

St Mary's Church, Walkley

The Eve of Holy Cross Day

13th September 2020

The Church on the Road:
Inclusive, Eucharistic, a safe place to be with God



Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley

There will be some changes to our usual way of worship. It may feel a bit like it does at St Mary's during Lent. There won't be any hymns during the service. Later on we might be able to have a cantor singing some of the liturgy, for example the Gloria.

The Preparation

Minister O God, make speed to save us.
All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Minister Let your ways be known upon earth
All **your saving power among the nations.**

Minister Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
As we behold your Son, enthroned on the cross,
stir up in us the fire of your love,
that we may be cleansed from all our sins,
and walk with you in newness of life
singing the praise of him who died
for us and our salvation.

All Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

Minister That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

Minister As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,
so may your mercy come down upon us
to cleanse our hearts
and set us free to sing your praise
now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

We sit.

The Confession and Absolution

Minister Christ himself carried up our sins in his body to the tree,
so that, free from sins,
we might live for righteousness;
by his wounds we have been healed.
Let us confess our sins.

We keep a time of silence.

Minister Lord Jesus,
you came to reconcile us to one another and the Father:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Minister Lord Jesus,
you heal the wounds of sin and division:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Minister Lord Jesus,
you intercede for us with your Father:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Amen.**

Minister May the Father forgive us
by the death of his Son
and strengthen us
to live in the power of the Spirit
all our days.

All **Amen.**

The Word of God

The Psalm: Psalm 66

We sit as we say the psalm.

- 1 Be joyful in God, all the earth; ♦
sing the glory of his name;
sing the glory of his praise.
- 2 Say to God, 'How awesome are your deeds! ♦
Because of your great strength your enemies shall bow before you.
- 3 'All the earth shall worship you, ♦
sing to you, sing praise to your name.'
- 4 Come now and behold the works of God, ♦
how wonderful he is in his dealings with humankind.
- 5 He turned the sea into dry land;
the river they passed through on foot; ♦
there we rejoiced in him.

- 6 In his might he rules for ever;
his eyes keep watch over the nations; ♦
let no rebel rise up against him.
- 7 Bless our God, O you peoples; ♦
make the voice of his praise to be heard,
- 8 Who holds our souls in life ♦
and suffers not our feet to slip.
- 9 For you, O God, have proved us; ♦
you have tried us as silver is tried.
- 10 You brought us into the snare; ♦
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- 11 You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water; ♦
but you brought us out into a place of liberty.
- 12 I will come into your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows, ♦
which my lips uttered
and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.
- 13 I will offer you fat burnt sacrifices with the smoke of rams; ♦
I will sacrifice oxen and goats.
- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, ♦
and I will tell you what he has done for my soul.
- 15 I called out to him with my mouth ♦
and his praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had nursed evil in my heart, ♦
the Lord would not have heard me,
- 17 But in truth God has heard me; ♦
he has heeded the voice of my prayer.
- 18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, ♦
nor withheld his loving mercy from me.

We stand.

All **Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

We sit.

The First Reading: Isaiah 52.13 - 53.end

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

See, my servant shall prosper;

he shall be exalted and lifted up,
and shall be very high.

Just as there were many who were astonished at him

—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of mortals—

so he shall startle many nations;

kings shall shut their mouths because of him;
for that which had not been told them they shall see,
and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

Who has believed what we have heard?

And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

For he grew up before him like a young plant,

and like a root out of dry ground;

he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,

nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by others;

a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;

and as one from whom others hide their faces

he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities

and carried our diseases;

yet we accounted him stricken,

struck down by God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions,

crushed for our iniquities;

upon him was the punishment that made us whole,

and by his bruises we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray;

we have all turned to our own way,

and the Lord has laid on him

the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

By a perversion of justice he was taken away.

Who could have imagined his future?

For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.

They made his grave with the wicked

and his tomb with the rich,

although he had done no violence,

and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.

When you make his life an offering for sin,

he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.

Out of his anguish he shall see light;

he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,

and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;

because he poured out himself to death,

and was numbered with the transgressors;

yet he bore the sin of many,

and made intercession for the transgressors.

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

The Canticle: The Song of Christ's Glory

All

**At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow.**

- 1 Christ Jesus was in the form of God, ♦
but he did not cling to equality with God.
- 2 He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, ♦
and was born in our human likeness.
- 3 Being found in human form he humbled himself, ♦
and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.
- 4 Therefore God has highly exalted him, ♦
and bestowed on him the name above every name,
- 5 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, ♦
in heaven and on earth and under the earth;
- 6 And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, ♦
to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2.5-11

All

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

All

**At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow.**

We sit.

The Second Reading: Ephesians 2.11 - end

A reading from the Letter to the Ephesians.

So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called ‘the uncircumcision’ by those who are called ‘the circumcision’—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

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

We stand.

The Gospel Canticle: The Magnificat – The Song of Mary

All **God's love for us is revealed
in that, while we were yet sinners,
Christ died for us.**

- 1 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; ♦
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.
- 2 From this day all generations will call me blessed; ♦
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.
- 3 He has mercy on those who fear him, ♦
from generation to generation.
- 4 He has shown strength with his arm ♦
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,
- 5 Casting down the mighty from their thrones ♦
and lifting up the lowly.
- 6 He has filled the hungry with good things ♦
and sent the rich away empty.
- 7 He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, ♦
to remember his promise of mercy,
- 8 The promise made to our ancestors, ♦
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.46–55

All **Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

All **God's love for us is revealed
in that, while we were yet sinners,
Christ died for us.**

The Apostles' Creed

Minister Let us declare our faith in God.

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.**

We sit.

The Sermon

The Prayers of Intercession

We remain seated or kneel.

Intercessor God be near us,
All **God give us strength.**

The prayers conclude with the following:

Minister Almighty God,
who in the passion of your blessed Son
made an instrument of painful death
to be for us the means of life and peace:
grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ
that we may gladly suffer for his sake;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Minister Standing at the foot of the cross,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

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.**

We stand.

The Conclusion

All Lighten our darkness,
Lord, we pray,
and in your great mercy
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,
for the love of your only Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Minister We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;

All **by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.**

Minister God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.

All **We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.**

Minister We preach Christ crucified,
the power of God and the wisdom of God.

All **By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.**

Minister God forbid that I should glory,
save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All **We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;
by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.**

cf 1 Corinthians 1 and Galatians 6

Minister May Christ, who bore our sins on the cross,
set us free to serve him with joy.

All **Amen.**

Minister Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please take this order of service away with you!

Beginning with the back rows of pews and chairs, please leave using the church porch and move away as quickly as possible to help others to leave too. If you use the ramp, please use the hall door as usual, and move away as quickly as you can.

We are sorry that there won't be any refreshments after the service and that you won't be able to stay to chat to each other in person. We will still be holding our online coffee sessions, though, and we'd love to see you online if you'd like to join us.