



## All Saints Church, Hertford

### Family Eucharist for Sixth Sunday of Easter 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020

*Welcome and Greeting* Rev Jo Loveridge

Alleluia Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Welcome in the name of Christ.

God's grace, mercy and peace be with you

**and also with you.**

*Hymn 470* Graham Jones, Ann & Michael Stephens-Jones

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*

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them. They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak my word to them, Whom shall I send?

*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....*

### *Preparing for the Word*

We worship with Christians near and far,  
living and departed, old and young.  
God's word is for all of us.

**May it be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.**

### *Opening Prayer* All unmuted for these

Lord, speak to us

**that we may hear your word.**

Move among us

**that we may behold your glory.**

Receive our prayers

**that we may learn to trust you.**

**Amen.**

### *Praying for Ourselves* All muted

*We sit or kneel*

In baptism we died with Christ, so that as Christ was raised from the dead, we might walk in newness of life.

Let us receive new life in him as we confess our sins in penitence and faith

*cf Romans 6.4*

**Father,**

**we have sinned against heaven and against you.**

**We are not worthy to be called your children.**

**We turn to you again.**

**Have mercy on us,**

**bring us back to yourself**

**as those who once were lost**

**but now are found through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### *The priest declares God's forgiveness*

*We Stand to Praise God in the words of the **Gloria:***

**Glory to God in the highest,**

**and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,**

**almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,**

**we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**you take away the sin of the world:**

**have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*The Collect, the prayer for the day, is said*

God our redeemer,  
you have delivered us from the power of darkness  
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:  
grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life,  
so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy;  
through 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. **Amen**

*We sit for the **Reading Acts 17.22-31** Samantha Bowden*

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we too are his offspring."

Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

***At the end the reader may say***

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Reading John 14.15-21*** Isabel Hurley

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one  
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore. **Alleluia.**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit for the **Reflection** Generosity, Joy, Imagination, Courage Bp Alan*

*We stand for **The Creed***

**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.**        *Ephesians 3*

*We sit or kneel*

***Praying for others** Martin Bird*

Lord Jesus, you told the disciples before you were crucified that the Holy Spirit would come to help your world after you left it. After your Ascension, the Holy Spirit came upon your disciples in an amazing way, but unlike your disciples we don't have to wait for it. The Holy Spirit is already here, helping us in our walks with you. We thank you for this God-given helper for us and pray that we would be filled with the Spirit at this time, and know what the best thing to do is for this world and all in it.

Lord God, we pray for all those battling the Coronavirus in hospitals and Care homes across this country and across the world. May your Spirit so fill them that they may have your strength and your energy to keep going in their fight to defeat this unseen enemy. We pray for all those working to find a vaccine for the virus – may they have your wisdom so that they may know what to do to make the vaccine successfully.

Holy Spirit, be with and guide all in governments across this world. Help all those in a position of power to make the right decisions for the wellbeing of all people they are working for so that the world can come out of this lockdown stronger and more loving than it went into it. May the whole world come to know you and your love in their lives and, through that knowledge, come to realise that living in love and peace with each other really is the only way.

Lord God, we pray for all who are struggling at this time, financially and mentally. We ask for your blessing to come on all who are supporting or working in food banks to keep families in food during this time, and for all those working for mental health charities, helping all who have any sort of mental illness. We also pray for all those stuck in a home in dangerous situations – those suffering abuse and violence at the hands of a family member. Lord, help them to find a way out so they can start to live in peace once more.

Lord Jesus, we pray for all who are sick or unwell at this time. We continue to pray for all who are suffering from coronavirus and pray especially for those in hospital, away from loved ones who cannot visit them. Be with them and help them to know your love and your healing presence with them and be with the nurses who are caring for them. We also pray for those who are in hospital for another reason, praying especially for Lynne Randall, and her family who are caring for her.

We pray for all in our congregation who are unwell at this time. Be with them and give them your peace. We pray especially today for Val Warboys, Wendell Newbold, Kathleen Gosby, Catherine Lay and Tracy James, and for all who are looking after them at this time.

Lord, there is so much death around at the moment, that it seems hard to know how to pray for those who have died. We know so many are dying or have died, and yet we know that when we pray for individuals, you do hear us and you do care. So, knowing that, we do pray for those in our congregation who have died recently, and we particularly pray for Trevor Paddon. Thank you for the time he spent as part of our Evensong congregation and for all that he did for the parish church of St Margarets too. Be with him now he is with his heavenly Father, and be with his wife Lyn and his family as they mourn his passing. Lord of the church, we ask that you would hear our prayers today, make us one in heart and mind, help us to serve you always and to know you and love you forever.

**Amen.**

## **Sharing Communion**

*We stand for **The Peace***

***After the introductory words***

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

***The Eucharistic Prayer (Prayer H)***

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.**

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;  
in your love you made us for yourself.

*We sit or kneel*

When we turned away  
you did not reject us,  
but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children  
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life  
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross  
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

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

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,  
he gave you thanks, and said:  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,  
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine  
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of praise  
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

*We say the **Sanctus***

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*There may be a short period of silence*

### *The Lord's Prayer*

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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 of 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 say the *Agnus Dei*

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world: grant us peace.**

### *Giving of Communion*

*Listen* David & Hazel Ford

### *After Communion*

**Lord,  
we have broken your bread and received your life.  
By the power of your Spirit keep us always in your love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## *Hymn 538* Graham Jones, Ann & Michael Stephens-Jones

- 1 O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;  
be thou for ever near me,  
my Master and my Friend:  
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.
- 2 O let me feel thee near me: the world is ever near;  
I see the sights that dazzle,  
the tempting sounds I hear;  
my foes are ever near me, around me, and within;  
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.
- 3 O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,  
above the storms of passion,  
the murmurs of self-will;  
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;  
O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.
- 4 O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee,  
that where thou art in glory  
there shall thy servant be;  
and, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end:  
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.
- 5 O let me see thy foot-marks, and in them plant mine own;  
my hope to follow duly  
is in thy strength alone:  
O guide me, call me, draw me, uphold me to the end;  
and then in heaven receive me, my Saviour and my Friend

### *Blessing*

Through the resurrection of Jesus  
God has redeemed us and made us his children.  
May God bless you with joy.

**Amen**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All In the name of Christ. Amen.**