



Wednesday 14 May 2025

Bread for the World

An Informal Eucharist

Introit Breathe on me, breath of God Ronald Foot

Welcome and Opening Prayers Revd Janet Allan

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 Firmly I believe and truly
God is Three, and God is One;
and I next acknowledge duly
manhood taken by the Son.**
- 2 And I trust and hope most fully
in that manhood crucified;
and each thought and deed unruly
do to death, as he has died.**
- 3 Simply to his grace and wholly
light and life and strength belong,
and I love supremely, solely,
him the holy, him the strong.**

Continued...

- 4 **And I hold in veneration,
for the love of him alone,
holy Church as his creation,
and her teachings as his own.**
- 5 **Adoration ay be given,
with and through the angelic host,
to the God of earth and heaven,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

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 Acts 8: 26-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptised him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reflection Talking about God in Practice Revd Catherine Duce

Anthem For the beauty of the earth John Rutter

Prayers

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of Concern

Prayer of Hope

Each prayer ends with 'We pray to you'.

Prayer Chant O Lord hear my prayer



O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,
when I call ans - wer me. O Lord hear my prayer, O
Lord hear my prayer, come and lis - ten to me.

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 For all the saints who from their labours rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be for ever blest:
Alleluia, alleluia!**
- 2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou in the darkness still their one true light:
Alleluia, alleluia!**

Continued..

- 3 **O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine:
Alleluia, alleluia!**
- 4 **But lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day:
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of Glory passes on his way!
Alleluia, alleluia!**
- 5 **From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, alleluia!**

William W How (1823-1897)

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 Bread of the world
Trad. Scottish arr. Alan 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 O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou for ever near me,
my Master and my Friend:
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.**
- 2 O let me feel thee near me:
the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me, and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.**
- 3 O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee,
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be;
and, Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end:
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my Friend.**

Continued...

**4 O let me see thy foot-marks,
and in them plant mine own;
my hope to follow duly
is in thy strength alone:
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my Friend.**

John Ernest Bode (1816-1874)

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 Ev'ry time I feel the spirit Moses Hogan

President: Revd Janet Allan

Preacher: Revd Catherine Duce

Choir: Choral Scholars of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Pianist: Polina Sosnina

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