

Holy Communion - Third Sunday of Easter

The Gathering Hymn

1. Let us build a house
Where love can dwell
And all can safely live
A place where
Saints and children tell
How hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions.
Rock of faith and vault of grace.
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions

*All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place.*

2. Let us build a house
where prophets speak
And words are strong and true
Where all God's children dare to seek
To dream God's reign anew
Here the cross shall stand as witness
And a symbol of God's grace
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus

3. Let us build a house
where love is found
In water, wine and wheat
A banquet hall on holy ground
Where peace and justice meet
Here the love of God, through Jesus
Is revealed in time and space
As we share in Christ the feast that
frees us

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Tune: TWO OAKS, 9 6 8 6
8 7 10 with refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Copyright ©
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The Greeting

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

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

Prayer of Preparation

**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.**

We are here because Jesus has called us strangers and friends, locals and visitors, believers and doubters, the certain and the curious. It is always a mixed company that Jesus gathers and invites to his table where, in bread and wine, he meets us and through him we, who are different, are joined to each other.

So come, not because you understand, but because you are understood. Come, not because of how you feel, but because God has food for you. Come, not because you deserve a place, but because Jesus invites you, just as you are.

Prayers of Penitence

In baptism we died with Christ, so that as Christ was raised from the dead, we might walk in newness of life.

Let us receive new life in him as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you feed us with the living bread.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon *you*, pardon and deliver *you* from all *your* sins, confirm and strengthen *you* in all goodness, and keep *you* in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

*Gloria, Gloria,
In excelsis Deo,
Gloria, Gloria,
In excelsis Deo.*

1. Lord God, heavenly King,
Peace you bring to us;
We worship you, we give you thanks,
We sing our song of praise. (*refrain*)

2. Jesus, Saviour of all,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away our sins, O Lord,
Have mercy on us all. (*refrain*)

3. At the Father's right hand,
Lord, receive our prayer,
For you alone are the Holy One,
And you alone are Lord. (*refrain*)

4. Glory, Father and Son,
Glory, Holy Spirit,
To you we raise our hands up high,
We glorify your name. (*refrain*)

The Collect

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word Readings

Listen for God's word coming to us in Holy Scripture

Our hearts and minds are open.

Acts 3:12-19

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made

him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

'And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.

1 John 3:1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

God be in our listening,
God in our understanding. Amen

Hymn

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Raise the Gospel over the earth!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Peace and justice bringing to birth!

1. Blessed those whose hearts are gentle.
Blessed those whose spirits are strong.
Blessed those who choose to bring forth
right where there is wrong.

2. Blessed those who work for justice.
Blessed those who answer the call.
Blessed those who dare to dream of
lasting peace for all.

3. Tremble, you who build up riches.
Tremble, you with opulent lives.
Tremble, when you meet the poor
and see Christ in their eyes.

4. Tremble, you who thirst for power.
Tremble, you who live for acclaim.
Tremble, when you find no comfort
in your wealth and fame.

5. Glory like the stars of heaven.
Glory like the sun in the sky.
Glory shines upon all people,
equal in God's eyes.

6. Glory to the Word of Justice.
Glory to the Spirit of Peace.
Glory to the God of Love whose
Blessings never cease.

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Gospel Reading

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

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon
The 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.

Prayers of Intercession
The Liturgy of the Sacrament
The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.
The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table
Hymn

1 Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

2 In the grave they laid Him, Love who had been slain,
Thinking that He never would awake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

3 Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Jesus' touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

John Macleod Campbell Crum (1872-1958)alt © 1928 OUP

Taking of the Bread and Wine
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.

We listen to the preface and at the end we sing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues until the memorial acclamation:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death,

rising you restored our life:

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues and at the end we all say:

Blessing and honour and glory and power

be yours 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

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, **we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

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 peace.

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

Living God,

your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread:

open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work;

who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen.

Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, make you perfect in every good work to do God's will; 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

With the power that raised Jesus from the dead at work within you, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia.

Song

1. Heaven's voice brings the dawn,

out of chaos is born
new creation exploding with wonder;
planets spin into space,
earth and sky find their place,
all of nature awakes to its maker.

*You say everything you've made is good:
the sun, the moon, the stars that shine above.*

*You say everything you've made is good:
the land, the seas and all that lives and breathes.*

We sing praise to the maker, to our King, our creator: praise to Almighty God. All creation together singing one hallelujah: praise to Almighty God.

2. We are formed from the dust,
with your image in us,
given life by the breath you are breathing;
called to work and to care,
called to nurture and share;
called to serve you and walk where you're leading.

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