

Led by the Spirit Eucharist Passion Sunday 17th March 2024

We gather in worship

Welcome to tonight's service, especially to our guest president, the Revd. Hannah Barraclough, and preacher, the Revd. Molly Boot, from the Diocese of Gloucester.

Before the service itself begins, we sing,

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory: lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings: listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.

Hear us, O Lord...

O thou chief Corner-stone, Right hand of the Father: Way of salvation, Gate of life celestial: cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement.

Hear us, O Lord...

Sins oft committed now we lay before thee: with true contrition, now no more we veil them: grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.

Hear us, O Lord...

Innocent, captive, taken unresisting: falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced: save us, we pray thee, Jesu our Redeemer. **Hear us, O Lord...**

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That he should give his only Son
To make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss The Father turns his face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring all of us to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
My sin upon his shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life
- I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, No gifts, no power, no wisdom; But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.

Donations can be made using the contactless card reader during the offertory hymn. There is a box by the entrance. Details of online options are in the news sheet and on our website.

Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart His wounds have paid my ransom.

When the bell rings, we stand to sing,
Here is love, vast as the ocean.
Loving-kindness as the flood,
When the Prince of Life, our ransom,
Shed for us his precious blood.
(repeat)

Who his love will not remember? Who can cease to sing his praise? He can never be forgotten Throughout heaven's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion
Fountains opened deep and wide,
Through the floodgates
of God's mercy
Flowed a vast and gracious tide.

Grace and love, like mighty rivers, Poured incessant from above. Heaven's peace and perfect justice Kissed a quilty world in love.

No love is higher, no love is wider, No love is deeper, no love is truer, No love is higher, no love is wider, No love is like your love, O Lord.

Yes here is love, Vast as the ocean. Yes here is love, Vast as the ocean. In the name of the Father, and of the

♣ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord be with you; and also with you.

The priest introduces the service and invites us to confess our sins. We sing after the cantor,

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Christe eleison. Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

The priest declares the forgiveness of our sin, then invites us to pray in silence, and says the prayer set for today,

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We listen for God's Word

We sit for the

First Reading: Hebrews 5.5-10

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.'

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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

We stand to sing,
I cast my mind to Calvary,
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see his wounds, his hands, his feet,
My Saviour on that cursed tree.

His body bound and drenched in tears, They laid him down in Joseph's tomb, The entrance sealed by heavy stone, Messiah still, and all alone.

O praise the name of the Lord our God, O praise his name for evermore. For endless days we will sing your praise, O Lord, O Lord our God.

Then, on the third at break of dawn, The Son of heaven rose again.
O trampled death, where is your sting?
The angels roar for Christ the King.
O praise the name...

He shall return in robes of white, The blazing sun shall pierce the night, And I will rise among the saints, My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face. O praise the name...

Gospel Reading: John 12.20-33

We face the gospel.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must

for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.
'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I

'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it,

and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

We sit for the **Sermon**, then we keep silence together.

The Creed

We stand to affirm our faith,
Let us declare our faith in God.
Do you believe and trust
in God the Father?
I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the faithful

We celebrate and receive Jesus in Bread and Wine

The priest introduces the Peace,

The peace of the Lord be always with you; and also with you.

The deacon says,
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.
We offer one another a sign of peace.

The Offering

We sing,

And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for me who caused his pain,
For me who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
That thou my God should die for me?
Amazing love! How can it be
That thou my God should die for me?

He left his Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite his grace.
Emptied himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For O my God, it found out me.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free
For O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night.
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray,
I woke, the dungeon
flamed with light.
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth and followed thee.
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread
Jesus and all in him is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine.
Bold I approach the eternal throne
And claim the crown
through Christ, my own.
Bold I approach the eternal throne
And claim the crown
through Christ, my own.

Amazing love! How can it be That thou my God should die for me? Amazing love! How can it be That thou my God should die for me? The priest takes the bread and wine and says the prayers of preparation: we respond to each part of the prayer:

Blessed be God forever.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Please remain standing during the Eucharistic Prayer if it is comfortable for you. The priest says,

The Lord is here;
God's 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.

The priest gives thanks for God's mighty acts, and we sing after the cantor,
Holy, holy, Holy Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest.

♪ Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, hosanna in the highest.

♪ Hosanna in the highest.

The priest continues, recalling the Last Supper,

then the deacon says,

Praise to you, Lord Jesus

Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

The priest continues ending with ...forever and ever. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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 the bread

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.

We sing after the cantor,

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, Miserere nobis *(have mercy on us)*.

♪ Miserere nobis

(repeat)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, Dona nobis pacem (give us peace),

Dona nobis pacem

The priest says,
God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

We share in Communion.

The people receive communion. Those who do not wish to receive are warmly invited to come forward for an individual blessing. Gluten free wafers are available.

Please come to the front and form a queue. Communion will be offered in both kinds, on the hand and from the chalice (optional). Please do not intinct (dip) the wafer in the chalice.

During and after communion, prayer ministry will be available.

We sing,

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

See from his head, his hands, his feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were an offering far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.

You unravel me with a melody. You surround me with a song of deliverance from my enemies till all my fears are gone.

I'm no longer a slave to fear; I am a child of God. I'm no longer a slave to fear; I am a child of God.

From my mother's womb you have chosen me;
Love has called my name.
I've been born again into your family;
your blood flows through my veins.
I'm no longer a slave...

You split the sea so I could walk right through it. My fears were drowned in perfect love.
You rescued me
so I could stand and sing:
I am a child of God.
I'm no longer a slave...

There must be more than this,
O breath of God come breathe within.
There must be more than this,
Spirit of God we wait for you,
Fill us anew we pray,
Fill us anew we pray.
Consuming fire, fan into flame
A passion for your name.
Spirit of God
would you fall in this place,
Lord have your way,
Lord have your way, with us.

Come like a rushing wind,
Clothe us with power from on high,
Now set the captives free,
Leave us abandoned to your praise.
Lord let your glory fall,
Lord let your glory fall.
Consuming fire...

We keep silence together.

The priest says this prayer, Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

We go into the world to share God's love

The Blessing

We bow our heads and pray for God's blessing:

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

We respond, Amen.

The deacon says,

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

We sing,

Amazing grace,
how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;

'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures, He will my shield and portion be, As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the Sun We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we first begun.

Amazing grace!
how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

Do please join us at the back of church for refreshments. We hope this service has been encouraging. We would really appreciate your financial support for this ministry - plates and card readers will be available at the back if you are able to make a donation.

Led by the Spirit will return on 12th May 2024 at 5pm, when our guests will be the Revds Michael and Monica Bolley from the Diocese of London.

