

# A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion

## August 22, 2021



ANGLICAN  
DIOCESE OF  
NIAGARA

### Prelude

### The Gathering of the Community

*Words of welcome and introduction.*

Dean: 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.**

### The Collect

Dean: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray  
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:  
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,  
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid  
and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask  
but through the merits and mediation  
of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

### OPENING HYMN: Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendour (#84 Common Praise)

1. Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,  
first begotten from the dead,  
thou alone, our strong defender,  
liftest up thy people's head.  
Jesus, true and living bread!
2. Here our humblest homage pay we;  
here in loving reverence bow;  
here for faith's discernment pray we,  
lest we fail to know thee now.  
thou art here: we ask not how.
3. Though the lowliest form doth veil  
thee as of old in Bethlehem,  
here as there thine angels hail thee,  
branch and flower of Jesse's stem.  
Hallelujah, we in worship join with them.
4. Paschal Lamb, thine offering finished  
once for all when thou wast slain,  
in its fullness undiminished  
shall forevermore remain,  
cleansing souls from every stain.
5. Life-imparting heavenly manna,  
stricken rock with streaming side,  
heaven and earth with loud hosanna  
worship thee, the Lamb who died.  
risen, ascended, glorified!

## The Liturgy of the Word

### A Reading: 1 Kings 8;22-30

Reader: Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, 'O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, "There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me." Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

'But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Have regard to your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, "My name shall be there", that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays towards this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.

Reader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### The Gospel: John 16:56-69

*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 Saint John.

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

Reader: Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.' He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, 'This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?' But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, 'Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him.

Reader: And he said, 'For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.'

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, 'Do you also wish to go away?' Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.'

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**

Dean: 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.*

Dean: 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.**

Dean: 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

Dean: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## Offertory Hymn: God, My Hope On You Is Founded (#529 Common Praise)

1. God, my hope on you is founded;  
you my faith and trust renew.  
Through all change and chance you guide me,  
only good and only true.  
God unknown, you alone  
call my heart to be your own.
2. Human pride and earthly glory,  
sword and crown betray our trust;  
though with care and toil we build them,  
tower and temple, fall to dust.  
But your power, hour by hour,  
is my temple and my tower.
3. Daily does the Almighty giver  
bounteous gifts on us bestow;  
God's desire for us delights us,  
pleasure leads us where we go.  
Here at hand, love takes stand,  
joy awaits God's sure command.
4. God's great goodness lasts forever  
deepest wisdom, passing thought:  
splendour, light, and life attending,  
beauty springing out of naught.  
Evermore from God's store  
new-born worlds rise and adore.
5. Still from earth to God eternal  
sacrifice of praise be done,  
high above all praises praising  
for the gift of Christ his Son.  
Christ you call one and all:  
those who follow shall not fall.

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

### The Prayer over the Gifts

Dean: Creator, you bless us with many good gifts  
returned to you from your creation.  
Feed us with the Bread of Life,  
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### The Eucharistic Prayer

Dean: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Dean: Lift up your hearts in adoration.

**All: We lift them to our God.**

Dean: Let us give thanks to the Living God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Dean: It is indeed right to thank you and praise you, holy and gracious God, creator of all things,  
ruler of heaven and earth, sustainer of life, for you are the source of all goodness,  
rich in mercy and abounding in love; you are faithful to your people in every generation,  
and your word endures for ever.

Dean: Therefore with angels and archangels,  
with the fellowship of saints and the company of heaven,  
we glorify your holy name, evermore 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.**

Dean: We praise you, merciful Father, not as we ought, but as we are able,  
because in your tender love you gave the world your only Son,  
in order that the world might be saved through him.  
He made you known by taking the form of a servant,  
healing the sick, liberating the oppressed, reaching out to the lost.

Betrayed, reviled, and nailed to the cross,  
he confronted the power of sin and disarmed it for ever.  
In his offering of himself, he became the perfect and sufficient sacrifice  
for the sins of the whole world.  
Redeemed by Christ, we have been adopted as your children;  
by your pardon you have made us worthy to praise you.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends,  
took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said,  
"Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks,  
he gave it to them, and said, "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.  
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

In obedience to him and with grateful hearts  
we approach your holy table,  
remembering our Saviour's sacrifice,  
and rejoicing in his victory.

Confident in his sovereign purpose, we declare our faith.

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

Dean: Send your Holy Spirit on us that as we receive this bread and this cup  
we may partake of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.  
May we be renewed in his risen life, filled with love,  
and strengthened in our will to serve others;  
and make of our lives, we pray, a pure and holy sacrifice, acceptable to you,  
knitting us together as one in your Son Jesus Christ,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honour and glory, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Dean: 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

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

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

Dean: The gifts of God for the People of God.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Invitation to Spiritual Communion

Dean: 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.

Dean: 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.**

Dean: 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*

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

**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.

*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** I am the Bread, the Bread of Life (Common Praise #56)

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| 1. I am the Bread, the Bread of Life;<br>who comes to me will never hunger.<br>I am the Bread, the Bread of heaven;<br>who feeds on me will never die.<br>And as you eat, remember me,<br>my body broken on the tree:<br>my life was given to set you free,<br>and I'm alive for evermore. | 2. I am the Vine, the living Vine;<br>apart from me you can do nothing.<br>I am the Vine, the real Vine:<br>abide in me and I in you.<br>And as you drink, remember me,<br>my blood was shed upon the tree:<br>my life was given to set you free,<br>and I'm alive for evermore. |
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<sup>2</sup> Adapted from a service of Spiritual Communion, Diocese of Chelmsford, Church of England



3. So eat this bread and drink this wine,  
and as you do, receive this life of mine.  
All that I am, I give to you,  
that you may live for evermore.

### **Prayer After Communion**

Dean: 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>**

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

Dean: 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**

Dean: 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.**

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

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

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  
Has 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! Bread of heaven,  
thou on earth our food, our stay!  
Alleluia! here the sinful  
flee to thee from day to day:  
intercessor, friend of sinners,  
Earth's redeemer, plead for me,  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.
4. Alleluia! King eternal,  
thee the Lord of lords we own;  
Alleluia! Born of Mary,  
earth your footstool, heav'n your 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.
5. Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!  
His the sceptre, 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 every nation  
hath redeemed us by his blood.

**Dismissal**

Dean: 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**