

ST PETER & ST PAUL'S CHURCH, AYLESFORD



A Service of the Word with Holy Communion

Who do you say that I am?

Trinity 11 - 23rd August 2020

Welcome and Gathering

Call to Worship

When Jesus asked, Simon Peter answered: 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' Let us make the same bold answer, and let us come together to worship Jesus, the Messiah, the Son of the living God.

Lord, do we really believe that we are in the presence of the Son of the Living God? Still our hearts now, so that we may truly appreciate who you are.

Silence

**As we hear these words of power,
we bow down before you and praise
you. Amen.**

Hymn

O worship the Lord in the beauty of
holiness;
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of
lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his
name.

Low at his feet lay thy burden of
carefulness:
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy
prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the
slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon
as thine:
truth in its beauty, and love in its
tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them in trembling
and fearfulness,
he will accept for the name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of
tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of
holiness;
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of
lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name.

John S B Monsell

A Prayer of Confession

Introduction to confession

Lord, thank you that you are always ready
to forgive me when I trust you enough to
confess my sins to you, even when I feel I
don't deserve it.

Be merciful to me, O God.

Forgive me for the times when just because someone else's story is different from mine I don't always want to believe it. Forgive me for the times I only live my story, not seeing the bigger picture.

Be merciful to me, O God.

Forgive me for the times I see you as less than the Son of God, and my whole outlook on life cries out for your love and understanding.

Be merciful to me, O God. Amen.

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.**

Prayer of Adoration and Thanksgiving

**Lord God,
we come before you in humble
adoration. How blessed are we that the
one who holds the keys to the kingdom
of heaven is the one who has the key to
our hearts. Thank you, God, for the
privilege of being part of the amazing
story of faith that sustained our
ancestors. Thank you, God, that we know
our future is safe with you. Amen.**

The Collect

**God of glory,
the end of our searching, help us to lay
aside all that prevents us from seeking
your kingdom, and to give all that we
have to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading

Matthew 16.13-20

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**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 of Intercession

Response:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Jesus calls us to live our lives in peace
with God and with one another, trusting
that our deepest selves are held safely in
his love.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Hymn

Spirit of God, you know my inmost being;
all of my life is open to your sight;
help me to take to heart your probing
counsel;
help me to yield to love's all-searching light.

My love, I know, is rarely what it should be;
my joy is all too shallow at its best;
my peace is fragile as a flower's petals;
my patience crumbles at the slightest test;

Self-interest haunts my kindness and my
goodness;
seldom is true integrity my goal;
I lack my humble, gentle Lord's
demeanour;
old habits undermine my self-control.

Spirit of God, beyond the flaws and
failures
you know the person Christ would have
me be.
Come, plough and prune, and make me fit
for service;
come, plant and nurture your good fruit
in me.
Martin E Leckebusch

Offertory Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, thank you that you
know me inside out and yet have plans for
me that are for my good and your glory.
We give to you today as a response to
your goodness to us. May we continually
strive to reflect your generous nature,
offering all we can, so that others may
come to know you. **Amen.**

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.

... singing the hymn of your unending
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 in the highest.**

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

... 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
**God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Invitation to Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of
our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for
you. Eat in remembrance that he died for
you, and feed on him in your hearts by
faith with thanksgiving.

Giving of Communion

*Please wait to be guided by a sidesperson.
There will be no words at the distribution
and there is no need to say 'Amen' at the
altar.*

*Please take your wafer back to your seat
and we will all consume together, with the
words ...*

The body of Christ.
Amen.

Hymn

In the presence of our God,
as we gather here in Christ,
feel the Spirit breathe upon us,
the breath of life, graced and divine.

We have come to break the bread;
we have come to share our lives.
Let us bring these fruits to the table,
the love of God, yours and mine!

*Ang Katawan Ni Kristo,
Ang Katawan Ni Kristo,
Behold the Body of Christ,*

*Jesus our Saviour and Life!
Rejoice O people of God!
We are the Body of Christ!*

When we gather in our homes,
through our prayers and our meals,
we are fed and nourished together,
our families, broken and blessed.

In the household of the Lord,
where we come to share the meal,
we are fed the words of our Saviour,
one family, strengthened and healed.

Is not the meal that we bless and share
a communion in the life of Christ?
One bread, one blessing, one cup
make us one body in our Lord

In the presence of our God,
by the justice that is shown,
We will build a kingdom together;
The love of Christ given to all.

Ricky Manalo and Pia de Leon (2003)

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.**

Lord, in these days of mercy,
make us quiet and prayerful;

in these days of challenge,
make us stronger in you;

in these days of emptiness,
take possession of us;

in these days of waiting,
**open our hearts to the mystery of
your cross.**

Angela Ashwin

Sending

News and Notices

Hymn

Tell all the world: the Lord is King;
with newly-written songs declare
the awesome greatness of our God,
whose glory no-one else can share.

Proclaim his splendour round the world,
from mountain-top and desert sand;
and let the voice of praise be heard
from every town, in every land.

Relate, with joy, how God fulfilled
his promises from long ago;
then watch the future he unveils -
the Lord still has new plans to show!

How eagerly he smoothes the road
for precious saints, so long displaced,
as now he calls his people home
from years of hardship, pain and waste.

This is our God, who intervenes
to judge and save, to heal and guide;
this is our God, the glorious King
whose name is honoured far and wide.

Martin E Leckebusch

Blessing

May the Father, who calls you by name,
enable you to follow in faith and trust.
May you know God's loving presence in
your life, and may this knowledge fill you
with a fresh conviction of God's love.

And the blessing of God almighty, the
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be
among us and remain with us, and those
we love and miss, this day and always.

Amen.

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

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