

Call to worship

We have come into this place to worship God.
Have we come ready to grow? **We have!**
Have we come willing to change? **We have!**
Are we prepared to put our faith into action,
to worship God in all we do? **We are!**

Hymn : STF 595 by Fred Pratt Green

Lord, we have come at your own invitation,
Chosen by you, to be counted your friends;
Yours is the strength that sustains dedication,
Ours a commitment we know never ends.

Here, at your table, confirm our intention,
Give it your seal of forgiveness and grace;
Teach us to serve, without pride or pretension,
Lord, in your Kingdom, whatever our place.

When, at your table, each time of returning,
Vows are renewed and our courage restored:
May we increasingly glory in learning
All that it means to accept you as Lord.

So, in the world, were each duty assigned us
Gives us the chance to create or destroy,
Help us to make those decision that bind us,
Lord, to yourself, in obedience and joy.

Welcome and Activity Joys and Concerns

Offertory Prayer The Lectionary

Exodus 20.1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1.18-25;
John 2.13-22

Bible Reading : John 2 vv 13-22

Jesus Goes to the Temple

¹³ It was almost time for the Passover Festival, so Jesus went to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ There in the Temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and pigeons, and also the moneychangers sitting at their tables.

¹⁵ So he made a whip from cords and drove all the animals out of the Temple, both the sheep and the cattle; he overturned the tables of the moneychangers and scattered their coins; ¹⁶ and he ordered those who sold the pigeons, "Take them out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷ His disciples remembered that the scripture says, "My devotion to your house, O God, burns in me like a fire."

Christ Church Stocksbridge

"Together at Home"

with Crane Moor and Green Moor

Sunday 7th March 2021

Our Temple

¹⁸ The Jewish authorities came back at him with a question, "What miracle can you perform to show us that you have the right to do this?"

¹⁹ Jesus answered, "Tear down this Temple, and in three days I will build it again."

²⁰ "Are you going to build it again in three days?" they asked him. "It has taken forty-six years to build this Temple!"

²¹ But the temple Jesus was speaking about was his body. ²² So when he was raised from death, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and what Jesus had said.

Word

Hymn : STF 679, by Brian Wren

Come, build the Church - not heaps of
stone in safe, immobile, measured
walls, but friends of Jesus, Spirit-blown,
and fit to travel where he calls.

Come, occupy with glad dissent where
death and evil fence the ground, and
pitch a Resurrection-Tent where peace
is lived, and love is found.

Exposed upon the open ground to
screams of war in East and West, our
ears will catch a deeper sound: the
weeping of the world's oppressed.

In wearied face, or frightened child, in
all they know, and need to say, the
living Christ shall stand revealed. Come,
let us follow and obey!

Prayers

Let us confess our sins together and seek God's forgiveness.

Almighty God, we confess before you our own sin, the sin of the Church and the sin of the world, in which we share. We have not loved you with our whole being; we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive us when we turn from you; release us from the burden of our past, and remake us in your image and likeness through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise. With joy we give you thanks and praise, Almighty God, Source of all life and love, that we live in your world, that you are always creating and sustaining it by your power, and that you have so made us that we can know and love you, trust and serve you. We give you thanks that you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him may not die but have eternal life.

We thank you that Jesus was born among us that he lived our common life on earth; that he suffered and died for us; that he rose again; and that he is always present through the Holy Spirit. We thank you that we can live in the faith that your kingdom will come, and that in life, in death and beyond death you are with us.

Holy Lord God, by what we do herein remembrance of Christ we celebrate his perfect sacrifice on the Cross and his glorious resurrection and ascension; we declare that he is Lord of all; and we prepare for his coming in his kingdom. We pray that through your Holy Spirit this bread may be for us the body of Christ and this wine the blood of Christ. Accept our sacrifice of praise; and as we eat and drink at his command unite us to Christ as one body in him, and give us strength to serve you in the world. And to you, one holy and eternal God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we give praise and glory, now and for ever.
Amen

Communion

Hymn : STF 409 by Marty Haugen
Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

Let us build a house where love is found
in water wine and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

The Grace and the Vesper

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and fellowship together in the Holy Spirit, be with us all, now and evermore.

Take, oh take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart, and live in me.
Repeat

Now let us all enjoy a cup of tea or coffee together.