

**United Benefice of St Stephen's with St James, Blackburn
Livestreaming Spiritual Communion Service on the
Fourth Sunday after Trinity 5th July 2020
Service led by Revd. Sarah Gill**

**Music to be played at the beginning of the service as part of
preparation:** Peace, Perfect Peace, Is The Gift Of Christ -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DWa8oWu1nQ>

Welcome and Introduction

The Greeting

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

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.**

Hymn: I danced in the morning -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bf93gp-HafA>

Invitation to confession

Prayer of Confession

**Father, we have sinned against heaven and against you.
We are not worthy to be called your children.
We turn to you again.
Have mercy on us,
bring us back to yourself
as those who once were dead
but now have life through Christ our Lord. Amen**

Words of assurance

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

Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect (Special Prayer for Today)

Gracious Father,
by the obedience of Jesus
you brought salvation to our wayward world:
draw us into harmony with your will,
that we may find all things restored in him,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Bible readings

Old Testament reading: Zechariah 9:9-12 – Peter Meloy

Psalms: 145:8-15 – Patricia Meloy

New Testament reading: Romans 7:15-25a – Val Edge

Hymn: I heard the voice of Jesus say -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqF4N7rdV-w>

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:16-19. 25-30 (Sarah Gill)

Here the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew chapter 11
verses 16-19 and 25-30

Glory to you, O Lord

At the end...

This is the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you, O Christ.**

Experiences of lockdown

Reflection – SG

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God

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

Prayers of Intercessions led by Janet Chester

The response to 'Lord hear us' is 'Lord, graciously hear us'

Introductions to the Peace

Peace to you from God our heavenly Father.

Peace from his Son Jesus Christ who is our peace.

Peace from the Holy Spirit, the life-giver.

The peace of the triune God be always with you

and also with you.

Preparation of the Communion Table

Holy God,

holy and strong,

holy and immortal,

give us the bread of everlasting life,

and make us branches of the true vine. Amen.

Eucharistic (Holy Communion) 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.

[Question Why is it right to give thanks and praise?

Answer Listen, and we will hear.]

Lord of all life,
you created the universe,
where all living things reflect your glory.
You give us this great and beautiful earth,
to discover and to cherish.

You give us your love,
even when things go wrong.
Jesus knew hurt and pain.
Through him you wipe away our tears,
and fill us with your peace.

You made us all,
each wonderfully different,
to join with the angels
and sing your praise:

**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.]**

We thank you, loving Father,
because, when we turned away,
you sent Jesus, your Son.
He gave his life for us on the cross
and shows us the way to live.
Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

[Question Why do we share this bread and wine?

Answer Listen, and we will hear.]

On the night before he died,
when darkness had fallen,
Jesus took bread.
He gave thanks, broke it,
and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.'
After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.
As you feed us with these gifts,
send your Holy Spirit,
and change us more and more
to be like Jesus our Saviour.

[Question How do we follow Jesus Christ?

Answer Listen, and we will hear.]

Help us, Father, to love one another,
as we look forward to that day
when suffering is ended,
and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.
And now with [N and] all your saints
we give you glory,
through Jesus Christ,
in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, 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.

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us
Jesus, bearer of our sins, Have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace**
Giving of Communion
Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Spiritual Communion Section

Spiritual Communion Prayer

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since, I cannot now receive you sacramentally,

I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly,
day by day. Amen

During the act of Spiritual Communion hymn to be played: Take o take
me as I am

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fRpDeqmkYz8>

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God,
comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken,
you have fed us at the table of life and hope:
teach us the ways of gentleness and peace,
that all the world may acknowledge
the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Final Hymn: Jesus Christ is waiting

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ai-OydgMLSs>

The Blessing

The lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and be gracious to you.
and the blessing ...

The Dismissal

Go in the peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen

Acknowledgment

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