

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

*During the distribution of communion in church,
those engaging with worship online might like to use this prayer:*

**My Jesus, I believe that you are present
in the Holy Sacrament of the altar.**

**I love you above all things
and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite
myself wholly to you now and for ever. Amen.**

Communion Motet

*During the distribution of communion, the choir will sing
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), O taste and see*

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:
blessed is the man that trusteth in him. *Psalm 34:8*

Prayer after Communion

stand

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Blessing and Dismissal

stand and bow your head

The priest uses this or another seasonal blessing

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ, alleluia, alleluia!

All Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!

Music after the service

Eugène Gigout (1844-1925), Toccata

*Please be aware of the need for
social distancing as you leave the church.*

*If you are able to donate by BACS (online) to the
mission of our churches,*

the account details are as follows:

St Mary's: account number 00233331
and sort code 560034.

St John's: account number 50935607
and sort code 600205

Many thanks for your generosity

The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Bathwick

2 May 2021

5th Sunday of Easter



Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69),
The Baptism of the Eunuch (1626)

Music before the service

Percy Whitlock (1903-46), *Lantana (Plymouth Suite)*

Welcome and Introduction

stand as bell rings

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Priest Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

Prayers of Penitence

The priest uses this or another similar invitation to confession

Christ died to sin once for all, and now he lives to God.

Let us renew our resolve to have done with all that is evil
and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Lord Jesus, we have lived by our own strength,
and not by the power of your resurrection:

Lord, have mercy:

Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, we have lived by the light of our own eyes,
as faithless and not believing:

Christ, have mercy:

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, we have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven:

Lord, have mercy:

Lord, have mercy.

The priest proclaims God's forgiveness in these or similar words:

May the God of love and power

forgive you and free you from your sins,

heal and strengthen you by his Spirit

and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning.

**Please use this service-sheet and the weekly
notice-sheet to inform your prayer and reflection
during the coming week.**

Gloria in excelsis

All Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ:
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world:
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world:
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the
Father: have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy, thou only art the Lord,
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art the Most High, in the glory
of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

the prayer of the day

*The priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words
'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding.*

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of
everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

sit as we listen to the scriptures of the day

First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

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.

The Lord's Prayer

*The priest introduces the Lord's Prayer in these or similar words
Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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.

Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

All Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

The priest invites us to receive the communion of Jesus' body and blood

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia!

Distribution of Holy Communion

*So that the distribution of communion may proceed as safely as
possible, it will be done in silence. Therefore at this point we
collectively acclaim the Body and Blood of the Lord:*

As the priest presents the Blessed Sacrament he says
The Body of Christ. Amen.

As the priest presents the Precious Blood he says
The Blood of Christ. Amen.

*Worshippers are reminded that the entirety of the
sacrament is received when only the Blessed
Sacrament (the consecrated bread) is consumed –
the priest (only) will consume the Precious Blood
Ministers of the Sacrament will have sanitised their
hands with alcohol-based gel*

*You are requested to maintain a distance of
at least 1 metre as you queue to receive the
Sacrament at the front of the nave.
The Blessed Sacrament will then be 'dropped'
into your outstretched hands
without any additional words being spoken*

Christ is risen, we are risen;
Shed upon us heavenly grace,
Rain, and dew, and gleams of glory
From the brightness of thy face;
That we, Lord, with hearts in heaven
Here on earth may fruitful be,
And be angel-hands be gathered,
And be ever safe with thee.

Alleluya! Alleluya!
Glory be to God on high;
To the Father, and the Saviour,
Who has gained the victory;
Glory to the Holy Spirit,
Fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluya! Alleluya!
To the Triune Majesty.

Prayer over the Gifts

The priest may say

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands,
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.**

This or another suitable prayer may be said over the gifts:

O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected
in this sacrifice

have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead,
grant, we pray,

that, as we have come to know your truth,
we may make it ours by a worthy way of life.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

Priest The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

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

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

The priest praises God for his mighty acts and we respond:

All **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.**

kneel as the bell rings

*The president recalls Jesus' words at the Last Supper, and this
acclamation is used*

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

The prayer of consecration ends:

...by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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
baptized 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.

This is the word of the Lord:

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

verses from Psalm 22

*The choir sings the psalm. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the
congregation is **not permitted** to join in singing the psalm*

- 25 My praise is of thee in the great congregation : my
vows will I perform in the sight of them that fear him.
26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied : they that seek after
the Lord shall praise him; your heart shall live for ever.
27 All the ends of the world shall remember themselves,
and be turned unto the Lord : and all the kindreds of
the nations shall worship before him.
28 For the kingdom is the Lord's :
and he is the Governor among the people.
29 All such as be fat upon earth :
have eaten and worshipped.
30 All they that go down into the dust shall kneel before
him : and no man hath quickened his own soul.
31 My seed shall serve him :
they shall be counted unto the Lord for a generation.
32 They shall come, and the heavens shall declare his
righteousness : unto a people that shall be born, whom
the Lord hath made.

Epistle Reading

1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from
God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows
God. Whoever does not love does not know God,
for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this
way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we
might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved
God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the
atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us
so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has
ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us,
and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us,
because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen
and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the
Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess
that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So
we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God,' and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

This is the word of the Lord:

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

stand

Alleluia, alleluia!

Make your home in me, as I make mine in you:

Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

John 15:1-8

Deacon The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Deacon Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

sit

The Apostles' Creed

stand

**All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son,
our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the Faithful

kneel or sit

The prayers are introduced by the priest

One of these responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy. *(or)* Lord, hear us.

All hear our prayer. Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end

Merciful Father,

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

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Peace

stand

The priest introduces the Peace with these or similar words

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then they rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Alleluia!

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All and also with you.

*the Peace may only be shared verbally with
your immediate neighbours
without any physical contact*

Offertory Hymn

During the preparation of the altar, the choir will sing the hymn

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heaven.

*Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the congregation is not permitted
to join in singing the hymn*

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hearts to heaven and voices raise;

Sing to God a hymn of gladness,

Sing to God a hymn of praise;

He who on the Cross a victim

for the world's salvation bled,

Jesus Christ, the King of glory,

Now is risen from the dead.

Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits

Of the holy harvest field,

Which will all its full abundance

At his second coming yield;

Then the golden ears of harvest

Will their heads before him wave,

Ripened by his glorious sunshine

From the furrows of the grave.

[continued overleaf]