



THE ABBEY CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS PERSHORE

SUNDAY 9th May 2021

Wholeness and Healing

The all-important aim in Christian healing is to allow God's mysterious and silent presence within us to become more and more not only a reality, but the reality in our lives which gives meaning, shape and purpose to everything we do, to everything we are.

Welcome and Introduction

We worship together in the name of God

Who knows each of us by name

We worship together in the name of Christ

Whose touch brought healing for forgotten people

We worship together in the name of the Holy Spirit

Who has promised to stay with us, to sustain and restore us.

Prayers of Penitence:

Jesus said, *'Come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.'*

Let us accept His invitation as we turn to him in prayer:

You know us, Lord, we do not have to pretend with you.

**In the silence of your love, we bring you all the things that trouble us,
that harm us, that make us feel ashamed or afraid.**

Silence

Lord, have mercy on us **Christ, have mercy on us** Lord, have mercy on us

God of compassion, you know us inside out, yet you love us; you know the worst in us and the best in us. May your deep love drown all our failings, may your tears wash away our sin; may your living water well up in us and renew our spirit. As we are forgiven so may we forgive others and reach out to be reconciled in your love. In the power of your Holy Spirit and in the name of Jesus. Amen

Hymn

(tune: Here I am)

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord, is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

2.I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

3.I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts are satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

(Dan Schutte)

Liturgy of the Word

A Reading from Psalm 30 : 4-12

Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name. For his anger is but for a moment, his favour is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes in the morning. As for me, I said in my prosperity, 'I shall never be moved.' By your favour, O Lord, you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed. To you, O Lord, I cried, and to the Lord I made supplication: 'What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness? Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me. O Lord, be my helper!' You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you for ever.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

A Reading from Acts 20 : 7-12

On the first day of the week, when we met to break bread, Paul was holding a discussion with the disciples in Troas. Since he intended to leave the next day, he continued speaking until midnight. There were many lamps in the room upstairs where we were meeting. A young man named Eutychus, who was sitting on the window, began to sink into a deep sleep while Paul talked still longer. Overcome by sleep he fell to the ground three floors below and was picked up dead. But Paul went down, and bending over him took him in his arms and said, 'Do not be alarmed, for his life is in him.' Then Paul went upstairs and after he had broken bread and eaten, he continued to converse with them until dawn; then he left. Meanwhile they had taken the boy away alive and were not a little comforted.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hymn

(William Chatterton Dix 1837-98)

1. Alleluia, sing to Jesus,
his the sceptre, his the throne;
alleluia, his the triumph,
his the victory alone:
hark the songs of peaceful Sion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus, out of every nation,
hath redeemed us by his blood.

2. Alleluia, not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
alleluia, he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how;
though the cloud from sight received him
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?

3. Alleluia, bread of angels,
here on earth our food, our stay:
alleluia, here the sinful
come to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

4. Alleluia, King eternal,
he the Lord of lords we own;
alleluia, born of Mary,
earth his footstool, heav'n his throne;
he within the veil has entered
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
he on earth both priest and victim
in the Eucharistic Feast.

(Rowland Huw Pritchard -
arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams)

Litany of Healing

Giving thanks for any healing we or others have received strengthens everyone's faith and hope:

Loving God, we give you thanks for health restored and prayers answered.

Praise to you, O Christ.

And now we turn to God in prayer for all those ongoing situations:

God of compassion and love, we offer you all our suffering and pain. Give us strength to bear our weakness; healing even when there is no cure; peace in the midst of turmoil and love to fill the spaces in our lives.

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those who suffer pain and ill-health, with their families, friends and those who care for them:

May they know the deep peace of Christ

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those who suffer in mind and spirit and all those who care for them:

May they know the deep peace of Christ

Loving God, we hold in your presence the suffering people of the world and the places where people are experiencing division, injustice and violence:

May they know the deep peace of Christ

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those struggling to overcome abuse or addiction, those supporting and working with them, and all whose suffering has distanced them from those they love:

May they know the deep peace of Christ

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those facing bereavement and we also pray for those who have died:

May they know the deep peace of Christ

We pray for all those known to us who have asked for our prayers:

Lord, you know the needs of each one of us, our strengths and our weaknesses, our hopes and disappointments. We commend to your loving care all those we now name in our hearts and who have asked for our prayers. Guard them as the apple of your eye, hide them under the shadow of your wings. Show them your merciful love, in health or in sickness, in life or in death. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen

Almighty and most merciful God, Father of all creation, we offer up our prayers to you at this time of uncertainty and we ask that your will be done here on earth. We give you thanks in the sure and certain hope that you will never leave us or forsake us. We lift to you all who are weary, all who are hungry, all who are oppressed, all who are excluded, all who are suffering in mind, body or spirit – may your love surround and protect them and may they know your peace. Amen

Hymn

(Jacques Berthier 1923-1994)

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

(repeat 3 more times)

The Thanksgiving

For loving the world and knowing our names, thank you, God
For your strength that fills us and your love that heals us, thank you, God
For your presence here with us now and for your hand
that leads us into tomorrow, thank you, God
Come bless us, hold us, wrestle with us, warm us in your embrace,
for we are your people and you are our justice and joy. Amen

Hymn

(tune:Wurttemberg)

1.Christ the Lord is risen again, alleluia.
Christ hath broken every chain, alleluia.
Hark angelic voices cry, alleluia,
singing evermore on high, alleluia.

2.He who bore all pain and loss, alleluia,
comfortless upon the cross, alleluia.
Lives in glory now on high, alleluia,
pleads for us and hears our cry, alleluia.

3.He who slumbered in the grave, alleluia,
is exalted now to save, alleluia.
now through Christendom it rings, alleluia,
that the Lamb is King of kings, alleluia.

Now he bids us tell abroad, alleluia,
How the lost may be restored, alleluia,
how the penitent forgiven, alleluia,
how we too may enter heaven, alleluia.

(Michael Weiss c.1480-1534)

The Blessing

God of compassion, we bring to you our grieving:
bless us with your healing love.

God of wisdom, we bring to you our learning:
bless us with the energy of change.

God of new beginnings, we bring to you our future;
bless us with your vision of eternal life.

And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be with us now and forever.

Let us go out into the world in the joy and peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.