



Eucharist

Journey into wholeness and renewal



Diocesan Licensed Ministers' Study Day

3.30 pm

Saturday 25 September 2021

I Gathering

Gather us in,
the lost and the lonely,
the broken and breaking,
the tired and the aching
who long for the nourishment
found at your feast.

Gather us in,
the done and the doubting;
the wishing and wondering,
the puzzled and pondering
who long for the company
found at your feast.

Gather us in,
the proud and pretentious,
the sure and superior,
the never inferior,
who long for the levelling
found at your feast.

Gather us in,
the bright and the bustling,
the stirrers, the shakers,
the kind laughter makers
who long for the deeper joys
found at your feast.

Gather us in,
from corner or limelight,
from mansion or campsite,
from fears and obsession,
from tears and depression,

from untold excesses,
from treasured successes,
to meet, to eat,
be given a seat,
be joined to the vine,
be offered new wine,
become like the least,
be found at the feast.

ALL Gather us in!

HYMN Gather us in

SOLO Here in this place, new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away.
See, in this space, our fears and our dreaming,
brought here to you in the light of this day.

**ALL Gather us in – the lost and forsaken,
gather us in – the blind and the lame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

WOMEN We are the young – our lives are a mystery,

MEN we are the old – who yearn for your face.

**ALL We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.**

**Gather us in – the rich and the haughty,
gather us in – the proud and the strong.**

**Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.**

**MEN Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth.**

**Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.**

ALL Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you.
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

WOMEN Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
ALL but here in this place, the new light is shining;
now is the Kingdom,_____ now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own.
Gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone,
fire of love in our flesh_____ and our bone.

Marty Haugen
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We meet in the name of God,
Creator of the universe,
source of true humanity,
mother and father of all.

ALL **Amen.**

We meet in the name of Jesus,
Word made flesh,
saviour of fallen humanity,
lover of all.

ALL **Amen.**

We meet in the name of the Holy Spirit,
Lord and giver of life,
midwife of new humanity,
inspirer of all.

ALL **Amen.**

Come then, eternal God:
be present here,
befriend us here,
renew us here.

HYMN Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation

The congregation will be sprinkled with water as a reminder of our baptismal beginnings.

**ALL Praise to the Lord, the almighty, the king of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Come, all who hear;
 brothers and sisters draw near,
praise him in glad adoration!**

**MEN Praise to the Lord, above all things so mightily reigning;
keeping us safe at his side and so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen
 all you have needed has been
met by his gracious ordaining?**

**WOMEN Praise to the Lord, who shall prosper our work and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend us.
Ponder anew
 what the almighty can do,
who with his love will befriend us.**

**ALL Praise to the Lord – O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises
 before him!
Let the "Amen!"
 sound from his people again; (x3)
gladly with praise we adore him!**

J Neander/C Winkworth

You found out what we were doing
and you intervened.

'Come and do it together,
come and do it with Me, you said.

**ALL So thank you, Lord,
for intervening in our private lives.**

You promised us nothing
by way of success, recognition,
possessions or reward.

'These things will come at the right time
when you walk with me,' you said.

**ALL So thank you, Lord,
for promising us nothing.**

You gave us no resources apart from ourselves —
hands meant for caring,
lips meant for praising,
hearts meant for loving
and the Holy Spirit to make us restless until we change.

**ALL So thank you, Lord,
for all the essential gifts.**

Then, just when we think we've got it right
as to where we should go and what we should do;
just when we're ready to take on the world,
you come, like a beggar, to our back door,
saying, 'This is the way.
I am the way'.

And offering us bread and wine.

**ALL So thank you, Lord,
for coming again
and keeping your word,
and showing you care
for us and for all people. Amen.**

READING John 15:1-17

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant[e] does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

New Revised Standard Version

SERMON Carrie Myers, Reader and Lay Ministries Officer for the Church of England

After the sermon a period of silence will be kept for prayer and reflection

CHOIR O where are you going?

*Words by the Iona Community, set to a melody from the Irish/British folk song tradition,
arranged by Richard Hubbard*

3 Invitation

He was always the guest.

In the homes of Peter and Jairus,
Martha and Mary, Joanna and Susanna,
he was always the guest.

At the meal tables of the wealthy
where he pled the case of the poor,
he was always the guest.

Upsetting polite company,
befriending isolated people,
welcoming the stranger,
he was always the guest.

BISHOP But here,
at this table, he is the host.

Those who wish to serve him
must first be served by him,
those who want to follow him
must first be fed by him,
those who would wash his feet
must first let him make them clean.

For this is the table
where God intends us to be nourished;
this is the time
when Christ can make us new.

So come, you who hunger and thirst
for a deeper faith,
for a better life,
for a fairer world.

Jesus Christ,
who has sat at our tables,
now invites us to be guests at his.

SONG Vagabonds

**Come, all you vagabonds,
come all you 'don't belongs'
winners and losers,
come, people like me.
Come all you travellers
tired from the journey,
Come wait a while, stay a while,
welcomed you'll be.**

**Come all you questioners
looking for answers,
and searching for reasons
and sense in it all;
Come all you fallen,
and come all you broken,
find strength for your body
and food for your soul.**

*Come to the feast,
there is room at the table.
Come let us meet in this place.
with the King of all kindness
who welcomes us in,
with the wonder of love,
and the power of grace,
the wonder of love,
and the power of grace.*

**Come those who worry
'bout houses and money,
and all those who don't have
a care in the world;
from every station
and orientation,
the helpless, the hopeless,
the young and the old.**

Come to the feast ...

**Come all believers
and dreamers and schemers,
and come all you restless
just searching for home;
movers and shakers
and givers and takers,
the happy, the sad
and the lost and alone.**

**Come self-sufficient
with wearied ambition,
and come those who feel
at the end of the road.
Fiery debaters
and religion haters,
accusers, abusers,
the hurt and ignored.**

Come to the feast ...

*Stuart Townend, Mark Edwards & Phil Baggaley
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4 Eucharistic Prayer

BISHOP Since you have called us,
since you have kept a place for us,
since your face lights up when we sit at your table,
gracious God,

ALL how can we keep from singing?

When deep down ... despite the contradictions,
we know,
we sense,
we believe that life is good;
when one of your words
rings truer than ever before,
when in one unexpected moment
we are given a glimpse of your kingdom,
gracious God,

ALL how can we keep from singing?

In this place
where prayer has been made for many years,
in this place
where so many different people
have found their common bond in your call and purpose,
in this place
where the walls are waiting to echo your praise,
gracious God,

ALL how can we keep from singing?

Therefore with the Church throughout the world,
with the Church on the other side of time,
with those who once praised you here
and have now joined the closer harmony of heaven,
we sing the song of your everlasting praise:

**ALL Holy, holy, holy, Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full,
are full of your glory.**

**Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna in the highest!**

BISHOP And now,
lest we believe that our praise alone fulfils your purpose,
we fall silent
and remember him who came
because words were not enough.

Setting our wisdom,
our will,
our words aside,
emptying our hearts,
and bringing nothing in our hands,
we yearn for the healing,
the holding,
the accepting,
the forgiving
which Christ alone can offer.

5 Communion

BISHOP Merciful God,
send now,
in kindness,
your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and wine
and fill them with the fullness of Jesus.

And let that same Spirit rest on us,
converting us
from the patterns of this passing world,
until we conform to the shape of him
whose food we now share.
Amen.

(Taking and breaking bread)

Among friends, gathered round a table,
Jesus took bread, and broke it, and said,
'This is my body — broken for you'.

(Holding up a cup of wine)

Later he took a cup of wine and said,
'This is the new relationship with God

made possible because of my death.
Take it, all of you, to remember me'.

ALL Jesus, firstborn of Mary,
have mercy on us.

ALL Jesus, Saviour of the world,
have mercy on us.

ALL Jesus, Monarch of heaven,
have mercy on us.

He whom the universe could not contain,
is present to us in this bread.
He, who redeemed us and called us by name
now meets us in this cup.

So take this bread and this wine.
In them God comes to us
so that we may come to God.

And now, as Jesus teaches us, so we pray:

ALL **Our Father,**
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespassers,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

After the sharing of communion, during which verses 1–3 of Behold the Lamb are sung, there is also an opportunity to receive prayer, or anointing, for healing, in the side chapels.

HYMN Behold the Lamb

**Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,
slain for us:
and we remember:
the promise made that all who come in faith
find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this Bread of Life,
and we drink of his sacrifice,
as a sign of our bonds of peace
around the table of the King.**

**The body of our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
torn for you:
eat and remember
the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life,
paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this Bread of Life,
and we drink of his sacrifice,
as a sign of our bonds of love
around the table of the King.**

**The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
shed for you:
drink and remember
he drained death's cup that all may enter in
to receive the life of God.**

**So we share in this Bread of Life,
and we drink of his sacrifice,
as a sign of our bonds of grace
around the table of the King.**

*Stuart Townend, Keith & Kristyn Getty
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6 The Peace

BISHOP Please stand.

Christ who has nourished us,
is our peace.
Strangers and friends, male and female,
old and young,
he has broken down the barriers
to bind us to him
and to each other.

Having tasted his goodness,
let us share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

ALL And also with you.

**ALL (sung) And so with thankfulness and faith we rise
to respond:
and to remember
our call to follow in the steps of Christ
as his body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering,
we proclaim: Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven
around the table of the King.**

Stuart Townend

BISHOP

Let us pray.

In gratitude, in deep gratitude
for this moment,
this meal,
these people,
we give ourselves to you.

Take us out
to live as changed people
because we have shared the Living Bread
and cannot remain the same.

Ask much of us,
expect much from us,
enable much by us,
encourage many through us.

ALL

**So. Lord, may we live to your glory,
both as inhabitants of earth
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven,
Amen.**

HYMN**I, the Lord of sea and sky**

**I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?**

*Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

WOMEN I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have born my peoples pain.
I have wept for love of them,
they turn away.

MEN I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

ALL *Here I am Lord...*

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide,
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord...

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BISHOP Christ's food in our souls,
ALL **our food shared like his.**

Christ's life in our hands,
our lives shaped by his.

Christ's love in our hearts,
our love warmed through his.

Christ's peace on our path,
our path following his.

May God keep you in all your days.

May Christ shield you in all your ways.

May the Spirit bring you healing and peace.

May God the Holy Trinity drive all darkness from you
and pour upon you blessing and light.

Amen.

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Recessional Voluntary *Nun Dankett Alle Gott* – Karg-Elert
Service devised using material from The Iona Community

Music directed by

Richard Hubbard, St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Music Development Director
with Cantus Firmus Choir and Musicians

Organ: Richard Cook

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