

Ministers' Conference 2024

Worship

Thursday 21 November, 11.15am

Closing Worship

Holy Communion

Bishop Debbie is leading the service The Dean, Very Revd Chris Dalliston, is our preacher

Gathering

Please stand as you are able when the music begins

Come, people of the risen King,
Who delight to bring Him praise.
Come, all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him,
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice, O Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun And those weeping through the night.

Come, those who tell of battles won,
And those struggling in the fight.

For His perfect love will never change,
And His mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days

With the certain hope of peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice, O Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come, young and old from every land,
Men and women of the faith.
Come, those with full or empty hands,
Find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing,
Shore to shore we hear them call
The Truth that cries through every age;
'Our God is all in all'.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice, O Church of Christ, rejoice!

Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend © 2007 Thankyou Music

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you and also with you.

Sit for words of introduction

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.

Prayers of Penitence

What God has prepared for those who love him, he has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything.

Therefore, let us in penitence open our hearts to the Lord, who has prepared good things for those who love him.

We return to the Lord and say:

Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us;

deliver us from judgement; bind up our wounds and revive us; in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.

Stand

Gloria in Excelsis





The Conference Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament reading

Acts 2:1-12

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

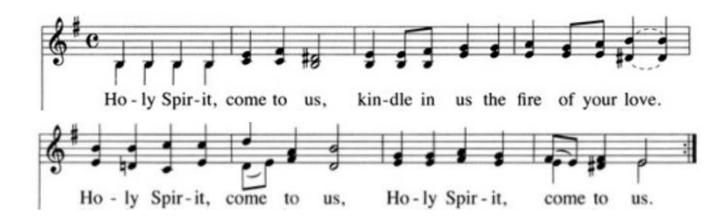
Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Refrain

Holy spirit, come to us
Kindle in us the fire of your love
Holy Spirit, come to us
Holy Spirit, come to us (rpt)



Jesus said: "I given you a new commandment: Love one another as I have loved you. It is by your love for one another that everyone will know that you are my disciples."

Holy spirit, come to us
Kindle in us the fire of your love
Holy Spirit, come to us
Holy Spirit, come to us

We know we love by this, that Christ laid down his life for us. This is love: it is not we who have loved God, but God who loved us.

Holy spirit, come to us

Kindle in us the fire of your love

Holy Spirit, come to us

Holy Spirit, come to us

Jacques Berthier (1923-1994) © 1979 Les Presses de Taizé Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke Glory to you, O Lord

Luke 24:28-35

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Intercessions

Led by Ali Wagner & Sarah-Jane Major

The response is

Lord, set our hearts on fire

With love for you

The Peace

To crown all things there must be love,

To bind all together and complete the whole.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

Hymn

Here we sing our great thanksgiving,

Tell again God's tale of love:

Sin undone, for Christ's self-giving

Breathes forgiveness from above,

Here we make our humble offering:

All we have, yet more we owe;

So the heavenly celebration

Finds an echo here below.

Here we take the bread from heaven,
Broken, torn, the crumbs we share;
Here we drink the living fountain,
Quench our thirst, our souls repair.
Here recall Christ's loving passion,
Arms spread wide, he bore our pain;
Suffering servant, scorned Messiah,

God's own loss has bought our gain.

Here Christ's love is shared among us,

All are welcomed, none left out.

Here God's reconciling Spirit

Brings an end to fear and doubt.

Let our hands be made for healing,

May our tongues speak words of peace;

Let God's justice rule for ever,

And his righteousness increase.

Here may we receive our mission,
Here accept your gracious call.

Speak again your great commission:
Show the Way of Life to all.

Send us, Lord, to live your gospel,
Christ's new body let us be.
Then at last around your table,
All may feast eternally.

Text © All Barrett (b. 1975), tune: Abbot's Leigh

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

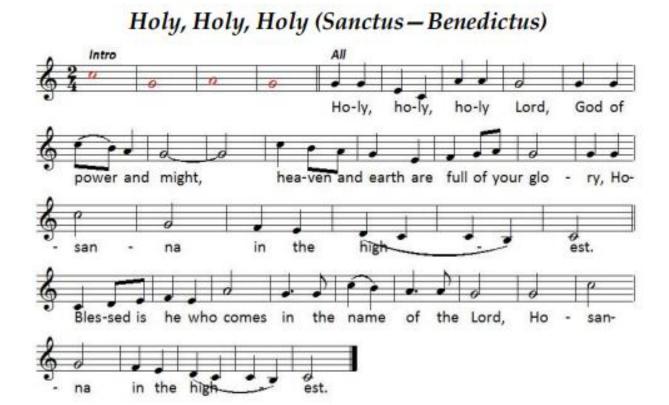
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy
that we should always sing of your glory,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
For you are the hope of the nations,
the builder of the city that is to come.
Your love made visible in Jesus Christ
brings home the lost, restores the sinner
and gives dignity to the despised.
In his face your light shines out,
flooding lives with goodness and truth,
gathering into one kingdom a divided and broken humanity.
Therefore with all who can give voice in your creation
we glorify your name for ever praising you and singing:



Lord God, you are the most holy one, enthroned in splendour and light, yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ you reveal the power of your love made perfect in our human weakness.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

Embracing our humanity,

Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
loving us to the end,
he gave himself to death for us;
dying for his own,
he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

On the night he gave up himself for us all he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant

which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross, we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb, we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high and we long for his coming in glory.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption, Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; form us into the likeness of Christ and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Look with favour on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.
Bless the earth, heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free
and fill your Church with power from on high.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast with all your saints at the table in your kingdom, where the new creation is brought to perfection in Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen**

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.

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

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy,

Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

Please come forward to receive communion as you are directed.

Gluten free wafers are available.

Communion Anthem

Come down, O Love divine, seek thou this soul of mine, and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear, and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Text: Biano da Siena (c.1350-1434), transl. Richard Litteldale (1867) Music: William H. Harris (1883-1973) © Novello & Company Ltd 1965

Communion Refrain

Father we adore you

Lay our lives before you

How we love you.

Jesus we adore you...

Spirit we adore you...

Terry Coelho © 1972 Maranatha Music

Prayers after Communion

Conference Prayer

Loving and challenging God,
our hearts burn within us when we meet you on the road:
help us to keep the flame of your presence alight in the world,
and resource us for the journey of ministry,
that we may serve your people with joy and hope
as we work together for your kingdom on earth;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

Amen.

Father of all,
we give you 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.

The Dismissal

Hymn

Light of the minds that know him,
may Christ be light to mine!
my sun in risen splendour,
my light of truth divine;
my guide in doubt and darkness,
my true and living way,
my clear light ever shining,
my dawn of heaven's day.

Life of the souls that love him, may Christ be ours indeed! the living bread from heaven on whom our spirits feed; who died for love of sinners to bear our guilty load, and make of life's brief journey a new Emmaus road.

Strength of the wills that serve him, may Christ be strength to me, who stilled the storm and tempest, who calmed the tossing sea; his Spirit's power to move me, his will to master mine, his cross to carry daily and conquer in his sign.

May it be ours to know him that we may truly love, and loving, fully serve him as serve the saints above; till in that home of glory with fadeless splendour bright, we serve in perfect freedom our strength, our life, our light.

Text: St Augustine (354-430), paraphrased T. Dudley Smith © 1984 Hope Publishing Company Tune: Aurelia

A Blessing from Bishop Stopford School (year 13 student)

The love, mercy and grace of God, who sent his Son to die for us, fill your hearts today and teach you how to love others more and more; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

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

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