## ST PETER & ST PAUL'S CHURCH, AYLESFORD



# A Service of the Word with Holy Communion

Enough Trinity 8

25th July 2021

## Welcome and Gathering

## Call to Worship

Let us bring ourselves to God, whatever our age and gifts. Let us prepare to share in worship, giving thanks for all that God shares with us. Let us open our hearts and minds to know more of God's unconditional love and care, and be ready to share it with others.

## A gathering prayer

Lord of all creation, giver of life, we offer ourselves to you. Teach us how to give ourselves to others, generously and wholeheartedly, sharing who we are and what we have. May we learn to share all the world's resources, so that everyone has enough of the good things that you provide. May we all rejoice in your goodness. Amen.

#### Hymn

Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light.

Praise the One who frees the prisoners turning blindness into sight.

Praise the One who preached the Gospel curing every dread disease.

Calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.

Praise the One who blest the children with a strong yet gentle word.

Praise the One who drove out demons with a piercing two-edged sword.

Praise the One who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand.

From this well comes living water quenching thirst in every land.

Praise the one true love incarnate: Christ who suffered in our place. Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and gladness seeing what our God has done. Praise the one redeeming glory. Praise the One who makes us one. Rusty Edwards (born 1955) © 1987 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

## **Prayer of Confession**

With our time and with our money: forgive us, Lord, when we have not been generous.

In helping others, and being hospitable: forgive us, Lord, when we have not been generous.

When we have been blessed with so much: forgive us, Lord, when we have not been generous.

When we could have gone the extra mile and shared what we have:

forgive us, Lord, when we have not been generous.

In using our resources, gifts and talents: forgive us, Lord, when we have not been generous.

Most generous God, help us to be more like you. Amen.

## Assurance of forgiveness

God, you forgive us when we make mistakes, when we have not shared what you have given us.

We thank you that we are healed and forgiven, and given a second chance to be the people you call us to be. Amen.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Thank you, Lord, that you go ahead of us into our communities; you are there pouring out your forgiveness, your generosity and your hospitality in our neighbourhood.

Thank you that as you are transforming our homes, our streets, our schools, our places of work, you are transforming us so we can play our part.

Thank you that we can come together as one, sharing all that you have given us.

Thank you, Lord. Amen.

#### The Collect

Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Liturgy of the Word

## First Reading

2 Kings 4:42-44

A man came from Baal Shalishah, bringing the man of God twenty loaves of barley bread baked from the first ripe grain, along with some heads of new grain. "Give it to the people to eat," Elisha said. "How can I set this before a hundred men?" his servant asked. But Elisha answered, "Give it to the people to eat. For this is what the Lord says: 'They will eat and have some left over.'" Then he set it before them, and they ate and had some left over, according to the word of the Lord.

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

#### Hymn

With a prayer You fed the hungry, With a cry You stilled the storm; With a look You had compassion On the desperate and forlorn. With a touch You healed the leper, With a shout You raised the dead; With a word expelled the demons, With a blessing broke the bread. Love Incarnate, Love Divine, Captivate this heart of mine, Till all I do Speaks of You.

## (First verse repeated)

As a sheep before the shearer
You were silent in Your pain;
You endured humiliation
At the hands of those You'd made.
And as hell unleashed its fury
You were lifted on a tree,
Crying 'Father God, forgive them,
Place their punishment on me.'
Refrain

I will feed the poor and hungry,
I will stand up for the truth;
I will take my cross and follow
To the corners of the earth.
And I ask that You so fill me
With Your peace, Your power, Your breath,
That I never love my life so much
To shrink from facing death.
Refrain
Stuart Townend

## **Gospel Reading**

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 6.1-15

Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing the sick. Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. The Jewish Passover Festival was near. When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!" Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?" Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his

disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world." Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

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

Sermon

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.

And at the end **Amen.** 

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

#### The Peace

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

#### Anthem

Be gentle when you touch bread
Be gentle, when you touch bread,
Let it not be uncared for, unwanted.
So often bread is taken for granted.
There is so much beauty in bread,
Beauty of sun and soil,
Beauty of patient toil.
Winds and rain have caressed it,
Christ often blessed it;
Be gentle when you touch bread.
Music: Margaret Rizza. Words: David Adam.

## Offertory Prayer

Lord God, you who are able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think; stir the power within us, that the gifts we give may be used to your glory. May our offering bless your church, your people, your creation. **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.

... in the everlasting song.

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.

... one God now 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

I break this bread and take this cup so that we all share in the life of Christ. God's gifts for all God's people.

#### 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

The body and blood of Christ. **Amen.** 

Please wait to be guided by a sidesperson. There will be no words said at the altar.

#### **Prayer after Communion**

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever. Amen.

## Sending

**News and Notices** 

## Hymn

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but thou art mighty, hold me with thy powerful hand: bread of heaven. feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream doth flow; let the fiery, cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through: strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan bid my anxious fears subside; death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side: songs of praises I will ever give to thee. Arglwydd arwain drwy'r anialwch William Williams (1717-1791) Translated by Peter Williams (1727-1796)

A sending out prayer and blessing

Lord, help us to remain thankful for even the simple things. Keep us focused on your loving, generous nature, so that we can freely share what we have and who we are. Let us be cheerful givers and humble receivers, that all may have enough and be satisfied.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you and with all those you 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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