

**A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion**  
**The Reign of Christ**  
**November 22, 2020**



ANGLICAN  
DIOCESE OF  
NIAGARA

**Prelude:** Divertimento in G Major (anon.)

**The Gathering of the Community**

*Words of welcome and introduction.*

**Bishop:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**All:** **And also with you.**

**Bishop:** Almighty God,

**All:** **to you all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from you 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.**

**The Collect**

**Bishop:** Let us pray.

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven  
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:  
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;  
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN:** Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! (Common Praise #374)

1. Alleluia! sing to Jesus!  
His the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone;  
hark! the songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus out of ev'ry nation  
hath redeemed us by his blood.
2. Alleluia! not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! he is near us,  
faith believes, nor questions how;  
though the cloud from sight received him,  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise?  
"I am with you evermore!"
3. Alleluia! King eternal,  
thee the Lord of lords we own;  
Alleluia! Born of Mary,  
Earth thy footstool, heav'n thy throne:  
thou within the veil hast entered,  
robed in flesh, our great high priest;  
thou on earth both priest and victim  
in the Eucharistic feast.
4. Alleluia! sing to Jesus!  
his the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone;  
hark! the songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus out of ev'ry nation  
hath redeemed us by his blood.

## The Liturgy of the Word

### A Reading: Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24

Reader: 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.

Reader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### The Gospel: Matthew 25.31-46

We sing together: (#715CP)

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Reader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Reader: '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."

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

We sing together: (#715CP)

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **The Sermon**

*Words of reflection or teaching are offered.*

## **The Prayers of the People**

*The response in the prayers is:*

One: Lord in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

## **Confession and Absolution**

Bishop: Dear friends in Christ,  
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;  
God welcomes sinners and invites us to this holy table.  
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

*Silence is kept.*

Bishop: Most merciful God,  
**All: we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us,  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Bishop: Almighty God have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## The Peace

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

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

### The Prayer over the Gifts

Bishop: Yours Lord is the greatness,  
The power, the glory the splendour and the majesty.  
For everything in heaven and on earth is yours.  
**All: All things come from you and of your own do we give you.**

### The Eucharistic Prayer

Bishop: The Lord be with you.  
**All: And also with you.**

Bishop: Lift up your hearts in adoration.  
**All: We lift them to our God.**

Bishop: Let us give thanks to the Living God.  
**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Bishop: It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And now we give you thanks that he is the King of glory,  
who overcomes the sting of death and opens the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
He is seated at your right hand in glory and we believe that he will come to be our judge.  
Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**All: 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.**

Bishop: All glory be to you, our heavenly Father, who, in your tender mercy,  
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;  
who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered  
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice,  
oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world;  
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,  
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.  
Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray, and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,  
according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,

Bishop: in remembrance of his death and passion,  
may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

**All**        **Christ has died.**  
              **Christ is risen.**  
              **Christ will come again.**

Bishop: Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,  
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,  
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.  
Grant that by his merits and death, and through faith in his blood,  
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins  
and all other benefits of his passion.

Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer you any sacrifice,  
yet we pray that you will accept this the duty and service that we owe.  
Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences, and fill us all who share in this holy  
communion with your grace and heavenly blessing;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours,  
almighty Father, for ever and ever.

**All:**        **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Bishop: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,  
**All:**        **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.**  
              **Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.**  
              **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,**  
              **now and for ever. Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

Bishop: "I am the bread which has come down from heaven," says the Lord.  
**All:**        **Give us this bread for ever.**

Bishop: "I am the vine, you are the branches."  
**All:**        **May we dwell in Christ, as Christ lives in us.**

Bishop: The gifts of God for the People of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **Invitation to Spiritual Communion**

Bishop: Dear friends, I invite you in this moment,  
wherever you may be, to receive Christ,  
in communion with the saints, and the gathering of God's people,  
unseen and yet present with us now.

Many are made one.

Bishop: We receive you Lord Jesus Christ,

**All: we welcome your presence in us,  
and together proclaim our love for you;  
with our hearts, minds, our souls and our strength,  
with the saints we worship you, with the angels we adore you,  
with your whole Church we proclaim your reign.  
Come to us, though many, and make us one in you. Amen.**

Bishop: I invite you in the silence of your own hearts  
or using one or more of the prayers in the service sheet  
to make your own act of Communion with Christ.

*Silence is kept during which time the congregation prays one or more of the following prayers of reception.*

### **Prayers of Reception**

**One: I worship and adore you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
present in bread and wine, and present in your people,  
who are gathered in spirit.  
In this moment I join with them to receive you in my heart, and in our community.  
May you, enthroned on the altar, be now enthroned in my heart,  
may you, present in bread and wine, feed and renew my soul,  
may you, who gives yourself to us again,  
fill us with grace, and heavenly blessing.  
Even as I am fed, may my hunger for you  
and for your reign of justice and peace increase,  
that I may, with your Spirit, work for that day  
when your kingdom shall come on earth as it is heaven. Amen.**

*Or*

**One: Come Lord Jesus and make in my heart your dwelling place and home.  
I seek to love you with all my heart, mind, soul and strength,  
and so, through your presence in bread and wine  
I receive you afresh and praise you for you are my God.  
As you fill me, so may my love for you and for all your people,  
rise and overflow, that with joy and thanksgiving,  
I may serve you in the world you love. Amen.**

*Or*

**One:** Jesus, I believe that you are present with us in the sacrament of bread and wine.  
I love you and I desire your presence afresh in my life.  
Since I cannot now receive the bread and wine of the altar,  
come spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you and unite myself to you; never let me be separated from you.<sup>1</sup>

*Or*

**One:** Holy Jesus we receive you in this moment,  
giving you thanks and praise that you make yourself present  
to all your people in the bread and wine of the Eucharist.  
Transform our hearts that we may shine as your light in dark places;  
*Where there is hatred, let us sow love;*  
*Where there is injury, pardon;*  
*Where there is doubt, faith;*  
*Where there is despair, hope;*  
*Where there is darkness, light;*  
*Where there is sadness, joy.*  
And this all, in love for you. Amen.

*Or*

**One:** O Loving God, in union with Christian people throughout the world  
and across the centuries gathered to make Eucharist,  
hearing your holy Word  
and receiving the Precious Body and Blood of your dear Son,  
I offer you praise and thanksgiving.

Even while separated from tasting the Bread of Heaven and drinking the Cup of Life,  
I pray that you will unite me with all the baptised  
and with your Son who gave his life for us.  
Come Lord Jesus, dwell in me and send your Holy Spirit  
that I may be filled with your presence.

Jesus, as the hem of your garment, touched in faith,  
healed the woman who could not touch your body,  
so may the soul of your servant be healed,  
for though I cannot receive you in the sacrament I can,  
through this offering of my prayer, receive you in my heart;  
grant this for Christ's sake. Amen.<sup>2</sup>

*Prayers recommended for use by children:*

**One:** Holy Jesus, thank you for loving us,  
and thank you for the holy bread and wine  
that reminds us that you are always with us.  
Come and live in our hearts, so we may know your love,  
and love others too. Amen.

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<sup>1</sup> Based on a prayer by St. Alphonsus Maria de' Liguori

<sup>2</sup> Adapted from a service of Spiritual Communion, Diocese of Chelmsford, Church of England

Or

**One:** Jesus, you remind us in bread and wine that you are near to us.  
Bring me nearer to you every day, and let me carry you in my heart,  
to share your love with the world you made. Amen.

Or

**One:** Lord Jesus, thank you that you are always with me,  
I pray that you would remind me to welcome you to share every day with me.  
Thank you for loving me. I want to say that I love you too. Amen.

Or

**One:** Jesus, I want to follow you:  
to see you more clearly;  
love you more dearly;  
and follow you more nearly.  
So come into my heart,  
so that we may share life together. Amen.

*After a time of prayer, we sing together....*

**COMMUNION HYMN:** Rejoice the Lord is King (Common Praise #379)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Rejoice, the Lord is King!<br>Your Lord and King adore;<br>rejoice, give thanks, and sing,<br>and triumph evermore;<br>lift up your heart, lift up your voice;<br>rejoice, again I say, rejoice!  | 3. His kingdom cannot fail,<br>he rules o'er earth and Heav'n,<br>the keys of death and hell<br>are to our Jesus giv'n;<br>lift up your heart, lift up your voice;<br>rejoice, again I say, rejoice!     |
| 2. Jesus, the Savior, reigns,<br>the God of truth and love;<br>when He had purged our stains<br>he took His seat above;<br>lift up your heart, lift up your voice;<br>rejoice, again I say, rejoice! | 4. Rejoice in glorious hope!<br>Jesus the Judge shall come,<br>and take His servants up<br>to their eternal home;<br>we soon shall hear th' archangel's voice;<br>the trump of God shall sound, rejoice! |

### Prayer After Communion

Bishop: Let us pray...

Father of all,

**All:** we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off, you met us in your Son  
and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared you love, gave us grace and  
opened the gate of glory. May we who receive Christ's presence, live his risen life and  
bring life to others, and may we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be  
free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Adapted from Common Worship, Church of England, Holy Communion Order One.



## **An Act of Praise and Thanksgiving**

Bishop: Glory to God,  
**All: whose power working in us,  
can do infinitely more  
than we can ask or imagine.  
Glory to God from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Closing remarks and announcements.*

## **The Blessing**

Bishop: The peace of God which passes all our understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God  
and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you, this day and always.  
**All: Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN: Praise to the Lord (Common Praise #384)**

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,  
the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy  
health and salvation!  
All ye who hear,  
now to His temple draw near;  
sing now in glad adoration!
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all  
things so wondrously reigneth,  
shelters thee under his wings, yea so  
gently sustaineth:  
hast thou not seen  
how thy entreaties have been  
granted in what He ordaineth?
3. Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that  
is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come  
now with praises before Him!  
Let the Amen sound from God's people again;  
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

## **Dismissal**

One: Having received Christ by faith, let us go to live in that faith,  
transformed by hope and proclaiming God's love.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:** Toccata in A Minor (anon.)