

St Mary's Buckden Family "teaching" Communion



Welcome to St Mary's. This service is designed to be accessible and engaging for people of all ages, and there will be opportunities for children to be involved at various points in the service. This is a 'teaching communion' service, so instead of a sermon, there will be moments of reflection and learning, at various points during the service.

During this service children who have been preparing to receive communion for the first time may be admitted.

Children and families may wish to make use of a 'Communion box' particularly during the Eucharistic Prayer (pages 5-6).

The Quiet Room (at the back of Church) is available for any parent and child needing to retreat from the main service.

If you are new to this kind of service and would like to know more, please ask for a copy of our leaflet on Holy Communion.

You can find out more about what is happening at St Mary's by visiting www.stmarysbuckden.org.uk.

After the welcome there will be a short time of quiet as we gather in God's presence and reflect on our lives, relationships and recent experiences.

We gather in God's presence

Stand

The **Opening Hymn or Song** is sung

Remain standing

The Lord be with you
And also with you.



Please be seated for the first of the 'teaching' moments.

We then sit or kneel for the confession, taking a moment to remember the ways in which our words, actions and thoughts have separated us from God and from each other.

Confession

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
We confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with
you, our God. Amen.**



May the God of love bring us back to himself,
forgive us our sins,
and assure us of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



After the next of the 'teaching' moments, please stand for the Gloria

Glory to God

We join with all the angels of heaven to sing our praise to the God who made us and loves us.



Gloria ** Gloria ** in excelsis Deo! Gloria ** Gloria ** in excelsis Deo!

Lord God, heavenly King, peace you bring to us,

We worship you, we give you thanks' we sing our song of praise:

Gloria ** Gloria ** in excelsis Deo! Gloria ** Gloria ** in excelsis Deo!

Jesus, Saviour of all, Lord God, Lamb of God,

You take away our sins, O Lord, have mercy on us all.

Gloria ** Gloria ** in excelsis Deo! Gloria ** Gloria ** in excelsis Deo!

At the Father's right hand, Lord, receive our prayer;

For you alone are the Holy One, and you alone are the Lord.

Gloria ** Gloria ** in excelsis Deo! Gloria ** Gloria ** in excelsis Deo!

Glory, Father and Son, glory, Holy Spirit,

To you we raise our hands on high we glorify your name:

Gloria ** Gloria ** in excelsis Deo! Gloria ** Gloria ** in excelsis Deo!

Gloria ** Gloria ** in excelsis Deo! Gloria ** Gloria ** in excelsis Deo!

Words & Music © Mike Anderson

The **Collect** (*special prayer for the day*) is said, and all respond: **Amen**

Please be seated for the next 'teaching' moment, and then stand for the reading of the Gospel. Children and any others who wish to do so are invited to gather round the gospel reader.

We hear God's word

Gospel Reading (*read from the midst of the people*)

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to ...

Glory to you, O Lord

At the end of the gospel:

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.



The Creed - we affirm our faith

Stand, as we affirm our faith in God: the Father who made us and loves us; Jesus Christ his Son, who came among us to reveal that love; and the Holy Spirit, who sustains us and enables us to share God's love with others:

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in all the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**



Please be seated for a 'teaching' moment, then sit or kneel for prayer.

We pray

We pray for the church, the world, the local community, those who suffer, and those who have died.

This response may be used:

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

And at the end:

Merciful Father: **accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**



After the prayers those who, having completed the preparation course, will be receiving communion for the first time today are invited to come to the front of the church for their formal admission as communicant members of the Church of England.

We share Christ's peace

*After the next 'teaching' moment, please Stand.
The minister introduces the peace in these or other
appropriate words:*

The fruit of the Spirit is love, and joy and peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

*All are invited to share a sign of peace. We are gathered as the family of
God, and desire to live in peace with all our brothers and sisters in Christ.*

We sit for the next 'teaching' moment, then stand to sing.

A **Hymn** is sung, during which bread and wine are
brought forward, and an offering is taken and presented

With this bread that we bring

we shall remember Jesus

With this wine that we bring

we shall remember Jesus

Bread for his body, wine for his blood.

gifts from God to his table we bring.

We shall remember Jesus.



We share in communion (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.

Why is it right to give thanks and praise?

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

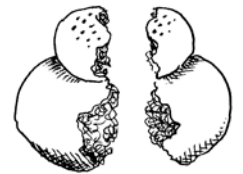
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

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.

Why do we share this bread and wine?

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.

How do we follow Jesus Christ?

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 all your saints we give you glory,
through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever. **Amen.**

As children of God, let us pray as our Saviour taught us:
**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 priest breaks the communion bread

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.**

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All are welcome at the Lord's table. If you usually receive the bread and wine in any Christian church, you are welcome to receive here (even if you have not done so for a long time). If you prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward to the altar rail, and simply keep your hands by your sides.

Receiving communion is a quiet time; you may find these prayers helpful:

Eternal God,
whose Son is the way, the truth and the life:
grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life. Amen.



Lord Jesus,

You have blessed me today, and shown me your love.

Help me take your blessing and your love into the world. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

After communion a short time of quiet is kept for personal prayer, then we pray together:

**Lord, we have broken your bread and received your life.
By the power of the Holy Spirit keep us always in your love
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

We are sent out

After the final 'teaching' moment, we stand for the final hymn and blessing and dismissal.

A **Final Hymn** is sung

A prayer is offered asking God to help us and be with us in all that lies ahead, ending with a prayer for God's blessing:

...and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

All sing:

**May God's blessing surround you each day,
as you trust him and walk in his way.
May God's presence within guard and keep you from sin,
Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.**

To a troubled world

Peace from Christ

To a searching world

Love from Christ

To a waiting world

Hope from Christ

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.



*After the service a short time of quiet is kept in which
we may pray for God's grace in our lives ahead.*

All are welcome to stay for tea or coffee after the service.