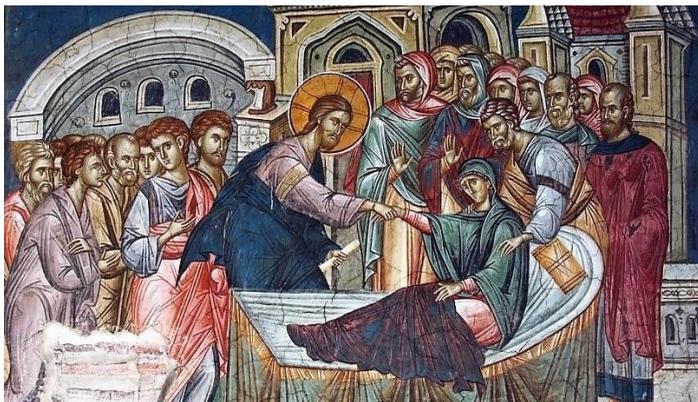


The Parish Church of St Matthew  
Northampton

# Wholeness and Healing

*Mass with intercessions for the sick and suffering  
before the Blessed Sacrament during  
the Coronavirus Pandemic*



Live streamed from the Vicarage  
on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021

7.30 pm



# Order of Service

## ¶ The Gathering

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**All Amen.**

Upon a lofty throne, I saw a man seated,  
whom a host of angels adore, singing in unison:  
Behold him, the name of whose empire is eternal.

## The Greeting

We have been called out of darkness into God's marvellous light.  
Grace, mercy and peace be with you  
**All and also with you.**

## Introduction

Christ taught his disciples to love one another. In his community of love, in praying together, in sharing and in caring for the sick, they recalled his words: 'In so far as you did this to one of these, you did it to me.' We gather today to witness to this teaching and to pray in the name of Jesus the healer that the sick may be restored to health and that all among us may know his saving power.

## Invitation to Confession

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross  
so that, free from sin, we might live to righteousness;  
by his wounds we have been healed;  
Let us confess our sins.

## Confession

**All**            **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.**

## Kyries

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation.  
Lord, have mercy.

**All**            **Lord, have mercy.**

God the Son, you came that we might have life,  
and might have it more abundantly.  
Christ, have mercy.

**All**            **Christ, have mercy.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
you make our bodies the temple of your presence.  
Lord, have mercy.

**All**            **Lord, have mercy.**

## Absolution

God, the Father of mercies,  
has reconciled the world to himself  
through the death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ,  
not holding our sins against us,  
but sending his Holy Spirit  
to shed abroad his love among us.  
By the ministry of reconciliation entrusted by Christ to his Church,  
receive his pardon † and peace  
to stand before him in his strength alone  
this day and for evermore.

**All**      **Amen.**

## The Collect

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father,  
you anointed your Son Jesus Christ  
with the Holy Spirit and with power  
to bring to us the blessings of your kingdom.  
Anoint your Church with the same Holy Spirit,  
that we who share in his suffering and victory  
may bear witness to the gospel of salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All**      **Amen.**

# ¶ The Liturgy of the Word

Week 1, Year 1

## First Reading

Hebrews 2:14-18

*Reader* A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel

Mark 1:29-39

### Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Let the message of Christ in all its richness find a home with you;  
through him give thanks to God the Father.

**All Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you

**All and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

## ¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### Sign of Peace

God has made us one in Christ.  
He has set his seal upon us and as a pledge of what is to come  
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

**All** The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

As we are able, let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

### The Offertory

*The altar is prepared*

## Invitation to Prayer

Pray, my brothers and sisters,  
that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

**All** **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

## Prayer over the Gifts

Merciful God,  
as these simple gifts of bread and wine  
will be transformed into the risen Lord,  
so may he unite our sufferings with his  
and cause us to rise to new life.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All** **Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

**All** The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

**All** Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

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

Father, all-powerful and everliving God,  
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
for you have revealed to us in Christ the healer  
your unfailing power and steadfast compassion.

In the splendour of his rising  
your Son conquered suffering and death  
and bequeathed to us his promise of a new and glorious world,  
where no bodily pain will afflict us and no anguish of spirit.  
Through your gift of the Spirit, you bless us, even now,  
with your comfort and healing, strength and hope,  
forgiveness and peace.

In this supreme sacrament of your love  
you give us the risen body of your Son,  
a pattern of what we shall become when he returns  
at the end of time.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with the whole company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**All**      **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 praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.  
When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**All** **Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.  
You are the Saviour of the world.**

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.  
Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with Mary the Virgin Mother of God,  
Saint Matthew and all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

**All** **Amen.**

*The Blessed Sacrament is elevated and bells are rung*

## The Lord's Prayer

With God there is mercy and fullness of redemption;  
let us pray as our Saviour Christ has taught us.

**All**      **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.**

## Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**All**      **Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## Agnus Dei

**All**      **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.**

## Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All**     **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*The Priest receives Holy Communion*

## Giving of Communion

Come to me all who labour and are over burdened,  
and I will refresh you, says the Lord.

## Spiritual Communion – *for those at home*

*It is an ancient practice of the Church that, when you are prevented from attending the Holy Eucharist, people are invited to express, in the words of St Thomas Aquinas, “an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Holy Sacrament and a loving embrace as though we had already received Him.” Therefore, during this time you are invited to pray this prayer, which may be said as often as you desire:*

## Act of Reception

**All**     **In union, blessed Jesus,  
with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church  
where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day,**

*(and remembering particularly my own parish ...)*

**I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving,  
for creation and all the blessings of this life,  
for the redemption won for us by your life, death,  
and resurrection,  
for the means of grace and the hope of glory.**

*(and particularly for the blessings given me ...)*

**I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,  
and, since I cannot at this time receive communion,**

**I pray you to come into my heart.**

**I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart,  
my soul, and my mind.**

**Let nothing separate me from you;**

**let me serve you in this life until, by your grace,**

**I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.**

**Amen.**

## Prayer after Communion

*There may follow a period for silent prayer and reflection*

Let us pray:

God of all compassion,  
by the dying and rising of your Christ  
you restore us to yourself and enfold us in your love.  
May we be renewed by your healing Spirit  
and made ready for the coming of your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

*The Priest transfers the Host to the monstrance  
and kneels in adoration*

## ¶ Intercessions for the Sick before the Blessed Sacrament

### The Prayers

*The Prayers are addressed directly to Our Lord, in whose sacramental  
presence the prayers are offered*

- ❖ *the names of those on our prayer board*
- ❖ *those with whom we are in pastoral contact*
- ❖ *local hospitals, the Cynthia Spencer Hospice, day care facilities, residential and nursing homes etc*
- ❖ *the ministry of the Pastoral Team*
- ❖ *the medical profession and carers*
- ❖ *our own need of healing, restoration and wholeness*
- ❖ *silence, and an opportunity for others to pray aloud*

*At the end of this time ...*

**All**     **O Lord our God,  
 accept the fervent prayers of your people;  
 in your mercy look with compassion upon us  
 and all who turn to you for help;  
 for you are gracious, O lover of souls,  
 and to you we give glory, Blessed Lord,  
 now and for ever.  
 Amen.**

## **Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**

*The Priest blesses the congregation with the Blessed Sacrament  
 making the sign of the cross*

*The Blessed Sacrament is returned to the Aumbrey*

## ¶ Sending Out

Bless the Lord, O my soul;  
*All* **and forget not all his benefits;**  
who forgives all your sins  
*All* **and heals all your infirmities;**  
who redeems your life from the pit;  
*All* **and crowns you with faithful love and compassion.**

Go in the peace of Christ.  
*All* **Thanks be to God.**

