**Celtic Eucharist - order of service for the season of Trinity**

(from the communities of Iona and Lindisfarne)

*Welcome and call to worship*

The world belongs to God

**The earth and all its people**

How good and how lovely it is

**To live together in unity**

Love and faithfulness meet

**Justice and peace embrace**

If the Lord’s disciples keep silent

**These stones would shout aloud**

Open our lips, O God

**And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

*Confession*

Let us in silence confess the divisions that cause our communities to suffer, the failings of the nations, and our frailty; all the things for which we are sorry.

Holy God, Maker of all,

**Show your compassion upon us**

Jesus Christ, servant of the poor

**Show your compassion upon us**

Holy Spirit, Breath of life

**Show your compassion upon us**

*Silence*

Turn again, O God, and give us life

**That your people may rejoice in you.**

Make in me a clean heart, O God

**And renew a right spirit within me.**

Give us again the joy of your help

**And with your spirit of freedom sustain us. Amen.**

*Absolution.*

*Readings*

*Homily*

*Profession of faith:*

We believe in God,

Who has created and is creating

**Who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,**

**To reconcile and make all things new,**

Who works in us, and others, by the Holy Spirit.

**We trust in God the Trinity**

We are called to be the church:

**To celebrate God’s presence,**

To live with respect in creation,

**To love and serve others**,

To seek justice and resist evil,

**To proclaim Jesus who showed us resurrection beyond the cross.**

God is with us. We are not alone.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*Prayers*

*The peace*

*The Great Thanksgiving*

The Lord is here...**God’s spirit is with us**

Lift up your hearts …**we lift them to the Lord**

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

And so with gratitude, praise, hearts lifted high,

Voices full and joyful; these you deserve holy God,

For when we were nothing, you made us something.

When we had no name and no faith and no future,

You called us your children.

**When we lost our way or turned away,**

**You did not abandon us.**

**You sought us out and opened your arms wide in welcome.**

You prepare a table for us,

Offering not just bread, not just wine, but your very self,

So that we may be filled, forgiven, healed, blessed

And made new again.

So now, in gratitude, we join our voices to those of the Church on earth and in heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy,**

**Lord God almighty,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory,**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord,**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord God as we come to share the richness of your table, we cannot forget the rawness of the earth.

**We cannot take bread and forget those who are hungry.**

**We cannot take wine and forget those who are thirsty.**

We cannot hear your words of peace and forget where there is strife.

**We cannot celebrate the feast of your family and forget where there is division.**

So as we do in the places where we are now what you did in an upper room,

Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine

That they may become for us your body,

Healing, forgiving, and making us whole;

**And that we may become, for you, your Body,**

**Loving and caring in the world until your kingdom comes.**

**Among friends, gathered round a table,**

Jesus took bread, broke it and said,

‘This is my body, broken for you,’

**And later, he took the cup of wine and said,**

‘This is my blood, the new covenant with God.

Take this, all of you, in remembrance of me.’

As we share bread and wine

**May we also share in the life of Jesus.**

Come Holy Spirit, give us freedom and lead us into the power of truth, through our holy communion.

**Come Lord Jesus, live in us that we may live in you.**

*The Lord’s Prayer*

*Sharing of bread and wine:*

Praise to God our creator,

**Praise to Christ our redeemer,**

Praise to the Spirit our sustainer,

**For all these good gifts. Amen.**

*Post communion prayer:*

**Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands;**

**Now we put our lives into yours.**

**Take us, renew and remake us.**

**What we have been is past,**

**What we shall be, through you, still awaits us.**

**Lead us on. Be with us always. Amen.**

*Blessing*

*Closing sentences:*

In work and worship..**God is with us**

Gathered and scattered ...**God is with us**

Now and always … **God is with us. Amen.**

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**In the name of Christ. amen**

Trinity IV Prayer and Readings

*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.*

**First Reading: Zechariah 9.9-12**

**9**

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on an ass,

on a colt the foal of an ass.

**10**

I will cut off the chariot from E′phraim

and the war horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

**11**

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your captives free from the waterless pit.

**12**

Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Gospel reading: Matthew 11. 25-end

### **Jesus Thanks His Father**

**25** At that time Jesus said, “I thank[[i](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+11&version=NRSV" \l "fen-NRSV-23485i)] you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; **26** yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.[[j](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+11&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-23486j)] **27** All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

**28** “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. **29** Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **30** For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Trinity IV homily

In my early twenties, I worked for two years in Montevideo, Uruguay, with Merry’s dad and another group of young people. We worked in the old city public hospital, delivering a mixture of chaplaincy and auxiliary nursing.

We were frequently told that Uruguay used to have a health care system second to none in South America, but it had been decimated by the military takeover in the early eighties and the devaluation of the currency.

By the time we were there in the early nineties, the public health service was somewhere you dreaded getting admitted to, rather than sought out in your time of need.

It frequently made us count our many blessings as we thought about the fortune that saw us born into a country with the NHS.

It taught us never to take the NHS for granted: its many benefits and the staff that work for it tirelessly.

And also I would add into that circle of gratitude, the various settings and staff that work in partnership with the NHS - particularly social care.

The Gospel today heard Jesus say:

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

It seems so plain, this year more than ever, that those working in the NHS and partnership settings are carrying the heavy burden of those who are weary; and in so doing giving rest, in body and soul, of so many in deep, sometimes desperate, need.

We will now hear from two people who live out this Gospel in their work...