

CAVERSHAM PARK URC

Holy Communion Service order

(Sunday 6th April 2025)

5th Sunday of Lent - Year C

Holy Communion at Caversham Park (Fourth Order)

Opening Hymn: Change My Heart Oh God - Maranatha!

Let us worship God.

This is the day which the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord;
for God's love endures for ever.

Our service today looks at how God asks us to accept his love and to take one more step for the good of the Kingdom.

Hymn 2 - Meekness and majesty (with lyrics)

Let us pray:

Gracious and life-giving God - you who make all things new by your saving and creative love - you who redeem the lives of your servants and reach out to those who are lost -- descend we pray upon us this day. Hallow us with your presence and implant within our hearts the seed of your living word so that we may grow fruit that is pleasing to you. Reveal to us the things that you want us to see - show us what it is you would have us do - and strengthen us as we walk as pilgrims through this world. We ask it in the name of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to God and ask for forgiveness

Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

Receive good news: God turns to you in love. "I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God. All your sin is forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you. **Amen**

Thanks be to God

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Gracious Father, You gave up your Son out of love for this world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading 1 - Isaiah 43:16-21 (NIV)

Reading 2 - Psalm 126 (NIV)

Reading - Philippians 3:4(b)-14 (NIV)

Hymn 3 - When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

Gospel – John 12:1-8 (NIV)

Sermon – One more step, it's the main thing.

Hymn 4 - We Are Pilgrims" (The Servant Song)

Intercessions

Gracious words

Hear the gracious words of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. *John 6:35*

Anyone who comes to me, I will never drive away. *John 5:37*

Presentation of offerings

O Lord our God, our giving is from the love you have bestowed on us. May our love be as generous and as kind as Mary's. May it be so full of beauty and of tenderness that your Name is glorified by those who see it. Bless, we pray these gifts that we place on your table and bless us in your service. We ask it in the name of Christ Jesus, our crucified redeemer. **Amen**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Peace be with you.

Hymn 5 - One More Step

The Narrative of the Institution of the Lord's Supper

Hear the narrative of the institution of the Lord's Supper as it was recorded by the apostle Paul.

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as

you drink it, in remembrance of me.’ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. *1 Corinthians 11:23-26*

The Taking of the Bread and wine

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and following his example, we take this bread and this cup, and give thanks to God.

The Thanksgiving

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 praise you that for us and for our salvation, he humbled himself and in obedience accepted even death – death on a cross; and that he bore our sins in his body on the tree that we being dead to sin, should live to righteousness.

(On Screen)

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.

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.**

The Lord’s Prayer (On Screen)

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed
took bread and when he had given thanks,
he broke it and said, 'This is my body which is for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

In the same way also the cup saying
'This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.'

If the narrative of the institution has been used earlier in the service, as the bread is broken the minister may say:

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

And as the cup is raised the minister may say:

The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

Distribution of the Bread and Wine then follows with the following hymn:

Hymn 6 - Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (Communion Hymn)

The Acclamation

Let us praise the Lord.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Blessing and honour and glory

and power be to our God for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

(On Screen)

Most gracious God, we praise you for what you have given and for what you have promised us here. You have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service.

Now we give ourselves to you; and we ask that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom, and that our love may be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices

Dismissal and Blessing:

In the power of the Holy Spirit, we now go forth into the world, to fulfil our calling as the people of God, the body of Christ.

Go in peace - love and care for one another in Christ's name; and may the presence of the Lord Jesus guide you in the tempting times, may the joy of the Lord Jesus encourage you in the difficult times, and may the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in the dangerous times, this both now and forevermore. **Amen**

Hymn 7 - To God be the Glory