

St John's Kidlington

Evening Service of Holy Communion (D)

Call to worship

We meet in the name of God,
Creator of the universe,
source of true humanity,
mother and father of all.
Amen.

We meet in the name of Jesus,
Word made flesh,
saviour of fallen humanity,
lover of all.
Amen.

We meet in the name of the Holy Spirit,
Lord and giver of life,
midwife of new humanity,
inspirer of all.
Amen.

Come then, eternal God
**Be present here,
befriend us here,
renew us here.**

Confession and Absolution

**In the wilderness we find your grace;
you love us with an everlasting love.
Lord, have mercy**

**There is none but you to uphold our cause;
our sin cries out and our guilt is great.
Christ, have mercy**

**Heal us, O Lord, and we shall be healed;
restore us and we shall know your joy.
Lord, have mercy**

Hear now the words of Jesus
for all who are truly sorry
and seek to renew their lives:
Your sins are forgiven.
Go in peace;
come and follow me.

(pause)

Lead us now, O God,
to acknowledge your costly generosity
by living as forgiven people,
until heaven and earth rejoice
and the whole earth cries Glory!
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for the Day

Merciful God, your Son came to save us,
and bore our sins on the cross:
My we trust in your mercy, and know your love
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

Hearing the Word

Luke 7.11-17

Soon afterwards he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town. When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, "Do not weep." Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!" The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized all of them; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us!" and "God has looked favourably on his people!" This word about him spread throughout Judea and all the surrounding country.

For the gift of the Word
We give you thanks.

Prayers of concern

It is in this mystery of communion with Christ that we pray for the Church throughout the world, praying in particular for..

We pray for the people of this community and those communities on our hearts today...

We pray for the sick, the bereaved, the oppressed, and the homeless, praying in particular for..

We pray for the broken and torn fabric of the earth as it yearns for healing, praying in particular for..

And because you are one with us, O Christ, enable us to share your life with the world by sharing our own lives with the world. And so we pray, in the words you have taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give 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.**

Offertory

Bread and wine are placed on the altar.

Let us pray:

**Loving God, through your goodness
we have this bread and wine to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
May we know your presence
in the sharing of this bread,
so that we may know your touch
in all bread, all matter.**

**We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared
among his community through the centuries,
and shares with us now.**

**Made one in Christ and one with each other,
we offer these gifts and with them ourselves,
a single, holy, living sacrifice. Amen.**

The story

Now let us hear the story of how this sacrament began.

On the night on which Jesus was betrayed,
he sat at supper with his disciples.
While they were eating, he took a piece of bread,
said a blessing,
broke it and gave it to them with the words,
'This is my body. It is broken for you.
Do this to remember me.'

Later, he took a cup of wine, saying,
'This cup is God's new covenant, sealed with my blood.
Drink from it, all of you, to remember me.'

So now, following Jesus' example and commands,
we take this bread and this wine,
the ordinary things of the world
which Christ will make special.
And as he said a prayer before sharing,
let us do so too.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord.

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

Gratitude, praise,
hearts lifted high,
voices full and joyful,
these you deserve.
For when we were nothing,
you made us something.

When we had no name
and no faith and no future,
you called us your children.
When we lost our way or turned away,
you did not abandon us.
When we came back to you,
your arms opened wide in welcome.

And look, you prepare a table for us
offering not just bread, not just wine,
but your very self
so that we may be filled, forgiven,
healed, blessed and made new again.
You are worth all our pain and all our praise.

So now, in gratitude,
we join our voices to those of the Church on earth and in
heaven:

**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.**

Lord God,
as we come to share the richness of your table,
we cannot forget the rawness of the earth.
We cannot take bread
and forget those who are hungry.

Your world is one world
and we are stewards of its nourishment.
**Lord, put our prosperity
at the service of the poor.**

We cannot take wine
and forget those who are thirsty.
The ground and the rootless,
the earth and its weary people cry out for justice.
**Lord, put our fullness
at the service of the empty.**

We cannot hear your words of peace
and forget the world at war
or, if not at war, then preparing for it.
**Show us quickly, Lord,
how to turn weapons
into welcome signs
and the lust for power
into a desire for peace.**

We cannot celebrate the feast of your family
and forget our divisions.
We are one in spirit, but not in fact.
History and hurt still dismember us.
**Lord, heal your church
in every brokenness.**

Prayer of consecration

For us you were born,
for us you healed,
preached, taught
and showed the way to heaven;
for us you were crucified,
and for us, after death,
you rose again.

Lord Jesus Christ,
present with us now,
for all that you have promised,
what have we to offer?

Our hands are empty,
our hearts are sometimes full of wrong things.
We are not fit to gather up the crumbs
from under your table.
But with you is mercy
and the power to change us.

So as we do in this place
what you did in an upstairs room,
send down your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine
that they may become for us your body,
healing, forgiving
and making us whole;
and that we may become,
for you, your body,
loving and caring in the world
until your kingdom comes. **Amen.**

(Taking and breaking the bread)

Among friends, gathered round a table,
Jesus took bread, broke it and said,
'This is my body,
it is broken for you.'

(Taking the cup of wine)

And later he took the cup of wine and said,
'This is the new relationship with God,
made possible because of my death.
Take this – all of you – to remember me.'

Look, here is your Lord coming to you in bread and wine.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

The Body of Christ Broken for you

The Peace

The peace of Christ is here to stay!
Let us share his peace with one another.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Blessing

May the everlasting God shield you,
east and west and wherever you go.
And the blessing of God be upon you.
The blessing of the God of life.

The blessing of Christ be upon you,
the blessing of the Christ of love.

The blessing of the Spirit be upon you,
the blessing of the Spirit of grace.

The blessing of the Trinity be upon you.
Now and for evermore. **Amen**