

Holy Eucharist

From the Vicarage of
St Mary's Apsley End and St Benedict's Bennetts End



PASSION SUNDAY

10.00am 29th MARCH 2020

Led by Revd Richard Howlett

WELCOME!

Although we cannot gather together the worship of the church continues. You may be joining in this service online. Welcome! You may be reading a hard copy of this service booklet. Welcome! Although we are physically distant we are still near each other in prayer through the intercessions and presence of Jesus. May his peace be with you and all those you are praying for at this time.

You may like to have a small piece of bread available to consume at the time of the communion as a symbol of fellowship

THE GATHERING

The Greeting

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Prayer of Preparation

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known and from whom no secrets are hidden, cleanse the thoughts of our
hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

Lord, you are gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love
Lord have mercy
Lord, have mercy

You are loving to all and your mercy is over all creation
Christ, have mercy
Christ, have mercy

Your faithful servants bless your name
and speak of the glory of your kingdom
Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you
in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

Let us pray
A short time of silent prayer.
Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his
passion, that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Romans 8.6-11

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Gospel: John 11.14-45

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus told them plainly. He said, 'Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad that I was not there. You will really believe in me. But come, let us go to him.' ¹⁶ Then Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to the other disciples, 'Let us all go and die with Jesus.' ¹⁷ When Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had been buried four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was only about two miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁹ Many Jews had come out to see Martha and Mary. They came to comfort them because their brother had died. ²⁰ As soon as Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him. But Mary just stayed in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even yet, I know that God will give you anything that you ask for.' ²³ Jesus said, 'Your brother will rise again.' ²⁴ Martha said, 'I know that he will rise when the dead people are raised up on the last day.' ²⁵ Jesus said, 'I am the one who will raise people up and give them life. The person who believes in me will live, even though he has died. ²⁶ Anyone who is living and who believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' ²⁷ She said, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ. I believe that you are the Son of God who was to come into the world.' ²⁸ When she had said this, she went back to call her sister. She said quietly, 'Mary, the Master has come. He is calling you.' ²⁹ When Mary heard that, she got up quickly and came to him. ³⁰ Jesus was not in the town yet. He was at the same place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were in the house to comfort Mary saw her get up

quickly and go out. They went after her. They said, 'She is going to the grave to cry.'³² Mary reached the place where Jesus was. When she saw him, she kneeled down before him and said, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.'³³ Jesus saw her crying. He saw the Jews who came with her crying also. Then his heart was troubled very much.³⁴ 'Where have you buried him?' he said. 'Come, Lord, and see,' they said.³⁵ Then Jesus cried.³⁶ 'Look,' the Jews said. 'He truly loved him very much!'³⁷ Then some of them said, 'This man made the blind see. Could he not have saved Lazarus from dying?'³⁸ Jesus' heart was troubled very much again. Then he came to the grave. It was a hole in the side of a large rock. A stone covered the hole.³⁹ Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said, 'Lord, he will smell bad by this time. He has been dead four days already.'⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed God you would see that he is great?'⁴¹ So they pushed the stone away from the grave. Jesus looked up and said, 'Father, I thank you because you have heard me.'⁴² I know that you always hear me. But I have said this so that the people who are standing here might believe that you have sent me.'⁴³ When he had said this, he shouted, 'Lazarus, come out!'⁴⁴ Out came the dead man! The cloth that they had buried him in was tied around his hands and feet. Another small cloth was tied around his face. Jesus said to the people, 'Take off the cloths and free him!'⁴⁵ When they saw the things Jesus did, many of the Jews who had come with Mary believed on Him.

The Sermon

A short period of silence may follow.

The Creed

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

We 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?**

We 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?**

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers have been prepared by Dan Shirley.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please stand for:

The Peace

Christ is our peace.

He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Preparation of the Table

Jesus, true vine and bread of life, ever giving yourself that the world might live, let us share your death and passion:
make us perfect in your love.
Amen.

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 and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.

The power of the life-giving cross reveals the judgement that has come upon the world and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more, the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever, our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,
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.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Alban
and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and
ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us
**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.**

The 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.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.

The Invitation to Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are
called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The Prayer after Communion

**Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers
and sisters we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

The President pronounces God's blessing upon the people:

Christ crucified draw you to himself,
to find in him a sure ground for faith,
a firm support for hope,
and the assurance of sins forgiven;
and the blessing of God almighty,
The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen