

The Eucharist for 24th January on Zoom



Vestry Prayer

Eternal God, in Christ you make yourself a guest. Amid all my cares and concerns make me attentive to your voice and alert to your presence, that I may know your love surpasses all else; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *(from the Methodist Church website)*

The Gathering

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.**

Hymn God is Love by Percy Dearmer

1 God is love: his the care,
tending each, ev'rywhere,
God is love, all is there!
Jesus came to show him,
that we all might know him!

*Refrain: Sing aloud, loud, loud!
sing aloud, loud, loud!
God is good! God is truth!
God is beauty! Praise him!*

2 None can see God above;
we can share life and love;
thus may we Godward move,

finding him in creation,
holding ev'ry nation. [Refrain]

3 Jesus lived on the earth,
hope and life brought to birth
and affirmed human worth,
for he came to save us
by the truth he gave us. [Refrain]

4 To our Lord praise we sing,
light and life, friend and King,
coming down, love to bring,
pattern for our duty,
showing God in beauty. [Refrain]

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.

Invitation to confession

As we come to the Lord, let us seek his grace to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Most merciful God, we confess to you, before the whole company of heaven and one another, that we have sinned in thought, word and deed and in what we have failed to do. Forgive us our sins, heal us by your Spirit and raise us to new life in Christ. Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will and give you the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

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.**

The Collect

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen.

Psalm 128

Refrain: How abundant is your goodness, O Lord.

- 1 Blessed are all those who fear the Lord, ◆
and walk in his ways.
- 2 **You shall eat the fruit of the toil of your hands; ◆
it shall go well with you, and happy shall you be. R**
- 3 Your wife within your house shall be like a fruitful vine; ◆
your children round your table, like fresh olive branches.
- 4 **Thus shall the one be blest ◆
who fears the Lord. R**
- 5 The Lord from out of Zion bless you, ◆
that you may see Jerusalem in prosperity all the days of your life.
- 6 **May you see your children's children ◆
and may there be peace upon Israel.**

Refrain: How abundant is your goodness, O Lord.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning, is now and every shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 2.1-11.

Glory to you, O Lord.

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

"Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realise where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."

This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Address

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

And at the end Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there shall be no end. *Isaiah 9.6,7*

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

Preparation of the Table

Word made flesh, life of the world, in your incarnation you embraced our poverty: by your Spirit may we share in your riches. **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.

Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish. You give us your love, even when things go wrong. Jesus knew hurt and pain. Through him you wipe away our tears and fill us with your peace. You made us all, each wonderfully different, to join with the angels and sing your praise:

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 thank you, loving Father, because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live. Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us Christ's body and his blood. On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.'

So, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life. As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit, and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us, Father, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms. And now with all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that 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

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

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because one day we will all share together in one bread again.**

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

Words of Assurance (inspired by Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18)

Our God knows you by name. Our God knows what you fear. For you are fearfully and wonderfully made. In your name, God's works are revealed again to us. Jesus become the bread and wine of our new life, to feed us spiritually to give us courage and strength to meet the day. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Communion is received.

Loving God, be with me and all your people in these days when we cannot gather in person and help us to hope in that great day when we will all gather at your heavenly banquet; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *(from the Methodist Church website)*



Prayer after Communion

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessing

May God the Father, who created us in love,
lead you in your pilgrimage to find the Lord. **Amen.**

May God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness,
give us a place with the saints in light. **Amen.**

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ shine in your hearts
and transform the your water into the wine of love and grace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn Fill your hearts with joy and gladness by Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-)

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
sing and praise your God and mine!

Great the Lord in love and wisdom,
might and majesty divine!

He who framed the starry heavens
knows and names them as they shine.

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
sing and praise your God and mine!

Praise the Lord, his people, praise him!
wounded souls his comfort know;
those who fear him find his mercies,
peace for pain and joy for woe;
humble hearts are high exalted,
human pride and power laid low.
Praise the Lord, his people, praise him!
wounded souls his comfort know.

Praise the Lord for times and seasons,
cloud and sunshine, wind and rain;
spring to melt the snows of winter
till the waters flow again;
grass upon the mountain pastures,
golden valleys thick with grain.
Praise the Lord for times and seasons,
cloud and sunshine, wind and rain.

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
peace and plenty crown your days;
love his laws, declare his judgments,
walk in all his words and ways;
he the Lord and we his children--
praise the Lord, all people, praise!
Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
peace and plenty crown your days.

We have seen the transformation in the gospel.

May our lives be transformed in love and peace for God. Amen.

The ministers and people depart.

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