

St Andrew's, Chesterton Parish Communion

23 March 2025
Third Sunday of Lent

Copyright acknowledgement (where not indicated below): Some material included in this service is copyright: © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ, USA.; Copyright hymns are reproduced under CCLI Licence no. 30093 and One Licence 632880-A.

Please be aware this service is livestreamed. If you or anyone accompanying you does not wish to be visible on camera, remain behind the front row. Those receiving Communion will not be filmed.

The Greeting

Grace, mercy, and peace
From God our Father
And the Lord Jesus Christ
Be with you.

And also with you.

Gathering Hymn

1 In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time:
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.

2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;
lo! it glows with peace and joy.

3 When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more lustre to the day.

4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.

5 In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time:
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.

Reproduced from Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition, number 682. Words:
John Bowring (1792-1844).

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.

Confession

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart God will not despise. Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion, and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

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

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55.1-9

Hear, everyone who thirsts;
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
² Why do you spend your money for that which is not
bread
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
³ Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of
Israel,
for he has glorified you.
⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
⁷ let the wicked forsake their way
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy
on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

O for a closer walk with God,
a calm and heavenly frame;
a light to shine upon the road
that leads me to the Lamb!

What peaceful hours I once enjoyed,
how sweet their memory still!
But they have left an aching void
the world can never fill.

Return, O holy Dove, return,
sweet messenger of rest:
I hate the sins that made thee mourn
and drove thee from my breast.

The dearest idol I have known,
whate'er that idol be,
help me to tear it from thy throne
and worship only thee.

So shall my walk be close with God,
calm and serene my frame;
so purer light shall mark the road
that leads me to the Lamb.

Reproduced from Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition, number 131. William Cowper (1731-1776).

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord

Luke 13.1-9

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³ No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the other people living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish just as they did."

⁶ Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the man working the vineyard, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸ He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.' "

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

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

These responses may be used
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

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts,
since as members of one body we are called to peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.



A collection for the ministry and mission of St Andrew's will be taken at this point of the service. Thank you to all who give to the life of our church in so many ways.

It is also possible to make donations via the machines at the back or this QR code.

Offertory Hymn

Ah, holy Jesus, how have you offended,
that man to judge you has in hate pretended?
by foes derided, by your own rejected,
O most afflicted.

Who was the guilty? who brought this upon you?
It is my treason, Lord, that has undone you;
and I, O Jesus, it was I denied you,
I crucified you.

See how the Shepherd for the sheep is offered,
the slave has sinned, and yet the Son hath suffered;
for our atonement hangs the saviour bleeding,
God interceding.

For me, kind Jesus, was your incarnation,
your dying sorrow and your life's oblation;
your bitter passion and your desolation,
for my salvation.

O mighty Saviour, I cannot repay you,
I do adore you, and will here obey you:
recall your mercy and your love unswerving,
not my deserving.

Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 139; Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930); Johann Heermann (1585-1647); St Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109).

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here
His Spirit is with us.

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.

The president praises God for God's mighty acts and all respond

**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.**

The president continues with the words of consecration, then we say:

Great is the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

The Eucharistic prayer continues, and concludes
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.**

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.**

Agnus Dei

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sin, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, give us your peace.**

Giving of Communion

The president and people receive communion. Visitors who are receive communion at their home churches are welcome to receive communion here. If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead, please signify this by bringing your order of service with you.

There will be two communion stations – one at the Nave altar and one at the South Aisle altar (for those wishing to kneel). If for health reasons you would prefer to receive the bread and wine by intinction (dipped) by the priest, please come forward to the Nave altar and indicate this by pointing to the chalice held with the bread. Please also indicate if you require gluten-free bread.

Chorale Prelude on 'O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde groß', BWV 622
by J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Prayer after Communion

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power
of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and
glory. Amen.**

Notices

Sending Out Hymn

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down
thy head upon my breast':
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live':
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright':
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.

Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 669; Horatio Bonar (1808-1862).

Blessing

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep
your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of
God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the
blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you
always. Amen.

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ, Amen.