



## Midhurst Parish Church

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021, 10:30am

# Patronal Festival Service. A Service of Holy Communion

*This order of service is for you to use as you join in with our service from home via Zoom.*

*Meeting ID: 342 119 948*

### **Preparing for the service at home**

- You may like light a candle if it is safe to do so.
- You are welcome to have some bread and wine (or other drink) ready to receive at the point of Communion.

*Today we celebrate our Patronal Festival with a special service focusing on our church and on one of our Patron Saints, Mary Magdalene. All four gospels give Mary Magdalene a unique place among Jesus' followers. Probably from Magdala by the Sea of Galilee, she is described as having been healed by Jesus before accompanying him during his ministry. Along with other faithful women, she stayed beside the cross during the crucifixion and was the first disciple to discover the empty tomb on Easter morning. She was privileged with the first appearance of the risen Lord, who sent her to take the good news of the resurrection to the other disciples. This commission earned her the title 'Apostle to the Apostles' in the early Church.*

## Greeting

The Lord be with you.

**All** and also with you.

*Notices are given and the following hymn is sung.*

**LONGING FOR LIGHT, we wait in darkness.**

**Longing for truth, we turn to you.**

**Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.**

*Refrain:* **Christ, be our light!**

**Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.**

**Christ, be our light!**

**Shine in your church gathered today.**

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled.**

**Longing for hope, many despair.**

**Your word alone has power to save us.**

**Make us your living voice.**

*Refrain.*

**Longing for food, many are hungry.**

**Longing for water, many still thirst.**

**Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.**

*Refrain.*

**Longing for shelter, many are homeless.**

**Longing for warmth, many are cold.**

**Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone.**

*Refrain.*

**Many the gifts, many the people,**

**many the hearts that yearn to belong.**

**Let us be servants to one another,**

**making your kingdom come.**

*Refrain.*

# The Confession

*The priest invites us confession and then, together, we say...*

**All** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

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

**All** Amen.

## A Prayer Before We Read

Almighty God, whose Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of mind and body and called her to be a witness to his resurrection: forgive our sins and heal us by your grace, that we may serve you in the power of his risen life; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## The First Reading

A reading from the second letter to the Corinthians.

Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life. He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them.

So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

*2 Corinthians 5:14-17*

This is the word of the Lord

**All** Thanks be to God.

*The following hymn is sung.*

**FOR ALL THE SAINTS WHO SHOWED YOUR LOVE  
in how they lived and where they moved,  
for mindful women, caring men,  
accept our gratitude again.**

**For all the saints who loved your name,  
whose faith increased the Saviour's fame,  
who sang your songs and shared your word,  
accept our gratitude, good Lord.**

**For all the saints who named your will,  
and saw your kingdom coming still  
through selfless protest, prayer and praise,  
accept the gratitude we raise.**

**Bless all whose will or name or love  
reflects the grace of heaven above.  
Though unacclaimed by earthly powers,  
your life through theirs has hallowed ours.**

*Words: John Bell and Graham Maule  
Music: O waly, waly*

## The Gospel reading

The Lord be with you.

**All** And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**All** Glory to you, O Lord.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.'

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

*John 20.1-2,11-18*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All** Praise to you, O Christ.

## The Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**All** We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*cf Ephesians 3*

## The Sermon

### The Prayers

*The following response may be used.*

Lord, in your mercy,

**All** hear our prayer.

*Our Prayer for Growth*

**All** God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your Church, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Peace

As much as is possible, live in peace, share peace, pray for peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All** and also with you.

*We share the peace, using sign language.*

*The following song is sung.*

**SING OF THE LORD'S GOODNESS, Father of all wisdom,  
come to him and bless his name.  
Mercy he has shown us, his love is for ever,  
faithful to the end of days.**

*Come, then, all you nations, sing of your Lord's goodness,  
melodies of praise and thanks to God.  
Ring out the Lord's glory, praise him with your music,  
worship him and bless his name.*

Power he has wielded, honour is his garment,  
risen from the snares of death.  
His word he has spoken, one bread he has broken,  
new life he now gives to all. *Come, then, all you nations...*

Courage in our darkness, comfort in our sorrow,  
Spirit of our God most high;  
solace for the weary, pardon for the sinner,  
splendour of the living God. *Come, then, all you nations...*

Praise him with your singing, praise him with the trumpet,  
praise God with the lute and harp;  
praise him with the cymbals, praise him with your dancing,  
praise God till the end of days. *Come, then, all you nations...*

*Ernest Sands © 1981 OCP*

## **Prayer at the Preparation of the Table**

Wise and gracious God, you spread a table before us;  
nourish your people with the word of life and the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you  
**All and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*The president praises God for his mighty Acts and all respond*

**All 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.**

*The president recalls the Last Supper, and the following acclamation is used.*

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**All Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The prayer concludes...

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.  
**All Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

All Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

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

All **Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

Come to this table not because you must, but because you may.  
Come not because you have all faith, but because you have some faith and would like to grow.  
Come because you love the Lord a little, and would like to love him more.  
Come because all is ready, and because we are his body.

*We consume our bread and wine as prompted by the words 'The Body of Christ' and 'The Blood of Christ.'*

## Prayer after Communion

God of life and love, whose risen Son called Mary Magdalene by name and sent her to tell of his resurrection to his apostles: in your mercy, help us, who have been united with him in this Eucharist, to proclaim the good news that he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

*Our final hymn is sung...*

**GO FORTH AND TELL! O Church of God, awake!  
God's saving news to all the nations take:  
proclaim Christ Jesus, Saviour, Lord and King,  
that all the world His worthy praise may sing.**

**Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all;  
He will in grace respond to all who call:  
how shall they call if they have never heard  
the gracious invitation of His word?**

**Go forth and tell! men still in darkness lie;  
in wealth or want, in sin they live and die:  
give us, O Lord, concern of heart and mind,  
a love like Yours which cares for all mankind.**

**Go forth and tell! the doors are open wide:  
share God's good gifts with men so long denied;  
live out your life as Christ your Lord shall choose,  
Your ransomed powers for His sole glory use.**

**Go forth and tell! O Church of God, arise!  
Go in the strength which Christ Your Lord supplies;  
go till all nations His great name adore  
and serve Him, Lord and King for evermore.**

*James E. Seddon © Jubilate Hymns*

# The Blessing and Dismissal

The love of the Father enfold you,  
the love of the Saviour uphold you  
the love of the Spirit guide you;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

**Please join us next Sunday in church (book tickets on the website)  
or online for a Service of the Word at 10:30am**

## Giving

If you would like to make a donation to our church today you can scan this QR code with your smart phone camera to **make a donation online.**

You can find out more about regular giving on our website  
[www.midhurstparishchurch.net](http://www.midhurstparishchurch.net)



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