ as Lord;

And the blessing of God Almighty,
The Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Be among you and those whom you
Love today and always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. **Amen.**