

# Welcome to our Holy Communion Service

at St Mary's, Shirehampton

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## GREETING

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

## GATHERING PRAYER

Welcome to a calm place

**where we put aside our daily cares.**

Welcome to an honest place

**where we wake up to the world's troubles.**

Welcome to a quiet place

**where we sit in solitude for a while.**

Welcome to a rowdy place

**where we open our ears to the world's cries.**

Welcome to a peaceful place

**where we are reminded of what is good.**

Welcome to an unsettling place

**where we see more clearly what is wrong.**

This is God's world – beautiful

**This is God's world – broken**

We are here – broken and beautiful

**We are here – broken and beautiful**

Meet us, greet us

**Shake us, remake us. Amen**

## HYMN

1 The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine for ever.

3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight,  
thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and O what transport of delight  
for thy pure chalice floweth!

2 Where streams of living waters flow  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow  
with food celestial feedeth.

4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.

6 And so through all the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never;  
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house for ever.

*Henry William Baker (1821 – 1877) based on Psalm 23  
CCL Licence Number 5935*

## CONFESSION

The grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all.  
Let us come to him, in sorrow for our sins,  
seeking healing and salvation.

We are often slow to follow the example of Christ.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

We often fail to be known as Christ's disciples.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

We often fail to walk the way of the cross.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

## **ABSOLUTION**

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **THE GLORIA**

**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

Risen Christ,  
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:  
teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command,  
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING

**Acts 9: 36 - end**

*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 Such love, pure as the whitest snow;  
such love weeps for the shame I know;  
such love, paying the debt I owe;  
O Jesus, such love.

2 Such love, stilling my restlessness;  
such love, filling my emptiness;  
such love, showing me holiness;  
O Jesus, such love.

3 Such love springs from eternity;  
such love, streaming through history;  
such love, fountain of life to me;  
O Jesus, such love.

*Graham Kendrick (b.1950)  
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## GOSPEL READING

**John 10: 22 - 30**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end the reader says,*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### THE CREED

*Please stand*

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

### PRAYERS

*Ending with:*

Merciful Father

**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Amen**

### THE PEACE

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace.

If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

## HYMN

Bless the Lord, o my soul, o my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before, o my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Bless the Lord, o my soul, o my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before, o my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Bless the Lord, o my soul, o my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before, o my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name (bless you Lord)

And on that day when my strength is failing  
The end draws near and my time has come  
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore  
Forevermore

Bless the Lord, o my soul, o my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before, o my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name, come on

Bless the Lord, o my soul, o my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before, o my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name  
Yes, I will worship Your holy name  
Lord, I'll worship Your holy name

Sing like never before, o my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name  
Jesus, I will, worship Your holy name  
Worship Your holy name

*Songwriters:*

*Matthew James Redman, Jonas Carl Gustaf Myrin*

*CCL Licence Number: 5935*

## **THE INVITATION**

Here is the table of the Lord,  
we are gathered to his supper,  
a foretaste of things eternal.  
Come, when you are fearful, to be made new in love.  
Come, when you are doubtful, to be made strong in faith.  
Come, when you are regretful, and be made whole.  
Come, old and young, there is room for all

## **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.**

It is indeed right,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word;  
through him you have created all things from the beginning,  
and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,  
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;  
you raised him from the dead  
and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us  
your holy and life-giving Spirit,  
and made us a people for your own possession.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**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.**



Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him,  
our great high priest this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
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 for ever. Amen.**

Alleluia!

This living bread is broken for the life of the world.

**Alleluia! Let us keep the feast.**

**Communion is shared.**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful Father,  
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,  
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:  
keep us always under his protection,  
and give us grace to follow in his steps;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## BLESSINGS

## NOTICES

## BIRTHDAYS

## HYMN

1 Great is thy faithfulness,  
O God my Father,  
there is no shadow  
of turning with thee;  
thou changest not,  
thy compassions, they fail not;  
as thou hast been  
thou for ever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness!  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning  
new mercies I see;  
all I have needed  
thy hand hath provided,  
great is thy faithfulness,  
Lord, unto me!*

2 Summer and winter,  
and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon and stars  
in their courses above,  
join with all nature  
in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness,  
mercy and love.

3 Pardon for sin  
and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence  
to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today  
and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine,  
with ten thousand beside!

## **SENDING**

Gathered for worship, we are now sent to work,  
**to find God in all the broken places  
and serve with healing and hope.**

Having gathered in silence and in praise,  
we are now sent to speak

**To share the words of Jesus about justice and inclusion for all.**

Gathered for prayer we are now sent to live

**To take goodness and mercy  
and anoint those we meet with these gifts of the spirit.**

## **BLESSING**

May Christ the Good Shepherd,  
who laid down His life for the sheep,  
draw you and all who hear His voice to be one within the fold;

and the blessing of  
God Almighty –  
Creator, Redeemer, and life-giving Spirit –  
be with you now and forever.

**Amen**