



St John the Divine

Eucharist Service

4th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday 28th June 2020

Welcome to our live-streamed service, found on the FaceBook page for 'St John the Divine Croydon'.

As we work through ABM's Bible Study guide for this year - titled *Where do we go from here?*, which looks at the Five Marks of Mission - today we engage with the Second Mark of Mission: to teach, baptise and nurture new believers.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

Sentence

'God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

Acts 11.18

Hymn: Is the church a building?

by Lucy Berry (b.1957) - tune: Camberwell

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- 1. Is the church a building?**
Is this church our own?
Is it made of people?
Is it made of stone?
Is it shaped for welcome?
Is it shaped for pray'r?
Is it for our comfort, or for our despair?
- 2. Is this church for strangers?**
Is this church for friends?
Is it for a promise:
life that never ends?
Can this church be human?
Can it be divine?
Is it for all people,
or is it just mine?
- 3. Is the church for mission?**
Is the church for peace?
Is the church for action,
or for our release?
Is the church a promise?
Is the church a place?
Is the church for meeting
you, Christ, face to face?
- 4. Thank you for the questions
which this church must pose
at our life's beginning,
now, and at its close.
Build us up, Christ Jesus,
mind and strength and heart;
so we learn to finish
what we yearn to start.**

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

We have too often failed to respond to Christ's call to live his way of sacrificial love, fearing the cost and being blind to the blessing.

As we prepare to offer thanks and praise for that love shown to us,
let us call to mind our sins.

Silence is kept.

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:
fill us with your Spirit.

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our
faith:

fill us with your Spirit.

Christ have mercy

Christ have mercy

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust:
fill us with your Spirit.

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA AND COLLECT

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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.**

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God,
through your Son Jesus Christ
you established your church
as a welcoming, transforming community of faith:
through the empowerment of your Spirit
encourage us to participate in the same welcome
ourselves,
and the same transformation,
so that we may extend this grace to others;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Our usual order of readings is reversed. The Gospel passage is an interaction between Jesus and a Pharisee, where Jesus challenges the understanding of ritual cleanliness. This provides a context for the Acts reading, where Peter describes a dream that gave him deeper understanding of how God treated even 'unclean' Gentiles as worthy of receiving God's Spirit.

Gospel reading

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke 11.37-41

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

While Jesus was speaking, a Pharisee invited him to dine with him; so he went in and took his place at the table. The Pharisee was amazed to see that he did not first wash before dinner. Then the Lord said to him, 'Now you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. You fools! Did not the one who made the outside make the inside also? So give for alms those things that are within; and see, everything will be clean for you.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Second reading - from the New Testament

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 11.1-18

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, 'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?' Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth." But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved." And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?' When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, 'Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

May your word live in us

And bear much fruit to your glory.

Sermon

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**We believe in one God,
who made and loves all that is.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was born, lived, died and rose again,
and is coming to call all to account.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who calls, equips and sends out God's people,
and brings all things to their true end.**

This is our faith, the faith of the Church:

**We believe in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Response:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

God will speak peace to his people,
to those who turn to him in their hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Hymn: Dear Christ, uplifted from the earth
by Brian Wren (b.1936) - tune: St Botolph's
©1973, 1996 Stainer & Bell, CCL No 632290

- 1. Dear Christ, uplifted from the earth,
your arms stretched out above
through every culture, every birth,
to draw an answering love.**
- 2. Still east and west your love extends
and always, near and far,
you call and claim us as your friends
and love us as we are.**
- 3. Where age and gender, class and race,
divide us to our shame,
you see a person and a face,
a neighbour with a name.**
- 4. May we, accepted as we are,
yet called in grace to grow,
reach out to others, near and far,
your healing love to show.**

Blessed be God,
by whose grace creation is renewed,
by whose love heaven is opened,
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.
Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross
and rising to new life,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin,
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

And now we give you thanks
because by the Holy Spirit you lead us into all truth,
and give us power to proclaim your gospel to the
nations and to serve you as a royal priesthood.

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.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Merciful God, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice

for the sins of the whole world.
Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:
**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are confident 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.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

As this broken bread was once many grains
which have been gathered together and made one
bread:

**so may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for
you, preserve your body and soul to everlasting life.
Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for
you, and feed on him in your heart by faith with
thanksgiving. **Amen.**

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for
you, preserve your body and soul to everlasting life.
Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed
for you, and be thankful. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for feeding us
with the spiritual food of the body and blood
of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Thank you for assuring us of your goodness and love,
and that we are living members of Christ's body.

Father,
**we offer ourselves to you
as a living sacrifice
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

Hymn: We shall go out with hope of resurrection
by The Rev Prof June Boyce-Tillman MBE
tune: Londonderry Air
© 1993 Stainer & Bell Ltd, CCL No 632290

1. We shall go out
with hope of resurrection;
we shall go out,
from strength to strength go on;
we shall go out
and tell our stories boldly;
tales of a love
that will not let us go.
We'll sing our songs
of wrongs that can be righted;
we'll dream our dream
of hurts that can be healed;
we'll weave a cloth
of all the world united
within the vision of new life who sets us free.
2. We'll give a voice
to those who have not spoken;
we'll find the words
for those whose lips are sealed;
we'll make the tunes
for those who sing no longer,
expressive love
alive in every heart.
We'll share our joy
with those who are still weeping,
raise hymns of strength
for hearts that break in grief,
we'll leap and dance
the resurrection story
including all in circles of our love.

June Boyce-Tillman has a fascinating biography which can be found on her website: juneboycetillman.wordpress.com

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

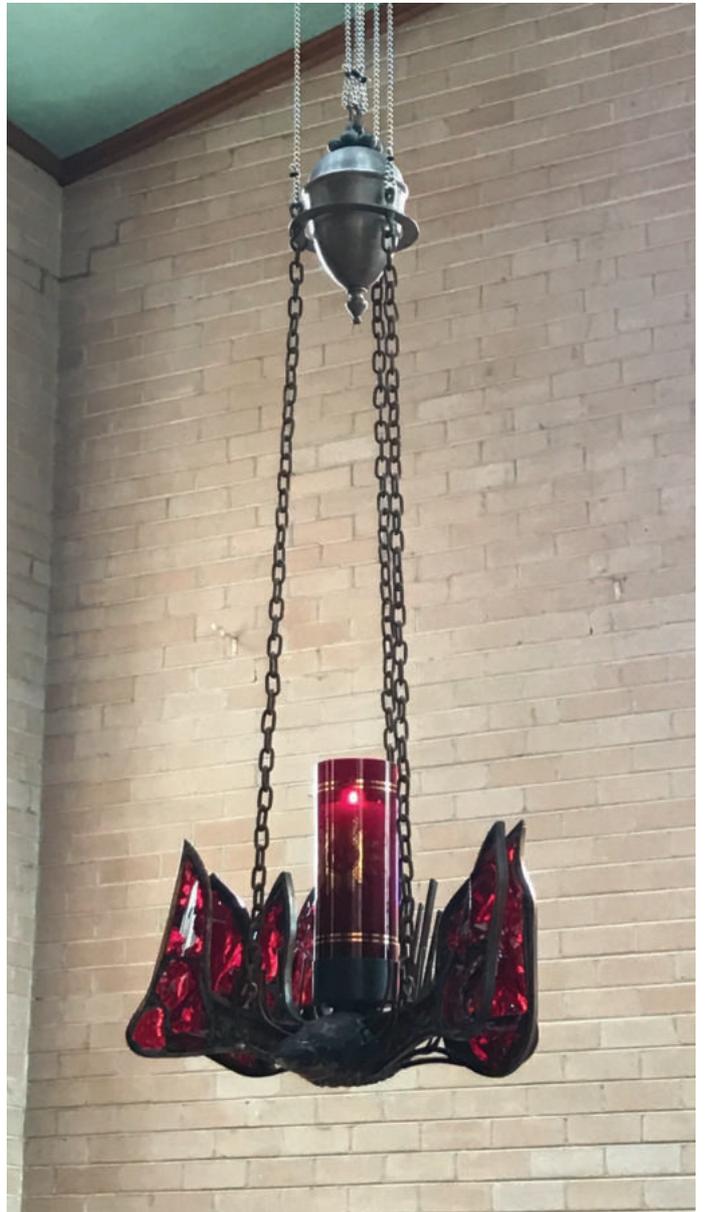
The Father, whose glory fills the heavens,
cleanse you by his holiness
and send you to proclaim his word. **Amen.**

The Son, who has ascended to the heights,
pour upon you the riches of his grace. **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit, the Comforter,
equip you and strengthen you in your ministry. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and those whom you love and pray for,
now and always. **Amen.**

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



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NOTICES

Pentecost season: All parishioners are invited to participate in a seven week course, working through stories from the Book of Acts, as we explore the 5 Marks of Mission of the Anglican Communion, through the ABM Bible Study book: *Where do we go from here?*

Everyone is encouraged to participate. The booklet has been distributed, and the Sunday readings and sermons are fitting in directly with the Bible Study course. If you haven't yet received your copy, please contact Fr John directly, and he will ensure you receive one.

Note that a parishioner has covered the \$9 cost (with postage) for every parish household to receive a copy. The best payment you can make is to read through it, because we will be referring to the contents in the months ahead.

Thanks to Helen D and Stephen: who are cleaning the wooden floors in the church space and recoating them with a tung oil/polyurathane mix.

The sanctuary lamp: has been rehung above the altar after being cleaned and the broken winding chains replaced.

The Mission Action Team - has met again to discern which demographic group we as a parish should first intentionally 'come alongside'. We have made good progress in this regard, and now need divine confirmation - so please pray that the team may receive this ahead of our 8 July meeting.




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- A superb rare development opportunity in the heart of Mooroolbark double block allotment approx 1,738 sqm High Density Zoned land now available. Mooroolbark shops Train station Chirside park shopping centre good schools. Potential development opportunity build either multiple units or DD08-compliant apartments (STCA) or lease out till ready to develop.



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Our bequeathed **Mooroolbark property** is being advertised for sale. Please pray for a quick sale with a generous offer!

The Parish Website: our website is regularly updated with the latest news as well as orders of services and transcripts & recordings of sermons, however we are in need of more pictures. We are particularly interested in photographs of significant and memorable moments in the life of our parish over its 60+ year history. Please contact us if you can help.

Offertory: Thank you to all those who are managing to send their offertories to the Parish Office, or directly into the parish bank account:

•'St John's - general account'
BSB: 033044
Account: 251582