

# Welcome to St John's

## Holy Communion for Easter 5

15th May 2022

- You are most welcome to this service of Holy Communion.
- The service is led by **Revd Steve Butler**.
- Everyone is welcome to receive the sacrament.
- At present we are continuing to receive communion 'in one kind', that is, only the communion wafer (the celebrant will receive the wine on behalf of all). To receive, please come forward to the altar step at the words of invitation, and follow the 'one way system'.
- There are hand sanitiser stations should you wish to use them. The use of face-coverings is not now required, but please continue their use if you prefer to.



Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## Opening Hymn

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
does his successive journeys run;  
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,  
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. People and realms of ev'ry tongue  
dwell on his love with sweetest song,  
and infant voices shall proclaim  
their early blessings on his name.
3. Blessings abound where'er he reigns:  
the pris'ners leap to lose their chains;  
the weary find eternal rest,  
and all the humble poor are blest.
4. To him shall endless prayer be made,  
and praises throng to crown his head;  
his name like incense shall arise  
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.
5. Let ev'ry creature rise and bring  
peculiar honours to our King;  
angels descend with songs again,  
and earth repeat the loud amen.

## 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.**

## Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

"Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength."

The second is this:

"Love your neighbour as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.

**Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

## Confession

God is love and we are God's children.

There is no room for fear in love.

We love because God loved us first.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

(Silence)

**God our Father, we confess to you  
and to our fellow members in the  
Body of Christ that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed, and in  
what we have failed to do.**

**We are truly sorry.**

**Forgive us our sins, and deliver us  
from the power of evil, for the sake  
of your Son who died for us, Jesus  
Christ, our Lord.**

God, who is both power and love,  
forgive us and free us from our sins,  
heal and strengthen us by the Holy  
Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ  
our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Gloria** (Sung)

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Gloria, Gloria, Aleluia, Alleluia (Taize)

## **Collect** (Easter 5)

**Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ  
is the way, the truth, and the life.**

**Give us grace to love one another  
and walk in the way of his  
commandments, who lives and  
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## **Psalm** (We pause at the asterisk)

### **Psalm 148**

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord from the heavens; \*  
praise him in the heights.

**2 Praise him, all you angels of his; \*  
praise him, all his host.**

3 Praise him, sun and moon; \*  
praise him, all you shining stars.

**4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, \*  
and you waters above the heavens.**

5 Let them praise the name of the  
Lord; \*

for he commanded, and they were  
created.

**6 He made them stand fast for ever  
and ever; \*  
he gave them a law which shall not  
pass away.**

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, \*  
you sea-monsters and all deeps;

**8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, \*  
tempestuous wind, doing his will;**

9 Mountains and all hills, \*  
fruit trees and all cedars;

**10 Wild beasts and all cattle, \*  
creeping things and winged birds;**

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, \*  
princes and all rulers of the world;

**12 Young men and maidens, \*  
old and young together.**

13 Let them praise the name of the  
Lord, \*

for his name only is exalted,  
His splendour is over earth and  
heaven.

**14 He has raised up strength for his  
people and praise for all his loyal  
servants, \*  
the children of Israel, a people who  
are near him. Hallelujah!**

**Glory to God, Source of all being,  
Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now,  
And shall be forever. Amen**

## Readings

### **Acts 11:1-18**

11:1 Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. 11:2 So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, 11:3 saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" 11:4 Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 11:5 "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. 11:6 As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. 11:7 I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' 11:8 But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' 11:9 But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' 11:10 This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. 11:11 At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. 11:12 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. 11:13 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; 11:14 he will give you a

message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' 11:15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. 11:16 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.' 11:17 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?" 11:18 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."

### **Revelation 21:1-6**

21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 21:2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 21:3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; 21:4 he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." 21:5 And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." 21:6 Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

## Gospel

(When the reading is announced, we say)  
**Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

### John 13:31-35

13:31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 13:32 If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 13:33 Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' 13:34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 13:35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

(At the end)

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.  
**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

## Reflection

Steve

## Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father  
almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only  
Son, our Lord, who was conceived  
by the Holy Spirit, born of the  
Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the  
Father, and he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## The Prayers

(Prayer is offered: for the world and its people, for those who suffer and those in need, for the Church and its members)

## The Peace

We meet in Christ's name.

**Let us share his peace.**

(We offer one another a word of peace)

## Offering Song

As a fire is meant for burning  
with a bright and warming flame,  
so the church is meant for mission,  
giving glory to God's name.  
Not to preach our creeds or customs,  
but to build a bridge of care,  
we join hands across the nations,  
finding neighbours everywhere.

We are learners;  
we are teachers;  
we are pilgrims on the way.  
We are seekers; we are givers;  
we are vessels made of clay.  
By our gentle, loving actions,  
we would show that Christ is light.  
In a humble, listening Spirit,  
we would live to God's delight.

As a green bud in the springtime  
is a sign of life renewed,

so may we be signs of oneness  
 'mid earth's peoples, many hued.  
 As a rainbow lights the heavens  
 when a storm is past and gone,  
 may our lives reflect the radiance  
 of God's new and glorious dawn.

## Liturgy of the Sacrament

Let us present our offerings to the Lord.

**Yours Lord is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you and of your own we give you.**

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 God thanks and praise.**

Worship and praise belong to you,  
 Author of all being.

Your power sustains, your love  
 restores, our broken world.

You are unceasingly at work,  
 from chaos bringing order  
 and filling emptiness with life.

Christ, raised from the dead,  
 proclaims the dawn of hope.

He lives in us that we may walk in  
 light.

Your Spirit is fire in us,

your breath is power

to purge our sin

and warm our hearts to love.

As children of your redeeming  
 purpose,

freed by him who burst from the  
 tomb and opened the gate of life,

we offer you our praise,  
 with angels and archangels  
 and the whole company of heaven,  
 singing the hymn of your unending  
 glory:

(Sung)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord**

**God of power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your  
 glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he, O blessed is he**

**who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

(Please feel free to sit)

Praise and thanksgiving be to you,  
 Lord of all, for by the Cross eternal life  
 is ours and death is swallowed up in  
 victory. In the first light of Easter glory  
 broke from the tomb and changed the  
 women's sorrow into joy. From the  
 Garden the mystery shone clear that  
 he whom they had loved and lost is  
 with us now in every place for ever.

Making himself known in the breaking  
 of the bread, speaking peace to the  
 fearful disciples, greeting fishermen  
 on the shore, he renewed the promise  
 of his presence and of new birth in  
 the Spirit who sets the seal of  
 freedom on your sons and daughters.

Before he was given up to suffering  
 and death, recalling the night of  
 Israel's release, the night in which  
 slaves walked free, at supper with his  
 disciples he took bread and offered  
 you thanks.

He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

**We now obey your Son's command.**

**We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by your Spirit's life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

**Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles, and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end.

**Amen.**

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.

**Lord, unite us in this sign.**

As our Saviour has 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.  
Do not bring us  
to the time of trial  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

**Lamb of God, you take away  
the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away  
the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away  
the sins of the world:  
grant us peace.**

## **The Communion**

(All are invited to receive, standing at the front of the altar rail)

## Thanksgiving

Give thanks to our gracious God,  
**whose mercy endures for ever.**

**God of love, in this eucharist we  
 have heard your truth and shared in  
 your life. May we always walk in  
 your way, in the name of Jesus Christ  
 the Lord. Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

1. Glorious things of thee are spoken,  
 Zion, city of our God;  
 he whose word cannot be broken  
 formed thee for his own abode.  
 On the Rock of Ages founded,  
 what can shake thy sure repose?  
 With salvation's walls surrounded,  
 thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
2. See, the streams of living waters,  
 springing from eternal love,  
 well supply thy sons and daughters,  
 and all fear of want remove.  
 Who can faint while such a river  
 ever flows and thirsts assuage?  
 Grace which, like the Lord, the  
 giver,  
 never fails from age to age.
3. Round each habitation hov'ring,  
 see the cloud and fire appear  
 for a glory and a cov'ring,  
 showing that the Lord is near.  
 Thus they march, the pillar leading,  
 light by night and shade by day;  
 daily on the manna feeding  
 which he gives them when they  
 pray.
4. Saviour, if of Zion's city  
 I through grace a member am,  
 let the world deride or pity,

I will glory in thy name.  
 Fading is the worldling's pleasure,  
 boasted pomp and empty show;  
 solid joys and lasting treasure  
 none but Zion's children know.

## Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again  
 from the dead our Lord Jesus, that  
 great shepherd of the sheep, through  
 the blood of the eternal covenant,  
 make you perfect in every good work  
 to do his will, working in you that  
 which is well-pleasing in his sight; and  
 the blessing of God almighty, the  
 Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be  
 among you and remain with you  
 always. **Amen.**

## Sending Out

Go in peace to love and serve the  
 Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## Notices

### From Jane - **The East Neuk of Fife Preservation Society**

..is celebrating its 60th anniversary with a Jubilee Party in the Dreel Halls on Saturday 21 May from 4-6pm. There will be drinks, a finger buffet, renaissance music, and a talk on the restoration/conversion of the Halls plus a tour that includes the tower. Cost £10 per head. Non members are most welcome. Please contact Jane if you would like more details - jtforbes99@gmail.com or 07766 340917

### **St John's is open**

From Jane - The doors of St John's have been open every day for the last two weeks from approx 10am - 5pm and it has been most heartening to see locals and visitors popping in to enjoy the stillness of our beautiful church. Please do take the chance to go in yourselves whenever you are passing and spread the word that we are open for anyone to visit.

### **Inspires Online**

From David A - Inspires Online is the free e-newsletter from the Scottish Episcopal Church. You can download it from the Provincial website - where you can also sign up to receive it by email. <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/who-we-are/publications/inspires/>  
The latest edition includes articles about 'Homes for Ukraine': a guide for faith groups; Diocesan Synods round-up; 'Just and unjust war'; and Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Talk.

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