

The Gathering – first video

Welcome - [KELVIN]

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Hello and welcome to St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow. My name is Kelvin Holdsworth and I am the Provost here.

In today's gospel we hear about God's generosity. About God's joy in giving us far more than we could ever deserve.

In the light of that Love, we meet together – either in church or online. And God meets with us.

Collect for Purity - [BETH]

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.

Confession

[KELVIN] God is love and we are God's children.
There is no room for fear in love.
We love because God loved us first.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

[Silence]

God our Father, we confess to you and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry. Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil, for the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

[KELVIN] God, who is both power and love, forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Holy Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria - [SHAE]

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.

Collect - [KELVIN]

God most high,

your ways are not our ways,
for your kindness is lavished equally upon all.
Teach us to welcome your mercy towards other,
even as we hope to receive mercy ourselves.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word – second video

Reading: Exodus 16:2-15 - [BOB]

A reading from the Book of Exodus

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.” Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but” against the Lord. Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And

as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

For the Word of God in Scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within in,
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16 – [KELVIN]

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mathew.
Glory to Christ our Saviour.

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call

the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

Sermon [JOHN]

Adjusting to the new , the unprecedented - which seems to be the favoured word for covering over public failures to cope with current issues – is not easy. Not that there's anything new or unprecedented about adjusting to major change. Huge changes happen all the time, as our wonderful Exodus story makes vividly clear. They still remain a big challenge.

There are things that stand in the way of making it through. There's the resolute determination to emphasis all the good things about the old, often in the face of reality, and to cast the new as the sheerly awful. The Israelites long for the good old days of Egyptian slavery: 'sitting by the flesh pots and eating their fill of bread', suppressing any memories of gangmasters, and the murder of their infant sons. 'If only we had died there.' All the positives of the new are forgotten: liberation from slavery, the miraculous delivery from Pharaoh's chariots.

This is not to deny that the new reality they face is deeply threatening: starvation, thirst, deep challenges to Moses' leadership, new tasks and issues to be confronted.

But as the story makes clear: the One who delivered them from the whips of the slave-masters is the One who will bring them through this and many other trials: if only they will put their trust in the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob. There was, for all their trials, a way out, however strange, unexpected the moments of release may have been, however difficult to recognise.

As the dew lifts in the morning, a strange substance comes into view. 'What is that?', they ask; to which Moses can only reply: 'It's what God has given you to eat.' Bread from Heaven, all the same.

And that, more or less, in the oblique way that stories do, pinpoints our present situation. So much, for the time at least, has gone: all the beauty of our festivals and choral services. And now: socially distanced worship, not more than 50 at a time; no talk, support, sympathy, encouragement after the service. How do we recognise God's hand in all this? How do we respond creatively and faithfully to this deep disruption of our established patterns and seek the new – the God-given new in these strange ways we have been forced into?

Strange as it is, we can taste and see that the Lord is good, discover new ways of worship and living, new hopes of a new world, more loving, more just, more caring of each other and all creation.

Bread from Heaven.

Intercessions [PAT]

God, whose economy is one of community -

We pray for your church throughout the world - remembering particularly today for the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and the

churches of St Oswald's King's Park and St Ninian's Pollokshields.
May they grow in grace and flourish as communities of love and service

We give thanks for the many local aid networks across the country which are supporting the vulnerable and isolated during this time of the pandemic and we pray that these connections across communities of support may be a source of joy, hope and encouragement for all involved

God of community - hear our prayer

God, whose economy is one of justice -

We give thanks for all those who care for, support and advocate for the marginalised in our society - those living in deprivation, the homeless, refugees and asylum seekers. May their voices be heard by those with the power to affect systemic and local change, and their actions bring comfort and hope to those whom they serve.

And we pray for those who draw our attention to the damage which our choices and behaviours cause to this planet, and for those who work to find solutions to these problems - remembering particularly today those involved in recycling and eco projects here in Glasgow. May their voices and actions penetrate the noise with which we surround ourselves, and help us all towards better choices and less selfish ways of living.

God of justice - hear our prayer

God - whose economy is one of compassion -

We pray for all those who are finding life a challenge at this time - naming before you those who are especially on our hearts today
.....

May they find the resources they need to continue on and companions to shelter and support them along the way

We pray for all who have died this week and for those who mourn them - that they may find sources of comfort and consolation in this season of grief.

And at their year's mind we give thanks for John Kelso, Peter Lockett and Kenneth Mathewson.. May they rest in peace and rise in glory and may those who love and miss them find deep joy in remembering them

God of compassion - hear our prayer

God - whose economy is one of generosity -

we pray for ourselves that, like Jesus we too might always live and love without reckoning the cost.

God of generosity - hear our prayer

Amen

Communion – third video

Offertory - [KELVIN]

The generosity of God is a wonder to behold. And the generosity of those connected with St Mary's is a wonder too.

If you would like to make a financial donation to support the ministry of this place, please go to thecathedral.org.uk and click on MAKE A DONATION.

Let us present our offerings to the Lord.

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All things come from you, and of your own we give you.

Eucharistic Prayer - [KELVIN]

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 God thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, Father,
in every place and at all times.

All power is yours. You created the heavens and established the
earth; you sustain in being all that is.

In Christ your Son our life and yours
are brought together in a wonderful exchange.

He made his home among us that we might for ever dwell in you.

Through your Holy Spirit you call us to new birth
in a creation restored by love.

As children of your redeeming purpose
we offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven,
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

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.

Glory and thanksgiving be to you,
most loving Father,
for the gift of your Son born in human flesh

He is the Word existing beyond time,
both source and final purpose,
bringing to wholeness all that is made.

Obedient to your will he died upon the Cross.

By your power you raised him from the dead.

He broke the bonds of evil
and set your people free to be his Body in the world

On the night when he was given up to death,
knowing that his hour had come,
having loved his own,
he loved them to the end.

At supper with his disciples
he took bread and offered you thanks.

He broke the bread,
and gave it to them, saying:

“Take, eat.

This is my Body: it is broken for you.”

After supper, he took the cup,

he offered you thanks,

and gave it to them saying:

“Drink this, all of you.

This is my Blood of the new covenant;

it is poured out for you, and for all,

that sins may be forgiven.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

We now obey your Son's command.

We recall his blessed passion and death,

his glorious resurrection and ascension;

**and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves,
a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful Father,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by his life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

**Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage
in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages,
world without end.

Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.
Lord, unite us in this sign.

Lord's Prayer - [KELVIN]

As our Saviour has 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.
Do not bring us
to the time of trial
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Communion - [KELVIN]

God is with us wherever we are.

As we gaze in adoration we feed on God in our hearts and minds
that we may in turn feed the world.

O God, even as this broken bread was scattered over the hills, and
was gathered together and became one, so let Your Church be
gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom; for
yours is the glory and the power through Jesus Christ for ever.
Amen.

Music at Communion - [JUSTINE]

Tantum Ergo - Vierne

Tantum ergo Sacramentum
Veneremur cernui:
Et antiquum documentum
Novo cedat ritui:
Præstet fides supplementum
Sensuum defectui.

Genitori, Genitoque
Laus et iubilatio,
Salus, honor, virtus quoque
Sit et benedictio:
Procedenti ab utroque
Compar sit laudatio.

Amen.

Down in adoration falling,
Lo! the sacred Host we hail,
Lo! o'er ancient forms departing
Newer rites of grace prevail;
Faith for all defects supplying,
Where the feeble senses fail.

To the everlasting Father,
And the Son Who reigns on high
With the Holy Spirit proceeding
Forth from each eternally,
Be salvation, honour blessing,
Might and endless majesty. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer - [BETH]

God of peace, in this eucharist we have been reconciled to you and to our neighbours. May we who have been nourished by holy things always have the courage to forgive. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

Amen.

Blessing - [KELVIN]

My thanks go to all who make the worship of the church possible. It has been good to worship together today.

If you would like to keep up to date with what's happening at St Mary's, make sure you are signed up for the email news – just go to thecathedral.org.uk and enter your details.

But now the blessing:

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus our Lord: And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Voluntary

Trumpet Tune - Jeremiah Clarke

A hymn and materials for Young Church are available on the online worship page at www.thecathedral.org.uk/worship.