



# Collects and Readings for Holy Communion Services

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING THIS WITH YOU EACH WEEK IF ATTENDING CHURCH

Registered Charity 1132975

9 May 2021

Sixth Sunday of Easter

## The Collect

God our redeemer,  
you have delivered us from the power of  
darkness  
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:  
grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to  
life,  
so by his continual presence in us he may raise  
us to eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

**Amen**

## First Reading *Acts 10.44-48*

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' <sup>48</sup>So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

## Gospel *John 15.9-17*

Jesus said to his disciples: <sup>9</sup>'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup>'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'

## Post communion

God our Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of  
eternal life:  
may we thirst for you,  
the spring of life and source of goodness,  
through him who is alive and reigns, now and  
for ever.

**Amen**



# Collects and Readings for Holy Communion Services

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## 7.30pm Thurs 13 May Ascension Day

God has gone up with a shout,  
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. *Psalm 47.5*

### Introduction

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for forty days we have been celebrating with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from the tomb and his defeat of the power of sin and death. He appeared to his disciples many times and told them about the kingdom of God.

Today we recall how he left this earth and returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers. Trusting in his reign over all creation, and submitting to his kingly yet loving rule, let us worship together.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

### The Collect

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens,  
so we in heart and mind may also ascend  
and with him continually dwell;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### First Reading *Acts 1.1-11*

<sup>1</sup>In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This,' he said, 'is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water,

but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' <sup>7</sup>He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

### Gospel *Luke 24.44-53*

<sup>44</sup>Jesus said to the disciples, '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.' <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>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, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

<sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; <sup>53</sup>and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

### Post communion

God our Father, you have raised our humanity in Christ and have fed us with the bread of heaven:  
mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual blessings,  
we may set our hearts in the heavenly places;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



# Collects and Readings for Holy Communion Services

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING THIS WITH YOU EACH WEEK IF ATTENDING CHURCH

Registered Charity 1132975

16 May 2021

## Seventh Sunday of Easter

### The Collect

O God the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us  
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is  
gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### First Reading

*Acts 1.15-17,21-26*

<sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people). He said, <sup>16</sup>'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus – <sup>17</sup>for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. <sup>21</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us – one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' <sup>23</sup>So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' <sup>26</sup>And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

### Gospel

*John 17.6-19*

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed: <sup>6</sup>'Father, I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. <sup>12</sup>While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup>But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>15</sup>I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup>And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.'

### Post communion

Eternal God, giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



# Collects and Readings for Holy Communion Services

## PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING THIS WITH YOU EACH WEEK IF ATTENDING CHURCH

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### 23 May 2021 Pentecost

Jesus Christ, whom we worship, is our crucified, risen and ascended Lord and we have walked with him through his journey of love. We have faced the agony of his suffering and death on a cross. We have rejoiced at his bursting free from the bonds of death. We have enjoyed his risen presence with us and his revelation of himself through the breaking of bread. We have seen his return to the throne before which every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that this Jesus is Lord. And now, with the followers of his own time, we await the coming of the promised Holy Spirit, his gift to his people, through whom we make Christ known to the world.

As we listen to your word, **fill us with your Spirit.**

As we long for your refreshing, **fill us with your Spirit.**

As we long for your empowering, **fill us with your Spirit.**

### The Collect

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### First Reading *Acts 2.1-21 (edited)*

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?' <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: <sup>17</sup>'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,

### Gospel *John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15*

Jesus spoke to his disciples: <sup>26</sup>'When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. <sup>4</sup>I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them.

'I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, "Where are you going?"' <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. <sup>12</sup>I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.'

### Commission

For fifty days we have celebrated the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over the powers of sin and death. We have proclaimed God's mighty acts and we have prayed that the power that was at work when God raised Jesus from the dead might be at work in us.

As part of God's Church here in Northfield, I call upon you to live out what you proclaim.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, will you dare to walk into God's future, trusting him to be your guide?

### By the Spirit's power, we will.

Will you dare to embrace each other and grow together in love? **We will.**

Will you dare to share your riches in common and minister to each other in need? **We will.**

Will you dare to pray for each other until your hearts beat with the longings of God? **We will.**

Will you dare to carry the light of Christ into the world's dark places? **We will.**



# Collects and Readings for Holy Communion Services

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Registered Charity 1132975

**30 May 2021 Trinity Sunday**

## Acclamation

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts:

**the whole earth is full of his glory.**

Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength;  
ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name.

**The whole earth is full of his glory.**

The Lord shall give strength to his people;

**the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.**

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts:

**the whole earth is full of his glory.**

## The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you have given us your servants grace,  
by the confession of a true faith,  
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity  
and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the  
Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith,  
that we may evermore be defended from all adversities;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## First Reading *Isaiah 6.1-8*

<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said:

‘Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.’

<sup>4</sup>The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: ‘Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!’

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs.

<sup>7</sup>The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: ‘Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.’ <sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am I; send me!’

## Gospel *John 3.1-17*

<sup>1</sup>There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.’ <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’ <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?’ <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You must be born from above.” <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.’ <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can these things be?’ <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?’

<sup>11</sup>‘Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.’

## Post communion

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. **Amen**



# Collects and Readings for Holy Communion Services

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING THIS WITH YOU EACH WEEK IF ATTENDING CHURCH

Registered Charity 1132975

**10am service 3 June 2021**

**Probably via zoom. Use Wednesday link**

## Day of Thanksgiving for Holy Communion

### Acclamation

I am the bread of life,  
anyone who comes to me shall not hunger,  
anyone who believes in me shall never thirst.  
**Alleluia. Lord, give us this bread always.**

The bread of God comes down from heaven,  
and gives life to the world.  
**Alleluia. Lord, give us this bread always.**

Anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has  
eternal life  
and I will raise them up on the last day.  
**Alleluia. Lord, give us this bread always.**

It is the Spirit that gives life; the flesh is of no avail.  
The words I speak, they are spirit and they are life.  
**Alleluia. Lord, give us this bread always.**

### The Collect

Lord Jesus Christ,  
we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament  
you have given us the memorial of your passion:  
grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries  
of your body and blood  
that we may know within ourselves  
and show forth in our lives  
the fruits of your redemption;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### First Reading *Genesis 14.18-20*

<sup>18</sup>And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. <sup>19</sup>He blessed him and said,

'Blessed be Abram by God Most High,  
maker of heaven and earth;

<sup>20</sup>and blessed be God Most High,  
who has delivered your enemies into  
your hand!'

And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything. <sup>21</sup>Then the king of Sodom said to Abram, 'Give me the people, but take the goods for yourself.' <sup>22</sup>But Abram said to the king of Sodom, 'I have sworn to the LORD, God Most High, maker of heaven and earth, <sup>23</sup>that I would not take a thread or a sandal-thong or anything that is yours, so that you might not say, "I have made Abram rich." <sup>24</sup>I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me – Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre. Let them take their share.'

### Gospel *John 6.51-58*

Jesus said to the Jews: <sup>51</sup>'I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

<sup>52</sup>The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' <sup>53</sup>So Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup>Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; <sup>55</sup>for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. <sup>56</sup>Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.'

### Post communion

All praise to you, our God and Father,  
for you have fed us with the bread of heaven  
and quenched our thirst from the true vine:  
hear our prayer that, being grafted into Christ,  
we may grow together in unity  
and feast with him in his kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



# Collects and Readings for Holy Communion Services

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING THIS WITH YOU EACH WEEK IF ATTENDING CHURCH

Registered Charity 1132975

**6 June 2021**

**First Sunday after Trinity**

## The Collect

O God,  
the strength of all those who put their trust in you,  
mercifully accept our prayers  
and, because through the weakness of our mortal  
nature  
we can do no good thing without you,  
grant us the help of your grace,  
that in the keeping of your commandments  
we may please you both in will and deed;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## First Reading *2 Corinthians 4.13-5.1*

<sup>13</sup>Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture – ‘I believed, and so I spoke’ – we also believe, and so we speak, <sup>14</sup>because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. <sup>15</sup>Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

<sup>16</sup>So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, <sup>18</sup>because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

<sup>19</sup>For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

## Gospel *Mark 3.20-35*

<sup>20</sup>The crowd came together again, so that Jesus and his companions could not even eat. <sup>21</sup>When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, ‘He has gone out of his mind.’ <sup>22</sup>And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, ‘He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.’ <sup>23</sup>And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, ‘How can Satan cast out Satan? <sup>24</sup>If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup>And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. <sup>26</sup>And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. <sup>27</sup>But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

<sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; <sup>29</sup>but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin’ – <sup>30</sup>for they had said, ‘He has an unclean spirit.’

<sup>31</sup>Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. <sup>32</sup>A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, ‘Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.’ <sup>33</sup>And he replied, ‘Who are my mother and my brothers?’ <sup>34</sup>And looking at those who sat around him, he said, ‘Here are my mother and my brothers!’ <sup>35</sup>Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.’

## Post communion

Eternal Father,  
we thank you for nourishing us  
with these heavenly gifts:  
may our communion strengthen us in faith,  
build us up in hope,  
and make us grow in love;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



# Collects and Readings for Holy Communion Services

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING THIS WITH YOU EACH WEEK IF ATTENDING CHURCH

Registered Charity 1132975

13 June 2021

## Second Sunday after Trinity

### The Collect

Lord, you have taught us  
that all our doings without love are nothing worth:  
send your Holy Spirit  
and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of  
love,  
the true bond of peace and of all virtues,  
without which whoever lives is counted dead before  
you.  
Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### First Reading

*2 Corinthians 5.6-10, 14-17*

Brothers and sisters, <sup>6</sup>we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord – <sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

<sup>14</sup>The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

### Gospel *Mark 4.26-34*

Such a large crowd gathered around Jesus that he got into a boat and began to teach them using many parables. <sup>26</sup>Jesus said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, <sup>27</sup>and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

<sup>30</sup>Jesus also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.' <sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

### Post communion

Loving Father,  
we thank you for feeding us at the supper of your Son:  
sustain us with your Spirit,  
that we may serve you here on earth  
until our joy is complete in heaven,  
and we share in the eternal banquet  
with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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