

**Welcome to our Holy Communion Service
at St Mary's, Shirehampton
on Racial Justice Sunday 8th February 2026**

CALL TO WORSHIP

All of creation belongs to God,
the world and all God's children.

Heaven and earth rejoice.

May our different voices be joined in one song of praise to You.

Justice and peace embrace.

Bind us together in unity, for the sake of Your Kingdom.

Open our hearts, O God of Love,

that our loving actions may speak louder than words.

And now, we worship You together, in spirit and truth.

HYMN

1 Be thou my vision
O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me
save that thou art;
thou my best thought
in the day and the night,
waking or sleeping,
thy presence my light.

2 Be thou my wisdom,
be thou my true word,
I ever with thee
and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father,
and I thy true heir;
thou in me dwelling,
and I in thy care.

3 Be thou my breastplate,
my sword for the fight,
be thou my armour,
and be thou my might,
thou my soul's shelter,
and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward,
O Pow'r of my pow'r.

5 High King of heaven
when battle is done,
grant heaven's joy to me,
O bright heaven's sun;
Christ of my own heart,
whatever befall,
still be my vision,
O Ruler of all.

4 Riches I need not,
nor all the world's praise,
thou mine inheritance
through all my days;
thou, and thou only,
the first in my heart,
high King of heaven,
my treasure thou art!

*Irish (c.8th century) trans. Mary Byrne (1880-1931)
and Eleanor Hull (1860-1935)
CCL Licence Number 5935*

CONFESSION

When we fail to listen to the cries of the oppressed,
Help us to feel their pain.

When we choose to deny racism and injustice,
Pierce our very souls.

When we choose not to speak truth to power,
May the rocks cry out.

When we witness dignity being stripped,
Give us courage to be compassionate.

When we are complicit, or unmoved, or unrepentant,
Forgive us, Lord, we pray

ABSOLUTION

May almighty God,
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
bring you his pardon and peace,
now and for ever.

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

Lord of the hosts of heaven,
our salvation and our strength,
without you we are lost:
guard us from all that harms or hurts
and raise us when we fall;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

FIRST READING – *Galatians 3: 28*
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 Jesus Christ is waiting
waiting in the streets;
no-one is his neighbour,
all alone he eats.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I am lonely too;
make me, friend or stranger,
fit to wait on you.

2 Jesus Christ is raging,
raging in the streets;
where injustice spirals
and all hope retreats.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I am angry too;
in the kingdom's causes
let me rage with you.

3 Jesus Christ is healing,
healing in the streets;
curing those who suffer,
touching those he greets.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I have pity too;
let my care be active,
healing just like you.

4 Jesus Christ is dancing,
dancing in the streets;
where each sign of hatred
his strong love defeats.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I feel triumph too;
on suspicion's graveyard
let me dance with you.

5 Jesus Christ is calling,
calling in the streets;
'Who will join my journey?
I will guide their feet.'
Listen, Lord Jesus,
let my fears be few;
walk one step before me,
I will follow you.

John L Bell (b.1949) and Graham Maule (b.1958)

CCL Licence Number 5935

GOSPEL READING *Luke 4: 14 - 21*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
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

**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

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 O Lord, all the world
belongs to you,
and you are always
making all things new.
What is wrong you forgive,
and the new life you give
is what's turning
the world upside down.

2 The world's only
loving to its friends,
but you have brought us
love that never ends;
loving enemies too,
and this loving with you
is what's turning the world
upside down.

3 This world lives divided
and apart.
You draw us all together
and we start,
in your body, to see
that in fellowship we
can be turning the world upside down.

4 The world wants the wealth
to live in state,
but you show us a new way
to be great:
like a servant you came,
and if we do the same,
we'll be turning the world upside down.

5 O Lord, all the world
belongs to you,
and you are always
making all things new.
Send your Spirit on all
in your Church whom you call
to be turning the world upside down.

*Patrick Appleford (b.1925) alt.
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.**

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.**

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

1 When I needed a neighbour,
were you there, were you there?
When I needed a neighbour,
were you there?

*And the creed and the colour
and the name won't matter,
were you there?*

3 I was cold, I was naked,
were you there, were you there?
I was cold, I was naked,
were you there?

*And the creed and the colour
and the name won't matter,
were you there?*

5 When I needed a healer,
were you there, were you there?
When I needed a healer,
were you there?

*And the creed and the colour
and the name won't matter,
were you there?*

2 I was hungry and thirsty,
were you there, were you there?
I was hungry and thirsty,
were you there?

*And the creed and the colour
and the name won't matter,
were you there?*

4 When I needed a shelter,
were you there, were you there?
When I needed a shelter,
were you there?

*And the creed and the colour
and the name won't matter,
were you there?*

6 Wherever you travel,
I'll be there, I'll be there.
Wherever you travel,
I'll be there.

*And the creed and the colour
and the name won't matter,
I'll be there.*

SENDING

Jesus, as You walked this good earth,
Your feet upon land that is blessed and holy,
crossing borders and boundaries to minister to those in need,
You encountered many people from different cultures and different
nations.

You listened to them,
You spoke with them,
You touched them and healed them,
You blessed them and forgave them

**May we follow Your example,
loving and tending all You have made,
Healing and sowing peace wherever You call us.
Send us out in the power of Your Spirit. Amen**

BLESSING

God who goes before us,
send us out to do Your work of loving others as we ourselves hope to be
loved.

God who is behind us,
protect us and watch over us as we continue to work for justice and
peace.

God who is above us,
may Your will be done on this earth and in all the places we find
ourselves.

God who is below us,
steady our feet as we walk towards justice for all.
And the blessing...

Amen