

# Welcome to our Holy Communion Service

at St Mary's, Shirehampton

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord as we gather here in this place and this time,  
a place familiar, a time set in our calendars,  
**we thank You that we are here to meet with You afresh.**

May this gathering today be a time and space when we find  
a moment 'in and out of time'.

**A moment of meeting with You  
when the daily veil that at times covers our world and our lives  
is removed and we see Your glory.**

Glory revealed in the beauty of the universe You have created,  
beauty revealed in the community  
we are part of,  
**beauty revealed to us in  
Your precious word,  
most of all, beauty revealed in the love of Your Son, Jesus Christ.**

**Help us again today to meet with You in new ways,  
ways that help us glimpse how things really are  
when we truly come into Your presence,  
when we truly allow Your light to transform us and the whole world.**

## HYMN

1 Morning has broken  
like the first morning;  
blackbird has spoken  
like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing!  
Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing  
fresh from the Word!

2 Sweet the rain's new fall,  
sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dew-fall  
on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness  
of the wet garden,  
sprung from completeness  
where his feet pass.

3 Mine is the sunlight!  
Mine is the morning  
born of the one light  
Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation,  
praise every morning,  
God's re-creation  
of the new day!

*Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)*  
*CCL Licence Number 5935*

## CONFESSION

Christ came in humility to share our lives:  
forgive our pride.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ came with good news for all people:  
forgive our silence.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Christ came in love to a world of suffering:  
forgive our self-centredness.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

## ABSOLUTION

May the God of love and power  
forgive us and free us from our sins,  
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,  
and raise us 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

Holy God,  
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:  
set straight our crooked hearts,  
and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**FIRST READING** – 2 Peter 1: 16 - 21  
*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 Dear Lord and Father of mankind  
forgive our foolish ways!

Reclothe us in our rightful mind,  
in purer lives thy service find,  
in deeper reverence praise,  
in deeper reverence praise.

3 O Sabbath rest by Galilee!  
O calm of hills above,  
where Jesus knelt to share with thee  
the silence of eternity,  
interpreted by love!  
Interpreted by love!

5 Breathe through the heats of our desire  
thy coolness and thy balm;  
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
speak through the earthquake, wind  
and fire,  
O still small voice of calm!  
O still small voice of calm!

2 In simple trust like theirs who heard,  
beside the Syrian sea,  
the gracious calling of the Lord,  
let us, like them, without a word,  
rise up and follow thee,  
rise up and follow thee.

Drop thy still dews of quietness,  
till all our strivings cease;  
take from our souls the strain and stress,  
and let our ordered lives confess  
the beauty of thy peace,  
the beauty of thy peace.

*John Greenleaf Whittier (1807 - 1992)*  
*CCL Licence Number 5935*

## GOSPEL READING      Matthew 17: 1 - 9

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end the reader says,*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Please stand*

Do you believe and trust  
in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in  
God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in  
God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

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

**Amen.**

## INTERCESSIONS

### THE PEACE

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,  
since as members of one body you are called to peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you**

## HYMN

1 Will you come and follow me  
if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know,  
and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
will you let my name be known?  
will you let my life be grown  
in you, and you in me?

3 Will you let the blinded see  
if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free,  
and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean  
and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean  
in you, and you in me?

5 Lord, your summons echoes true  
when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you,  
and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
in you, and you in me.

2 Will you leave yourself behind  
if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind,  
and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
should your life attract or scare,  
will you let me answer prayer  
in you, and you in me?

4 Will you love the 'you' you hide  
if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside,  
and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
to reshape the world around  
through my sight and touch and sound  
in you, and you in me?

*John L. Bell (b.1949) and Graham Maule (b.1958)*  
*CCL Licence Number 5935*

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

This is not my table or this church's table,  
but this is the Lord's table.

You are invited here by the one who loves you, pushes you,  
and will never leave or give up on you.

Come to this table of the one who sees past our limitations.  
Come and be nourished and made whole.

## 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 right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;  
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away you did not reject us,  
but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children  
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life  
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross  
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends  
he took bread, and 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.

**Father,  
we do this in remembrance of him:  
his body is the bread of life.**

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 for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father,  
we do this in remembrance of him:  
his body is the bread of life.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,  
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine  
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of praise  
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**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 LORD'S PRAYER

Jesus taught us to call God our Father,  
so in faith and trust 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.**

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.**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

**Communion is received.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of all mercy,  
we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice  
which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace:  
by our communion  
keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## BLESSINGS

## NOTICES

## BIRTHDAYS

## HYMN

There is one Gospel on which I stand  
For all eternity  
It is my story, my Father's plan  
The Son has rescued me

Oh, what a Gospel, oh what a peace  
My highest joy and my deepest need  
Now and forever He is my light  
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

There is one Gospel to which I cling  
All else I count as loss  
For there, where justice and mercy meet  
He saved me on the cross

No more I boast in what I can bring  
No more I carry the weight of sin  
For He has brought me from death to life  
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

There is one Gospel where hope is found  
The empty tomb still speaks  
For death could not keep my Saviour down  
He lives and I am free

Now on my Saviour, I fix my eyes  
My life is His and His hope is mine!  
For He has promised I, too, will rise  
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

And in this Gospel the church is one  
We do not walk alone  
We have His Spirit as we press on  
To lead us safely home

And when in glory still I will sing  
Of this old story that rescued me  
Praise to my Saviour, the King of life  
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ  
And when in glory still I will sing  
Of this old story that rescued me

Praise to my Saviour, the King of life  
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ  
Praise to my Saviour, the King of life  
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ  
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

*By City Alight  
CCL Licence Number 5935*

## **SENDING OUT**

**In days to come  
may our lives bear witness  
that goodness is stronger than evil,  
life is stronger than death.**

**As God requires of us,  
may we do justice,  
love kindness  
and practise humility.**

**Through the ups and downs of our lives,  
on the mountaintop,  
in the depths,  
day by day,  
may God's spirit help us to stand firm  
and walk in God's way  
Amen**

## **BLESSING**

Peace between nations  
Peace between neighbours  
Peace between person and person  
In love of the God of life.

The blessing of God Almighty...