



Wednesday 18 November 2020

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# Bread for the World

## *An Informal Eucharist*

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Introit    A new commandment    *Richard Shephard*  
*Sung by St Martin's Voices*

A new commandment I give unto you:  
that you love one another as I have loved you.  
By this shall all men know that you are my disciples,  
if you have love for one another.

*John 13. 34-35*

Welcome and Opening Prayers    *Revd Catherine Duce*

Creator God,  
Come to us, in the difference of every life gathered  
Come to us in song  
Come to us in word  
Come to us in stillness and silence  
Come to us in our care for one another  
Come to us in bread and wine  
Come to us in flesh and blood  
Reach out across time  
Be present in all time.

*All*    **Amen**

*All*    **Come Jesus, be our guest,  
stay with us for day is ending.  
With friend, with stranger,  
with the young and old,  
with the lost and found.  
Be among us tonight.  
Our guest, our host,  
The one who says all – all are welcome here.**

## Opening Hymn

*Sung by the St Martin's Voices*

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
what a privilege to carry  
everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry  
everything to God in prayer!
- 2 Are we weak and heavy laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious saviour, still our refuge-  
take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer;  
in his arms he'll take and shield thee,  
thou wilt find a solace there.

*Joseph Medlicott Scirven (1819-1886)*

## Prayers for Forgiveness

God of life, you know the secret thoughts of every heart.  
We lay before you our complex lives trusting in your infinite mercy  
and love.

*Silence is kept.*

You raise the dead, you drive out fear, you bring peace to those  
overwhelmed by life

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord have mercy.**

You bring pardon and peace to those who are lost

Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ have mercy.**

You bring light to those in darkness and despair

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord have mercy.**

And Jesus said "Your sins are forgiven"

And Jesus said "Your sins are forgiven"

In the Name of the Father who created you and waits to welcome you home, in the name of the Son who searches for you, in the name of the Spirit who brings the healing of forgiveness and calls you to do the same, you have been set free.

*All* **Amen**

Words on the Edge John 2.7-11, 3.1b-3 *read by Carol Ashby*  
*Recorded from home*

Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word that you have heard. Yet I am writing you a new commandment that is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. Whoever says, 'I am in the light', while hating a brother or sister, is still in the darkness. Whoever loves a brother or sister lives in the light, and in such a person there is no cause for stumbling. But whoever hates another believer is in the darkness, walks in the darkness, and does not know the way to go, because the darkness has brought on blindness. See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

## Reflection    *Meister Eckhard and The Upward Gravity of Love*

Anthem    Jesu, grant me this I pray    *Bob Chilcott*  
*Sung by the St Martin's Voices*

Jesu, grant me this, I pray,  
Ever in thy heart to stay;  
Let me evermore abide  
Hidden in thy wounded side.

If the evil one prepare,  
Or the world, a tempting snare,  
I am safe when I abide  
In thy heart and wounded side.

If the flesh, more dangerous still,  
Tempt my soul to deeds of ill,  
Naught I fear when I abide  
In thy heart and wounded side.

Death will come one day to me;  
Jesu, cast me not from thee:  
Dying let me still abide  
In thy heart and wounded side.

*17th Century Latin*  
*trans. Sir Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877)*

## Prayers

Prayer of Thanksgiving    *led by Michael Okorokporo, Recorded*

Prayer of Concern    *led by Rosalind Beeton, Recorded*

Prayer of Hope    *led by Michael Moran, Recorded*

*Each prayer ends with 'We pray to you'.*

Prayer Chant    The Lord is my light  
*Sung by St Martin's Voices*

## Sharing of the Peace

God is love and those who live in love, live in God, and God lives in them.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

## Gathering Hymn

*Sung by St Martin's Voices*

- 1    There's a wideness in God's mercy  
like the wideness of the sea;  
there's a kindness in his justice  
which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows  
are more felt than up in heaven;  
there is no place where earth's failings  
have such kindly judgement given.
- 2    For the love of God is broader  
than the measure of our mind,  
and the heart of the eternal  
is most wonderfully kind.  
But we make his love too narrow  
by false limits of our own  
and we magnify his strictness  
with a zeal he would not own.
- 3    There is a plentiful redemption  
through the blood that has been shed;  
there is a joy for all the members  
in the sorrows of the head.  
There is a grace enough for thousands  
of new worlds as great as this;  
there is room for fresh creations  
in that upper home of bliss.

*continued...*

- 4 *Second half of tune:*  
If our love were but more simple  
we should take him at his word;  
and our lives would be all gladness  
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

*Frederick William Faber (1814-1863)*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

- The Lord be with you  
*All* **And also with you**  
Lift up your hearts  
*All* **We lift them up to the Lord**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*Together we pray:*

- All* **Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free, and fill each one of us with your love from on high. Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast at your table with all your saints.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray in our first language the prayer our Saviour taught us:

- 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 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.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

Look, Jesus Christ, the Bread of Heaven is broken for the life of the world. The gifts of God for the people of God

**All Jesus Bread of Life, Bread which is broken, Bread for the world.**

Communion Anthem Panis Angelicus *Franck*  
*Sung by St Martin's Voices*

Panis angelicus fit panis hominum;  
Dat panis caelicus figuris terminum:  
O res mirabilis!  
Manducat Dominum Pauper, servus, et humilis.

*Bread of the angel host sent down from God above;  
Body of Christ our Lord in token of his love:  
O gift most wonderful!  
Christ as our sacrament: Humble, lowly, all share his sacred feast.*

*Words: St Thomas Aquinas (English text by John Rutter)*

## Prayer after Communion

**All Father of all, we give 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 your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; 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.**

## Notices

# Thanksgiving Hymn

*Sung by the St Martin's Voices*

- 1 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 many souls to glory.
- 2 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.
- 3 I will not boast in anything,  
no gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
his death and resurrection.  
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.

*Stuart Townend (born 1963)*

## Blessing

Go simply, lightly, gently,  
Go with obedience.  
Go with love.  
And the blessing of God Almighty,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and for ever.

**All Amen**



Blessing Anthem    The Lord bless you and keep you    *Rutter*  
*Sung by the Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields*

The Lord bless you and keep you:  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious unto you  
The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you,  
And give you peace, Amen.

*Words: Numbers 6.24-26*

Read through these words which are taken from the writings of Meister Eckhart.

I wonder which sentence speaks to you and why. I wonder how it relates to your own life and spiritual path. After you have spoken about one that warms your heart I wonder if any of them really challenge you.

You are the one who falls so you can find me in the deep down-ward tumble of life

like a stone that descends intending ever down  
to where it comes to rest,  
and just so  
there where I fall  
is where you wait  
and how you call

O fall with me all  
the long way down  
and so reach me  
through the call  
that rises impossibly  
as the upward gravity of love.

There is something in me so bright  
And shining in itself  
that the darkness I fall into or make  
whether in despair  
or delight  
cannot thwart the flow  
of this inner light.

The most powerful prayer, one well nigh omnipotent and the most worthiest work of all- is the outcome of a quiet mind

We are all meant to be mothers of God, for God is always needing to be born.

One must learn an inner solitude wherever one may be

God is at home, we are in the far away country

Theologians may quarrel but mystics of the world speak the same language.

Truly it is in the darkness that one finds the light, so when we are in sorrow, then the light is nearest of all to us.

We rarely find that people achieve great things without first going astray. And thus our Lord intends to teach us of his great mercy.

If the only prayer you ever said in your entire life was “thank you” that would suffice.

Wisdom consists of doing the next thing you have to , doing it with your whole heart and finding delight in it.

Spirituality is not to be learned by flight from the world or by running away from things, or by turning solitary and going apart from the world. Rather we must learn an inner solitude wherever or whomever we may be. We must learn to penetrate things and find God there.

There is a place in the soul that has never been wounded,

Whatever God does the first outburst is always compassion.

You may say “I find that I am empty and cold and worn out and do not dare to go to our Lord. And I shall say “ Then all the greater is your need to go to God.”

Other quotes from: Meister Eckhart Selected Writing Penguin 1994

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**Thank you.**

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