



The Parish
Eucharist
on
Racial Justice Sunday

Sunday, 11 February, 2024

9.00am

Welcome to this morning's service

The President is
The Very Reverend Peter Howell-Jones
The Dean

The Preacher is
Canon Michael Wedgeworth

Preparation

For individual use before the service begins.

Old Testament Reading

(2 Kings 2.1-12)

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.' Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.' Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two

of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The Gathering

Please stand when the ministers enter.

AURELIA



Extol the God of justice
with heart and soul and voice;
remember all his wonders,
recount them and rejoice.
He stands with all who labour
for what is true and right,
till wickedness and falsehood
are banished from his sight.

Extol the God of justice
enthroned for evermore,
a stronghold in affliction,
a refuge to the poor:
he hears the cries of victims
and senses their despair;
in faithfulness he honours
the faith that sparks our prayer.

Extol the God of justice,
however dark the day:
the hope that calls for mercy
will not be turned away;
for evil shall not triumph,
nor human sin prevail:
the Lord is God eternal,
whose judgements cannot fail.

*Martin E Leckebusch © 2003 Kevin Mayhew Ltd
(Based on Psalm 9)*

The Greeting

The president greets the people

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The president introduces the celebration.

The Prayer of Preparation

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.

The Prayers of Penitence

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with 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.**

The president says

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Gloria

EVELYNS 338



Glory in the highest to the God of heaven!
Peace to all your people through the earth be given!
Mighty God and Father, thanks and praise we bring,
singing Hallelujah to our heavenly king;

Jesus Christ is risen, God the Father's Son!
With the Holy Spirit you are Lord alone!
Lamb once killed for sinners, all our guilt to bear,
show us now your mercy, now receive our prayer;

Christ the world's true Saviour, high and holy One,
seated now and reigning from your Father's throne:
Lord and God, we praise you! Highest heaven adores:
in the Father's glory, all the praise be yours!

Christopher Idle after Gloria in Excelsis

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The Collect

Silence is kept – please remain standing

Let us pray.
Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him

and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Please sit down.

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

Read by Zak Insingoma

(2 Corinthians 4.3-6)

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

ABBOTS LEIGH



There is no place in God's household
for the sly deceiver's voice,
no room left for false entrapment
snaring those who have no choice.
There is room for honest welcome,
for rebuilding shattered dreams
where the lost can find a way back
from their tangled web of schemes.

There is no place in God's household
for the pall of secrecy,
no room left to skulk in corners
hiding what we fear to see.
There is room for honest speaking,
crying 'Justice!', weeping tears,
where the lost can find their freedom
in a place that knows their fears.

God of justice, God of freedom,
in your household, there is space
filled with light and hope and laughter
rich with love and healing grace.
There you offer royal welcome,
where no harm or hurt is found,
and we come in peace together,
for we stand on holy ground.

Janet Wootton (born 1952)
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Please remain standing for the Gospel reading

The Gospel

(Mark 9.2-9)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

Sermon

Canon Michael Wedgeworth

There is a period of silence after the sermon for reflection.

Please stand with the president

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and earth is named**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit
who strengthens us
with the power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

The president invites the congregation to kneel or sit down.

The Prayers of Intercession

Led by Terry Givens

This response is 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.**

Please stand with the president for the peace.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The president introduces the Peace and then says

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

When offering a greeting please respect those who may wish to keep their distance and not pass the peace physically.

Please give what you prayerfully can in the collection basket. You may prefer to use the collection point on the way out or use the Parish Giving scheme which you can access using the QR code provided here. You can make a one-off payment either by name or anonymously and there is an option to Gift Aid your donation.



OFFERTORY HYMN

NOEL NOUVELET | 15



Jesus Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets;
no one is his neighbour, all alone he eats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am lonely too.
Make me, friend or stranger, fit to wait on you.

Jesus Christ is raging, raging in the streets,
where injustice spirals and real hope retreats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am angry too.
In the Kingdom's causes let me rage with you.

Jesus Christ is healing, healing in the streets;
curing those who suffer, touching those he greets.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I have pity too.
Let my care be active, healing just like you.

Jesus Christ is dancing, dancing in the streets,
Where each sign of hatred he, with love, defeats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I should triumph too.
On suspicion's graveyard let me dance with you.

Jesus Christ is calling, calling in the streets,
"Who will join my journey? I will guide their feet."
Listen, Lord Jesus, let my fears be few.
Walk one step before me; I will follow you.

Words © 1988 The Iona Community.

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Wise and gracious God,
you spread a table before us;
nourish your people with the word of life
and the bread of heaven.

Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

His 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 thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord God,
our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

Everyone sings

SLANE 239



Holy, most holy, all holy the Lord,
in power and wisdom for ever adored!
The earth and the heavens are full of your love;
our joyful hosannas re-echo above!

Blessèd, most blessèd, all blessèd is he
whose life makes us whole and whose death sets us free;
who comes in the name of the Father of light,
let endless hosannas resound in the height!

Michael Forster (born 1946)

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How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, 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

Lord, by your cross and resurrection

you have set us free.

You are the Saviour of the world.

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Bring us at the last with Mary, Paul and all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power

be yours for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Joining our prayers with those of the Church Universal, so we
say, each in our own language, the prayer our Saviour taught us,

Notre père, qui es aux cieux ... Missierna, li inti fis-smewwiet...
Vater unser im Himmel ... Padre nosso, que estais nos céus...
Padre nostro che sei nei cieli ... Ojczy nasz, któryś jest w niebie...
Otče náš, jenž jsi na nebesích ... ي السَّمَاوَاتِ،
Têve Mūsū, kuris esi danguje! ... Ein Tad, yr hwn wyt yn y nefoedd...
Tatal nostru care esti in ceruri ...

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 Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

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.**

**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.**

The Giving of Communion

The president says

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.

When you are ready to receive communion please approach the president in single file and return to your seat by one of the side aisles.

Please do come and ask this first minister for any blessings.

Communion is available in both kinds, and the minister distributing bread will say

The body of Christ.

Amen.

After receiving the bread, if you wish to receive wine please move to the next minister before returning to your place.

The minister distributing wine will say

The blood of Christ.

Amen.

If you do not wish to receive communion wine, please walk past that second minister and return to your place.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

Holy God,

we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:

may we who are partakers at his table

reflect his life in word and deed,

that all the world may know his power to change and save.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Almighty God,

we thank you for feeding us

with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him we offer you our souls and bodies

to be a living sacrifice.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit

to live and work to your praise and glory.

Amen.

Please stand

The Dismissal

The president pronounces God's blessing.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please do consider staying for tea or coffee after the service.

The president will leave immediately and may go outside at first.

Notices for the week beginning 12th February 2024

Choral Evensong Today

4.00pm

Choral Evensong

Batten The Fourth Service

St. Asaph Te Deum - Meirion Wynn Jones

Responses *Smith*

Psalm 2

Next Sunday

The First Sunday of Lent

Old Testament reading

Genesis 9.8-17

Psalm

25.1-9

New Testament reading

1 Peter 3.18-end

Gospel Reading

Mark 1.9-15

Blackburn Foodbank in February

We are collecting **Tinned Rice Pudding**. If you can afford to give, please add it to your weekly or monthly shopping list and donate.

(Pancake) Shrove Tuesday

If you have joined Blackburn Cathedral congregation since the pandemic, we would love to invite you to a Pancake Party on Tuesday 13th February 6pm in the Crypt. The Dean will be giving an introduction to Cathedrals in general and Cathedral life here at Blackburn, together with thoughts about our history and our hopes for the future.

Lent 2024 Devotional - Journey to Freedom

Do pick up **free** copy of the Lent devotional booklet from the back of the Cathedral. This year, the Diocesan Lent Devotional booklets, which are also titled 'Journey to Freedom' to match with Bishop Philip's Lent Course, will walk us through Exodus.

Lent Organ Meditations

Our series of Choral Evensong with Lent Organ Meditations begins on Sunday 18th February at 4pm. Our Organist in Residence will play works by Merkel, Franck and Vierne. If you have never been to Evensong with Organ meditation why not make it your Lent discipline this year – and why not bring a friend!

Ashes to go

This year on Ash Wednesday 14th February at 10am Canon James will be offering Ashes To Go in Blackburn town centre. Please come and join in if you are able.



New Diocesan App

Open Google Play or Apple.

Search for “Fruitful: Diocese of Blackburn”.

Click “install”.

Open the app.

Click on the person icon in the top right corner of the app and:

- sign up
- turn on notifications

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