

Welcome to our Holy Communion service

at St Mary's, Shirehampton

Sunday 20th September 2026

Call to Worship:

Our Guiding God,
Your Word so strongly gives the lead

Your Word made flesh and heard in righteous living

Our Patient God,
Your faithfulness is urgent

Love expressed through justice cannot wait

Our God of Green and Growing;
all authority is Yours

**The God of human life –
alive in all**

Hymn:

1 O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace,
the triumphs of his grace,
the triumphs of his grace!

3 He breaks the pow'r of cancelled sin,
he sets the pris'ner free,
he sets the pris'ner free,
his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me,
his blood availed for me,
his blood availed for me.

2 Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace,
'tis life and health and peace,
'tis life and health and peace.

4 He speaks; and list'ning to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe,
the humble poor believe,
the humble poor believe.

5 Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
your loosened tongues employ,
your loosened tongues employ,
ye blind, behold your Saviour come;
and leap, ye lame, for joy,
and leap, ye lame, for joy,
and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
assist me to proclaim,
and spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of thy name,
the honours of thy name,
the honours of thy name.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)
CCL Licence Number 5935

Confession:

Merciful and sustaining God,
we have sinned against you.

We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your creation:

Teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives.

We confess that we have misused your earth: grant us amendment of life.

We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites:
strengthen us in self control.

We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted

make us urgent now for its protection.

Forgive and renew us now through our Savior Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God, now for ever. Amen.

Absolution:

Sustainer, Beloved, Wild-Wind of life,
Father Son and Spirit
Shows you your place and purpose.
You are forgiven...
both sent and set free to heal
let it be so: AMEN

Gloria – From Church of South India:

**Glory to God,
who has made a covenant
with all living creatures,
and has promised
never to forsake the creation God loves.**

The Collect:

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles
the wonder of your saving presence:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power;
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.

First Reading: Psalm 65

Please sit for the reading

At the end the reader may say:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn:

1 For the fruits of his creation,
thanks be to God;
for his gifts to ev'ry nation,
thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
thanks be to God.

2 In the just reward of labour,
God's will is done;
in the help we give our neighbour,
God's will is done;
in our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done;

3 For the harvests of his Spirit,
thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us,
thanks be to God.

Fred Pratt Green (b.1903)
CCL Licence Number 5935

Gospel Reading: *Luke 12: 16 - 30*

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end of the reading the reader may say:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon:

Affirmation of Faith:

**We believe in God the Father,
who created all things:
for by his will they were created and have their being.**

**We believe in God the Son
who was slain,
for with his blood he purchased us for God from every tribe and language,
from every people and nation.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit.
The Spirit and the Bride say 'Come'.
Even so, come Lord Jesus! Amen.**

Prayers:

At the end we pray together

Merciful Father

accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Peace

To crown all things there must be love, to bind all together and complete the whole.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Hymn:

1 Lord for the years
your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us,
cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us,
pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years,
We bring our thanks today.

3 Lord, for our land
in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure,
wealth and care:
for young and old,
for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land,
be pleased to hear our prayer.

5 Lord, for ourselves;
in living power remake us –
self on the cross
and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us,
for the future take us:
Lord of our lives,
to live for Christ alone.

2 Lord, for that word,
the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts
and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains,
rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word,
receive your people's praise.

4 Lord, for our world;
when we disown and doubt you,
loveless in strength,
and comfortless in pain,
hungry and helpless,
lost indeed without you:
Lord of the world,
we pray that Christ may reign.

Invitation to the Table:

Like the Earth,
we do not own Christ's table which feeds and sustains us.
Yet here, we're welcome:
like those friends Christ first gathered.

Welcome for justice;
fulfilment and love.
Welcome, with prophets, publicans
with eco-warriors and dodgy characters
with those you'd expect and those you don't.

Called to recelbrate;
to be a work of God repurposed as friends of Jesus refreshed by bread and wine
through human hands,
from Earth's own self
on whom, we feed.

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.

Blessed are you, Lord God,
our light and our salvation,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time, you made us in your image.

You give us breath and speech,
that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to 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, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied.
He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, 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.

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

Father,
we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross,
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Bring us at the last with all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for
which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer:

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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 forever, Amen.**

Alleluia!
The living bread is broken for the life of the world.
Alleluia! Let us keep the feast.

Communion is shared:

Post Communion Prayer:

Lord of all Creation,
as we have received the bread and wine,
Fruits of the earth and tokens of salvation,
so with joy we celebrate your goodness
and commit ourselves to serve you on your earth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Blessings:

Notices:

Birthdays:

Hymn:

Blessed be Your name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out
I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord
Still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out
I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord
Still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord, blessed be Your name
You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord, blessed be Your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Redman/Redman
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Closing Prayer:

When our wells have run dry
You befriend us with water
We doubt our own value
Yet You disagree

When we're scared to be vulnerable
You lead from the cross
When we're trapped in denial
You speak through Earth and Sky

Thus enfolded and equipped for lives of love and justice
may God: Father, Son and Spirit
bless us through all that lies ahead, to the end of the age.
And the blessing...
AMEN