



### Words of welcome

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

**And also with you**

### SENDING OUT THE STORY TELLERS

As we follow the way of Jesus  
May we worship him with open hearts  
Jesus you are the way

**Guide us on our journey**

As we follow Jesus,  
may we seek him with open minds  
Jesus you are the way

**Guide us on our journey**

As we follow the way of Jesus  
May we serve him with open hands  
Jesus you are the way

**Guide us on our journey**

### Prayer of preparation

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Confession

The Kingdom is yours, but we turn away from your just rule:  
Lord have mercy **Lord, have mercy.**

The power is yours but we trust in our own power and strength  
Christ have mercy **Christ, have mercy.**

The glory is yours, but we fall short of the glory of God  
Lord have mercy **Lord, have mercy.**

## Absolution

The God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## The Collect

God the Father,  
help us to hear the call of Christ the King  
and to follow in his service,  
whose kingdom has no end;  
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, one glory.

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## The Liturgy of the Word

### OLD TESTAMENT READING read by Dave Wright

Ezekial 34: 11-16 & 20-24

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## **NEW TESTAMENT READING** read by Brian Dodd

Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## **The Gospel** read by Dave Chester

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Matthew 25:31-46*

‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you

hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon Dave Chester**

*We listen to the hymn 'Brother, sister, let me serve you'*

## **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 led by Barry Darby**

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

### **The Peace**

To crown all things there must be love, to bind all together and complete the whole.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

Alex prepares the gifts of bread and wine

Blessed be God who feeds the hungry,

who raises the poor and who fills our hearts with praise.

**Blessed be God for ever**

## 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.**

Father, you made the world and love your creation. You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour. His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels praising you, and saying

**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, ending with these words*  
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.  
**Amen**

## The Lord's Prayer

We say together the prayer that Jesus taught us:

**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.**  
God's holy gifts for God's holy people.  
**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*The words of the prayer are displayed on screen*

*As Alex receives the bread and wine you may like to unite with her, quietly praying: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples, 'I am with you always'. Be with me today, as I offer myself to you. Hear my prayers for others and for myself, and keep me in your care. Amen*

## **Prayer after Communion**

Stir up, O Lord,  
the wills of your faithful people;  
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,  
may by you be plenteously rewarded;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the body  
and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

## **THE STORYTELLERS RETURN**

### **The Dismissal**

#### **Blessing**

May the God of love and peace fill your hearts  
May the God of justice give you courage  
May the God of compassion direct your ways  
And the blessing of God Almighty  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you,  
this day and always Amen

#### **Prayer of Dismissal**

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