

# ST PETER & ST PAUL'S CHURCH, AYLESFORD



## A Service of the Word with Holy Communion

How many times?

Trinity 14 - 13th September 2020

### Welcome and Gathering

#### Call to Worship

Come to the God who knows us,  
to the God who created our being,  
to the God who knows our frailty,  
to the God who loves and cherishes us  
beyond measure.  
Come as you are and worship God.

#### Hymn

Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions;  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:  
*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where prophets speak  
and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek  
to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness  
and a symbol of God's grace.  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:  
*All are welcome ...*

Let us build a house where love is found  
in water, wine and wheat:  
a banquet hall on holy ground  
where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God through Jesus  
is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:  
*All are welcome ...*

Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger  
bear the image of love's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger:  
*All are welcome ...*

Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:  
*All are welcome ...*

*Marty Haugan*

### Approach and Confession

Teach us, O God, how to know you,  
how to love you, how to learn of you,  
how to do as you would have us do.  
Teach us, above all,  
how to show those same things  
to those around us,  
and those whose lives meet ours,  
those we share our days with,  
and those who pass briefly by.  
**Amen.**

*Introduction to confession*

Forgiving God,  
more willing to forgive  
than often we are to confess,  
help us to see our failings,  
to see where we fall short,  
to see where we deceive ourselves,  
where we close our eyes and ears  
to the ripples of our wrongdoing.  
May we breathe in the reality of our  
actions,  
the need to change,  
the depth of our unworthiness.  
We come before you, seeking  
forgiveness.

#### *Silence*

Now let us breathe in the power of your  
forgiveness,  
and breathe out the need to live and love  
in the shadow of your forgiveness of us,  
that we may forgive  
as you have forgiven us.  
**Amen.**

#### Absolution

May the Father of all mercies  
cleanse us from our sins,  
and restore us in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

#### Prayer of Adoration and Thanksgiving

God of love and grace beyond our telling,  
**we bring our thankful hearts to you,**  
acknowledging that without you we are  
nothing  
**and with you we can be so much more.**  
We are thankful that you care for us,  
**and love us beyond measure;**  
that you have endless patience with us;  
**that you teach us time and time again**  
**what it is to be committed to you and**  
**your way;**  
thankful that you reveal yourself to us in

myriad ways,  
**to inspire us and evoke within us a**  
**heartfelt response;**  
thankful that while all this is for everyone  
who will come to you and accept you,  
**it is for me ... for me! ... and may I know**  
**it deep within.**  
With overflowing hearts, hear our prayer.  
**Amen.**

#### The Collect

**Merciful God,**  
**your Son came to save us**  
**and bore our sins on the cross:**  
**may we trust in your mercy**  
**and know your love,**  
**rejoicing in the righteousness**  
**that is ours through Jesus Christ**  
**our Lord. Amen.**

#### The Liturgy of the Word

##### Reading

Matthew 18.21-35

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked,  
“Lord, how many times shall I forgive my  
brother or sister who sins against me?  
Up to seven times?” Jesus answered,  
“I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-  
seven times.

“Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like  
a king who wanted to settle accounts with  
his servants. As he began the settlement,  
a man who owed him ten thousand bags  
of gold was brought to him. Since he was  
not able to pay, the master ordered that  
he and his wife and his children and all  
that he had be sold to repay the debt.  
“At this the servant fell on his knees  
before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he  
begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’  
The servant’s master took pity on him,  
canceled the debt and let him go. “But  
when that servant went out, he found

one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.' "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

"Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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

## Reflection

## Hymn

Forgive our sins as we forgive  
You taught us, Lord, to pray,  
But you alone can grant us grace  
To live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless  
The unforgiving heart  
That broods on wrongs and will not let  
Old bitterness depart?

In blazing light your cross reveals  
The truth we dimly knew:  
How small the debts when owed to us,  
How great our debt to you!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls  
And bid resentment cease;  
Then reconciled to God and man  
Our lives will spread your peace.

*Rosamond Herklots*

## Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**Though he was divine,  
he did not cling to equality with God,  
but made himself nothing.  
Taking the form of a slave,  
he was born in human likeness.  
He humbled himself  
and was obedient to death,  
even the death of the cross.  
Therefore God has raised him on high,  
and given him the name above every  
name:  
that at the name of Jesus every knee  
should bow, and every voice proclaim  
that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of  
God the Father.  
Amen.**

*cf Philippians 2.6-11*

## 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

Forgiven and free, may our lives reflect  
the example of Jesus, and so may we  
know the peace that comes from our  
constant forgiveness of others.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

### Hymn

I cannot tell how silently he suffered  
as with his peace he graced this place of  
tears,  
or how his heart upon the cross was broken,  
the crown of pain to three and thirty years.  
But this I know, he heals the broken hearted,  
and stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,  
and lifts the burden from the heavy laden,  
for yet, the Saviour, Saviour of the world  
is here.

*William Young Fullerton*

### Offertory Prayer

**God of all goodness and grace,  
receive the gifts we offer;  
and grant that our whole life  
may give you glory and praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
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.**

... everlasting God, Father, Son and Holy  
Spirit:

**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.**

### Prayer after Communion

Lord God, the source of truth and love,  
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching  
and fellowship, united in prayer and the  
breaking of bread, and one in joy and  
simplicity of heart, in 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

Lead us, heav'nly Father, lead us  
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;  
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,  
for we have no help but thee;  
yet possessing ev'ry blessing  
if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us,  
all our weakness thou dost know,  
thou didst tread this earth before us,  
thou didst feel its keenest woe;  
lone and dreary, faint and weary,  
through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending,  
fill our hearts with heav'nly joy,  
love with ev'ry passion blending,  
pleasure that can never cloy;  
thus provided, pardoned, guided,  
nothing can our peace destroy.

*James Edmeston*

### Blessing

Into a world of noise and confusion;  
into a world of delight and regret;  
into a world of hope and fear;  
into a world that is ever changing,  
we go with the message of an  
unchanging God  
who gave his all that we might live lives  
of forgiveness.

God of all, go with us and within us,  
this and every day.

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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