



## **Holy Communion for the Easter Season**

**with Admission to Communion for  
Lewis, Savannah, Henry, Harry, Abigail,  
Anna and Heidi**

**and Farewell to Gemma, Julian and the  
girls**

## Welcome to St John's

### Following the Service

Everything you will need for today will be in this booklet and the hymn book. Words printed in **bold** type are said by all.

If we can be of any assistance with any particular requirements please let us know.

### Receiving Communion

This is an open table and all who love Jesus are welcome to receive here today. We have gluten free wafers if you would prefer. Children are invited to receive a blessing (and a chocolate heart, a reminder of how much God loves them). If it's not your custom to receive Communion, we would love to pray God's blessing upon you too, please come forward holding your service book as a sign.

### Children at St John's

**"Whoever welcomes this child in my name welcomes me" Luke 9:48"**

Jesus loved children and so do we and they are always welcome here at St John's. We know that God put the wiggle in them so please don't worry if they move around or make a bit of noise. They will learn how to worship by copying you so help them take part in the service if they are big enough. We have the Children's Chapel at the front of church on the left for them to explore too.

**May God, the Son, be ever with you and guide you.**

May God, the Son, be ever with you and guide you.

**May God, the Holy Spirit, equip you with everything good to do God's will.**

May God, the Holy Spirit, equip you with everything good to do God's will.

**And may you always know God's peace.**

Amen!

**Final Song: The Peace**

You have provided leadership and guidance for us in the spirit of Christ. You have challenged us with the Gospel mission in your work. You have helped us to mark our direction and encouraged us on our way. Together we have served the Lord and his Church in common devotion to the Gospel. Sharing in our joys and sorrows, you have been important to us in our life together in the Church of Jesus Christ.

*Gemma addresses the congregation.*

People of God, my friends, you called me to serve in this place, and now God has seen fit to lead me to another stage in my life and service. I praise God for the time which we have shared together. I have known your love and your patience. You have ministered to me as I have ministered to you. You have been my teacher as I have been yours. You have forgiven me as I have forgiven you. Hand-in-hand, we have walked in the light of Christ, and we have grown together in the Gospel. Our lives have been intertwined by the Holy Spirit, and I will not forget you.

### **Prayers for Gemma, Julian and the girls**

*Gemma addresses the congregation.*

Scripture tells us that endings are only new beginnings. Therefore, let us go forth, doing God's will in our respective places, in the name of Jesus.

**Go now, and do God's will. As you have been a blessing to us, go to be a blessing to others.**

As you have been a blessing to me, so also may you be a blessing to others.

**Witness faithfully in word and deed to the love and salvation that is known to us.**

Strive for righteousness, godliness, faithfulness, love, endurance, and gentleness among yourselves.

**May God, the Father, bless you as you move from here**  
May God, the Father, bless you in your ministry in this place.

## **Holy Communion**

*The service will start with a welcome from one of our Wardens. The Ministry team will process in during the first song*

### **First Song: All Are Welcome**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:  
**he has given us new life and hope  
by raising Jesus from the dead.**

God has claimed us as his own:  
**He has made us light to the world.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**Welcome**

*We pray together*

**Heavenly Father we come together to praise you  
We come to hear your word, to meet with you in Holy  
Communion.  
We come to pray for the world that you have given to us  
and to be sent out into it to serve you  
We pray that your Holy Spirit will fill our hearts with love Amen**

**Saying Sorry**  
(please sit or kneel)

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden,  
to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

*time of quiet*

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart.

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

### **We Hear That We Are Forgiven**

May the Father forgive you  
by the death of his Son  
and strengthen you  
to live in the power of the Spirit  
all your days. **Amen.**

### **Peruvian Gloria**

*We sign the Gloria together*

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.  
To God be glory forever.  
Alleluia, amen.  
Alleluia amen, alleluia amen**

Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to Christ Jesus...  
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit...

### **The Collect**

### **Bible Reading(s)**

### **Gospel Song: Before the Throne of God Above**

### **Gospel Reading**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to...  
**Glory to you, O Lord**

*After the reading*

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you O Christ**

### **Talk**

"For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to seek, and a time to let go"

Today Gemma is leaving us to follow another call on her life. Today, therefore, it is a time to mark the ending of her ministry here at St John's and St Luke's. It is a time to look back and a time to look forward; a time for joy, and a time for sadness. It is a time to give thanks and praise to Almighty God for the time that we have spent together.

Blessed be God.  
**And blessed be his holy name.**

The Lord makes everything beautiful in its time.  
**Whatever God does endures forever.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul.  
**And forget not all his benefits.**

Bless the Lord, all you hosts:  
**You ministers who do God's will.**

Bless the Lord, all you works, in all places of his dominion.  
**Bless the Lord, O my soul.**

For everything there is a season; a time to go, and a time to come. Yet the Spirit blows where it will. And for those who are led by the Spirit, they must follow.

Gemma has been our Priest in Charge, our co-worker in Christ, our teacher, our friend. With joy and sadness, we mark the ending of her ministry with us.

Gemma, we called you to be our Priest to proclaim God's Word, to baptize new members, to announce God's forgiveness to us, to preside at our celebrations of the Lord's Supper, and to comfort us with the Gospel in times of trial and at the death of our loved ones.

## Admission to Communion

*The young people to be admitted to Communion come to the front.*

(N) you love God, you follow Jesus and you live the Christian life.  
Do you wish to receive Holy Communion?

**Candidates: I do**

As (N) receives today the bread and wine, let us pray that we may all know and reflect the love of Christ.

**God of life you invite us to eat at your table  
may we know your love as we share your heavenly food,  
and shine with your light all the days of our life  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen**

The Candidates receive Communion first, then we follow

**After Communion we sing Broken for Me, Broken for You**

**Prayer after Communion**

**Risen Christ,  
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:  
open the doors of our hearts,  
that we may seek the good of others  
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,  
to the praise of God the Father.**

**Notices and Birthdays**

**A Liturgy of Parting**

*Suzanne and Jean address the congregation*

Friends in the book of Ecclesiastes, the Preacher writes the following verses:

## Sung Creed: We Believe

**The Prayers** (please sit)

**The Peace**

We are the body of Christ.  
By one Spirit we were baptized into one body.  
**We are all bound by the love of Jesus.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

**Offertory Song: I Will Offer Up My Life**

**The Eucharistic Prayer**

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 thanks and praise.**

Father, you made the world and love your creation.  
You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.  
His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.  
And so we gladly thank you,  
with saints and angels praising you, and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord;  
holy is the Lord God almighty.  
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord;  
holy is the Lord God almighty,  
who was, and is, and is to come.  
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord!**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

Jesus Christ is Lord  
**Lord, by your cross and resurrection  
you have set us free.  
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with Mary the mother of God, St John, St Luke and all the  
saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**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 forever.  
Amen**

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.**

### **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.**