

# Eucharist – Sunday next before Lent

14<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**OPENING HYMN: Bright the vision that delighted**

*sung by St Martin's Voices*

- 1      Bright the vision that delighted  
        once the sight of Judah's seer;  
        sweet the countless tongues united  
        to entrance the prophet's ear.
  
- 2      Round the Lord in glory seated  
        cherubim and seraphim  
        filled his temple, and repeated  
        each to each the alternate hymn:
  
- 3      'Lord, thy glory fills the heaven;  
        earth is with its fulness stored;  
        unto thee be glory given,  
        holy, holy, holy, Lord.'
  
- 4      Heaven is still with glory ringing,  
        earth takes up the angels' cry,  
        'Holy, holy, holy,' singing,  
        'Lord of hosts, the Lord most high.'
  
- 5      With his seraph train before him,  
        with his holy Church below,  
        thus unite we to adore him,  
        bid we thus our anthem flow:
  
- 6      'Lord, thy glory fills the heaven;  
        earth is with its fulness stored;  
        unto thee be glory given,  
        holy, holy, holy, Lord.'

*Richard Mant (1776-1848)*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**and also with you.**

**PRAYERS OF PENITENCE**

*The people are invited to reflect on their sins. We keep a few moments of silence to remember before God our faults and the things we have done that are wrong. God promises us forgiveness, healing and a fresh start when we confess our sins in faith and penitence.*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

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 GLORIA** is said.

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.**

**COLLECT**

Almighty Father,  
whose Son was revealed in majesty  
before he suffered death upon the cross:  
give us grace to perceive his glory,  
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him  
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING - 2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING Mark 9:2-9**

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

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,**

suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Response:*

Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

*At the end:*

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers for the sake of Your Son,  
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.**  
Amen

### THE PEACE

*The priest introduces the peace.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

**HYMN: O God beyond all praising**  
*sung by St Martin's Voices*

1 O God beyond all praising,  
we worship you today  
and sing the love amazing  
that songs cannot repay;  
for we can only wonder  
at every gift you send,  
at blessings without number  
and mercies without end:  
we lift our hearts before you  
and wait upon your word,  
we honour and adore you,

our great and mighty Lord.

2 Then hear, O gracious Saviour,  
accept the love we bring,  
that we who know your favour  
may serve you as our king;  
and whether our tomorrows  
be filled with good or ill,  
we'll triumph through our sorrows  
and rise to bless you still:  
to marvel at your beauty  
and glory in your ways,  
and make a joyful duty  
our sacrifice of praise.

*Michael Perry (1942-1996)*

*© Mrs B Perry/Jubilate Hymns*

## **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 priest praises God for his mighty acts and we 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 priest recalls the Last Supper.*

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Prayer continues.*

*At the end we respond:*

**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.**

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.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.**

Jesus is the lamb of God  
Who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
But only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

## **GIVING OF COMMUNION**

*You are invited to use the prayer for Spiritual Communion below asking Jesus to be with you now.*

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me,  
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.  
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly,

love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly, day by day.  
Amen.

*The anthem is sung, A song of the light by Iole.*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Holy God,  
we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:  
may we who are partakers at his table  
reflect his life in word and deed,  
that all the world may know his power to change and save.  
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **THE BLESSING**

*A blessing is given.*

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

### **HYMN: Shine, Jesus, shine**

*sung by St Martin's Voices*

1 Lord, the light of Your love is shining,  
in the midst of the darkness, shining:  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;  
set us free by the truth You now bring us -  
shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine,  
fill this land with the Father's glory;  
blaze, Spirit, blaze,  
set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow,  
flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
send forth Your word,  
Lord, and let there be light!*

2 Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,  
from the shadows into Your radiance;  
by the blood I may enter Your brightness:  
set us free by the truth You now bring us  
shine on me, shine on me.

*Chorus*

3 As we gaze on Your kingly brightness  
so our faces display Your likeness,  
ever changing from glory to glory:

mirrored here, may our lives tell your story -  
shine on me, shine on me.

*Chorus*

*Graham Kendrick (born 1950)*

*© 1987 Make Way Music, PO Box 263, Croydon, Surrey, CR9 5AP, UK. info@makewaymusic.com. International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Used by permission.*

*The ministers depart. An organ voluntary is played.*

Spiritual Communion.

The term 'Spiritual Communion' has been used historically to describe the means of grace by which a person, prevented for some serious reason from sharing in a celebration of the Eucharist, nonetheless shares in the communion of Jesus Christ. The form of prayer offers Christians an opportunity to give thanks for their communion with him, particularly at times when they would ordinarily be present at the Eucharist.

The Book of Common Prayer instructs us that if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith, giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly 'eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ', although we cannot receive the sacrament physically in ourselves. Making a Spiritual Communion is particularly fitting for those who cannot receive the sacrament at the great feasts of the Church, and it fulfils the duty of receiving Holy Communion 'regularly, and especially at the festivals of Christmas, Easter and Whitsun or Pentecost' (Canon B 15).

The Church of which we are members is not defined by the walls of a building but by the Body of Christ of which we are members. In making our communion spiritually, we are joining with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, 'I am the Bread of Life'.