

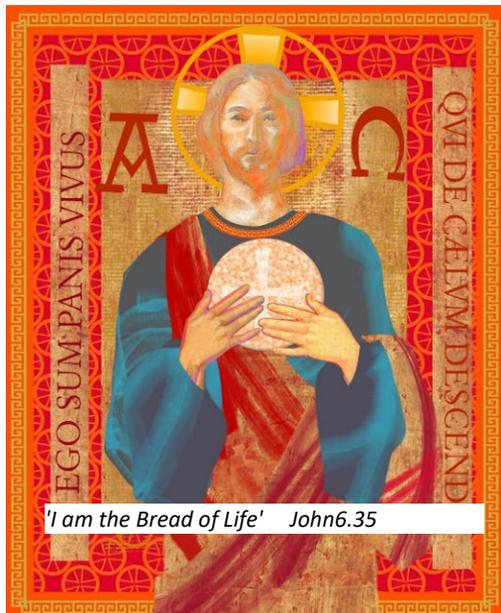
# The Holy Communion

## Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st August, 2021

### GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn* Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts



1. Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts,  
thou fount of life, thou light of  
men,  
from the best bliss that earth  
imparts  
we turn unfilled to thee again.

2 Thy truth unchanged hath ever  
stood,  
thou savest those that on thee call;  
to them that seek thee, thou art  
good,  
to them that find thee, all in all.

3 We taste thee, O thou living  
bread,  
and long to feast upon thee still;  
we drink of thee, the fountainhead,  
and thirst our souls from thee to  
fill.

4. Our restless spirits yearn for  
thee,  
where'er our changeful lot is cast,  
glad when thy gracious smile we  
see,  
blest when our faith can hold thee  
fast.

5. O Jesus, ever with us stay,  
make all our moments calm and  
bright;  
chase the dark night of sin away,  
shed o'er the world thy holy light.

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*Sentence* Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. *Isaiah 55.2*

**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.**

Lord Jesus, you wept over the sins of your city.

On our nation: Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division, jealousy and bitterness.

On us: Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you bring pardon and peace to the sinner.

Grant us peace: 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.**

**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.**

*The Collect of the Day*

Living God, whose Son Jesus fed the hungry  
with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness sustain us with your true and living bread,  
Jesus Christ our Lord;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

*(Silence may follow each reading.)*

**First Reading**     2 Samuel *(2 Samuel 11.26-12.13a)*

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son. and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, 'There were two men in a certain city, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meagre fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveller to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.' Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, 'As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because

he did this thing, and because he had no pity.' Nathan said to David, 'You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the Lord: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbour, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.' David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the Lord.' Nathan said to David, 'Now the Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die.

Hear the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 51** (*vs 1-12*)

1 Have mercy on me, O God, in your enduring goodness:  
according to the fulness of your compassion  
blot out my offences.

**2 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness:  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

3 For I acknowledge my rebellion:  
and my sin is ever before me.

**4 Against you only have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your eyes:  
so you will be just in your sentence  
and blameless in your judging.**

5 Surely in wickedness I was brought to birth:  
and in sin my mother conceived me.

**6 You that desire truth in the inward parts:  
O teach me wisdom in the secret places of the heart.**

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean:  
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**8 Make me hear of joy and gladness:  
let the bones which you have broken rejoice.**

9 Hide your face from my sins:  
and blot out all my iniquities.

**10 Create in me a clean heart, O God:**

**and renew a right spirit within me.**

11 Do not cast me out from your presence:  
do not take your holy spirit from me.

**12 O give me the gladness of your help again:  
and support me with a willing spirit.**

**Second Reading** Ephesians (*Ephesians 4.1-16*)

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, 'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.' (When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Hear the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*(Stand for the Gospel)*

**The Gospel Reading**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (*6.24-35*)

**Glorify to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi,

when did you come here?’ Jesus answered them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.’ Then they said to him, ‘What must we do to perform the works of God?’ Jesus answered them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.’ So they said to him, ‘What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, “He gave them bread from heaven to eat.”’ Then Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.’ They said to him, ‘Sir, give us this bread always.’ Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

*After the Gospel, the reader says*

This is the Gospel of the Lord,  
**praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*The Sermon*

*Silence may follow.*

*(Stand for the Creed)*

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**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 of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**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.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*(Sit or kneel for the prayers)*

*The minister says*

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

*After each prayer*

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The prayers conclude with this 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

We are the body of Christ.

**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

THE OFFERTORY

*Hymn* I am the bread of life

1. 'I am the Bread of life.  
Those who come to me shall  
not hunger;  
those who believe in me shall  
not thirst.  
No one can come to me  
unless the Father draws them.

*'And I will raise them up,  
and I will raise them up,  
and I will raise them up  
at the last day.'*

2. 'The bread that I will give  
my flesh for the life of the  
world,  
and those who eat this bread

they shall live for ever,  
they shall live for ever.

*Refrain*

3. 'Unless you eat  
of the flesh of the Son of Man  
and drink of his blood,  
and drink of his blood,  
you shall not have life within  
you. *Refrain*

'I am the Resurrection,  
I am the life.  
those who believe in me;  
even though they die  
they shall live for ever. *Refrain*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all  
creation:

through your goodness we have  
this bread to set before you,  
which earth has given and human  
hands have made.

It will become for us the bread of  
life.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all  
creation:

through your goodness we have  
this wine to set before you,  
fruit of the vine and work of  
human hands.

It will become for us the cup of  
salvation.

**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 thanks and praise, glory and honour,  
be yours at all times, in every place,  
holy and loving Father, true and living God.

We praise you that through your eternal Word  
you brought the universe into being  
and made us in your own image.

You have given us this earth to care for and delight in,  
and with its bounty you preserve our life.

We thank you that you bound yourself to the human race  
with the promises of a gracious covenant  
and called us to serve you in love and peace.

Above all, we give you thanks for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ:

born as one of us, he lived our common life  
and offered his life to you in perfect obedience and trust.  
By his death he delivered us from sin, brought us new life,  
and reconciled us to you and to one another.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
with apostles, and prophets,  
with holy men and women of every age,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name:

**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.**

Holy God, we thank you

for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine,  
and we pray that we who eat and drink them

in obedience to our Saviour Christ,

by the power of the Holy Spirit,

may be partakers of his body and blood,

and be made one with him and with each other  
in peace and love.

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*

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,  
until you come in glory.**

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.

As we eat and drink this holy sacrament,  
renew us by your Spirit  
that we may be united in the body of your Son  
and serve you as a royal priesthood  
in the joy of your eternal kingdom.  
Receive our praises, Father,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
with whom and in whom,  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you 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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body,  
**for we all share in the one bread.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us your peace.**

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life.

**Amen.**

#### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord of all mercy,  
we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice  
which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace:  
by our communion  
keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel

and preserve us from all sin;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

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 in this hope that we have grasped;  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name.**

*Stand for the Blessing*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:

**In the name of Christ. Amen**

*Hymn T687*      God gives us a future

God gives us a future, daring us to  
go  
into dreams and dangers on a path  
unknown.

We will face tomorrow in the  
Spirit's power,  
we will let God change us,  
for new life starts now.

We must leave behind us sins of  
yesterday,  
for God's new beginning is a better  
way.

Fear and doubt and habit must not  
hold us back:  
God gives hope, and insight,  
and the strength we lack.

Holy Spirit, teach us how to read the signs,  
how to meet the challenge of our troubled times.  
Love us into action, stir us into prayer,  
till we choose God's life,  
and find our future there.