

# Holy Communion

21/02/21

## Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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.

## Song: All creatures of our God and King

All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice and with us sing:  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
Thou silver moon with softer gleam:  
O praise Him, O praise Him,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along,  
O praise Him, hallelujah!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
Ye lights of evening, find a voice:  
O praise Him, O praise Him,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,  
Make music for thy Lord to hear,  
O praise Him, hallelujah!  
Thou fire so masterful and bright,  
That givest man both warmth and light:  
O praise Him, O praise Him,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

And all ye men of tender heart,  
Forgiving others, take your part,  
O sing ye, hallelujah!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and on him cast your care:  
O praise Him, O praise Him,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship Him in humbleness,  
O praise Him, hallelujah!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three-in-One:  
O praise Him, O praise Him,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

## Collect

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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.

## Reading: Psalm 42:1-11

**For the director of music. A maskil of the Sons of Korah.**

- <sup>1</sup> As the deer pants for streams of water,  
so my soul pants for you, my God.
- <sup>2</sup> My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.  
When can I go and meet with God?
- <sup>3</sup> My tears have been my food  
day and night,  
while people say to me all day long,  
'Where is your God?'
- <sup>4</sup> These things I remember  
as I pour out my soul:  
how I used to go to the house of God  
under the protection of the Mighty One  
with shouts of joy and praise  
among the festive throng.
- <sup>5</sup> Why, my soul, are you downcast?  
Why so disturbed within me?  
Put your hope in God,  
for I will yet praise him,  
my Saviour and my God.
- <sup>6</sup> My soul is downcast within me;  
therefore I will remember you  
from the land of the Jordan,

the heights of Hermon – from Mount Mizar.

<sup>7</sup> Deep calls to deep  
in the roar of your waterfalls;  
all your waves and breakers  
have swept over me.

<sup>8</sup> By day the Lord directs his love,  
at night his song is with me –  
a prayer to the God of my life.

<sup>9</sup> I say to God my Rock,  
'Why have you forgotten me?  
Why must I go about mourning,  
oppressed by the enemy?'

<sup>10</sup> My bones suffer mortal agony  
as my foes taunt me,  
saying to me all day long,  
'Where is your God?'

<sup>11</sup> Why, my soul, are you downcast?  
Why so disturbed within me?  
Put your hope in God,  
for I will yet praise him,  
my Saviour and my God.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## Reading: John 9:1-42

The holy Gospel is written in the 9th chapter of the Gospel according to Saint John, beginning at the 1st verse.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>9</sup> As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?'

<sup>3</sup> 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned,' said Jesus, 'but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. <sup>4</sup> As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.'

<sup>6</sup> After saying this, he spat on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. <sup>7</sup> 'Go,' he told him, 'wash in the Pool of Siloam' (this word means 'Sent'). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

<sup>8</sup> His neighbours and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, 'Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?' <sup>9</sup> Some claimed that he was.

Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.'

But he himself insisted, 'I am the man.'

<sup>10</sup> 'How then were your eyes opened?' they asked.

<sup>11</sup> He replied, 'The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.'

<sup>12</sup> 'Where is this man?' they asked him.

'I don't know,' he said.

<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. <sup>14</sup> Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. <sup>15</sup> Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. 'He put mud on my eyes,' the man replied, 'and I washed, and now I see.'

<sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.'

But others asked, 'How can a sinner perform such signs?' So they were divided.

<sup>17</sup> Then they turned again to the blind man, 'What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened.'

The man replied, 'He is a prophet.'

<sup>18</sup> They still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man's parents. <sup>19</sup> 'Is this your son?' they asked. 'Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?'

<sup>20</sup> 'We know he is our son,' the parents answered, 'and we know he was born blind. <sup>21</sup> But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don't know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself.' <sup>22</sup> His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who already had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup> That was why his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.'

<sup>24</sup> A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. 'Give glory to God by telling the truth,' they said. 'We know this man is a sinner.'

<sup>25</sup> He replied, 'Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!'

<sup>26</sup> Then they asked him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?'

<sup>27</sup> He answered, 'I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?'

<sup>28</sup> Then they hurled insults at him and said, 'You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses! <sup>29</sup> We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from.'

<sup>30</sup> The man answered, 'Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will. <sup>32</sup> Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. <sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.'

<sup>34</sup> To this they replied, 'You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!' And they threw him out.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?'

<sup>36</sup> 'Who is he, sir?' the man asked. 'Tell me so that I may believe in him.'

<sup>37</sup> Jesus said, 'You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.'

<sup>38</sup> Then the man said, 'Lord, I believe,' and he worshipped him.

<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, 'For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.'

<sup>40</sup> Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, 'What? Are we blind too?'

<sup>41</sup> Jesus said, 'If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ**

**Talk**

## **Song: Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us**

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us  
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;  
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,  
for we have no help but thee;  
yet possessing every blessing,  
if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:  
all our weakness thou dost know;  
thou didst tread this earth before us,  
thou didst feel its keenest woe;  
lone and dreary, faint and weary,  
through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending,  
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,  
love with every passion blending,  
pleasure that can never cloy:  
thus provided, pardoned, guided,  
nothing can our peace destroy.

## **The Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who

with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayers

### Prayer of confession

Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.

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 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.

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:

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

### Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but

in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. **Amen.**

The prayer of consecration is said and the bread is distributed

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And 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.

### Song: Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I am 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 has brought me safe thus far  
And grace will lead me home

For God 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 a thousand years  
Bright, shining as the sun  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we first begun