



*Journey Service*



Jesus Weeps

**St Alphege Parish Church, Solihull**  
**Sundays at 9.30am**

## THE GATHERING

*The President introduces Today's Theme: JESUS WEEPS*

- *Today we will explore how Jesus brought his friend back to life.*
- *Today's story shows that Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life*

*We prepare the Altar Table: book-rest already in place.*

*Children bring up LED Candles, the Cross, a Bible.*

**All:**                    **In my head**                    *(touch head)*  
                              **in my heart**                    *(touch heart)*  
                              **and all around me** *(touch shoulders one by one)*  
                              **Jesus is here**                    *(open hands in front, facing upwards)*  
                              **Amen.**

We stand for our opening song: [God is good \(NBD\)](#)

WE SAY SORRY

*Please sit*

*President: (Hands held out in front of us, palms facing outwards.)*

Loving God, for the times we have kept others at arms' length,

**All:                    Forgive us and help us.**

*President: (Hands curled into fists.)*

For the times we have refused to share what we have,

**All:                    Forgive us and help us.**

*President: (Hands placed over heart.)*

For the times we have only thought of ourselves,

**All:                    Forgive us and help us.**

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

*President: (Hands with palms facing upwards.)*

God the Creator brings us new life,  
forgives and redeems us.  
Let's take hold of this forgiveness  
and live our lives in the Spirit of Jesus.

**All: Amen.**

## COLLECT PRAYER

*Today's Special Prayer:*

Gracious Father,  
you gave up your Son  
out of love for the 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.

**All Amen.**

*Please stand if you are able*

THE BIBLE READING

John 11.1-43

*Read by child where possible.*

*At the end of the reading:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**



WE BELIEVE

Let us declare our faith in God. (*Makaton signs - action squad*)

**All: We believe in God\* the Father\*,  
from whom every family\*  
in heaven\* and on 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 power\* from on high\*.**

**We believe in one\* God\*,  
Father\*, Son\* and Holy\* Spirit\*. Amen\*.**

**1. *For faith and trust***

Loving God, just as Jesus showed trust in you when he prayed before raising Lazarus, help us to trust you even when things feel hard or confusing.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**2. *For those who are sad or grieving***

Comforting God, we remember that Jesus wept for his friend. Be close to all who are sad, lonely, or missing someone they love. Bring them comfort and peace.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**3. *For new life and hope***

God of life, you brought Lazarus back to life and showed us that hope is never lost. Help us to see new beginnings in our own lives and to share hope with others.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**4. *For families and friends***

Caring God, we thank you for the love of family and friends, like Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. Help us to care for one another and be there when someone needs us.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**5. *For those who are unwell***

Healing God, we pray for anyone who is sick in body or mind. Bring them healing, strength, and peace, and guide those who care for them.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**6. *For courage to follow Jesus***

Faithful God, help us to listen to Jesus and follow his example, showing kindness, compassion, and love to everyone we meet.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**7. *For the world***

God of power and love, just as Jesus brought light into a sad moment, help

us to bring light into our world by caring for others, protecting your creation,  
and working for peace.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

## THE PEACE

God has called us to live in peace.

May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Children and young people are invited to help set the table and gather around the table for the Prayer of Consecration which follows.*

*An older child volunteers to ring the Sanctus bell on Paul's instruction.*

*Younger children are given bells to ring along.*

## PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

**All:** With this bread that we bring  
**we shall remember Jesus.**

**All:** With this wine that we bring  
**we shall remember Jesus.**

**All:** Bread for his body,  
wine for his blood,  
gifts from God to his table we bring.  
**we shall remember Jesus.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here  
**All: His Spirit is with us.**

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

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

*1st Young Person:* Why is it right to give thanks and praise?  
**All: Listen, and we will hear**

Lord of all life, you created the universe,  
where all living things reflect your glory.  
You give us this great and beautiful earth,  
to discover and to cherish.

You give us your love,  
even when things go wrong.  
Jesus knew hurt and pain.  
Through him you wipe away our tears,  
and fill us with your peace.

You made us all, each wonderfully different,  
to join with the angels and sing your praise:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

We thank you, loving Father,  
because, when we turned away,  
you sent Jesus, your Son.  
He gave his life for us on the cross  
and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit  
that these gifts of bread and wine  
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

*BELLS*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Young Person:* Why do we share this bread and wine?

**All:** **Listen, and we will hear**

On the night before he died,  
when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread.  
He gave thanks, broke it,  
and shared it with his disciples, saying:  
'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

*BELLS*



After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,  
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:  
'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,  
for the forgiveness of sins.'

*BELLS*

So Father, with this bread and this cup  
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.  
As you feed us with these gifts,  
send your Holy Spirit, and change us more and more  
to be like Jesus our Saviour.

*3<sup>rd</sup> Young Person:* How do we follow Jesus Christ?

**All:** **Listen, and we will hear**

Help us, Father, to love one another,  
as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended,

and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with St Alphege... and all your saints  
we give you glory, through Jesus Christ,  
in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

*BELLS*

*Bells are collected back.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

As God's children, loved and cherished, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The president breaks the consecrated 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.**

## GIVING OF COMMUNION

Come to this table; not because you are strong,  
but because you are weak.  
Come; not because any goodness of your own  
gives you a right to come,  
but because you need mercy and help.  
Come; because you love the Lord a little,  
and would like to love him more.  
Come; not because you are worthy to approach him,  
but because he died for sinners.  
Come; because he loves you  
and gave himself for you.

*During Communion music is played – which may be live or recorded.*

*Pianist to play 'Now the green blade riseth' (466)*

*All are invited to come forward, to receive Holy Communion or a Blessing.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*We all say together:*

**All In darkness and in light,  
in trouble and in joy,  
help us, heavenly Father,  
to trust your love,  
to serve your purpose,  
and to praise your name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

## NOTICES

1. Lovely to see you – and hope you will want to come again!
2. Next Sunday is our Palm Sunday Journey service (?procession?)
3. We continue after the closing song and blessing in the OBH  
(with refreshments to follow).

**Jesus the Lord said: 'I am the Bread' (358, v 1,3,5)**

**Jesus the Lord said: 'I am the Bread,  
the Bread of Life for mankind am I.  
The Bread of Life for mankind am I,  
the Bread of Life for mankind am I.'  
Jesus the Lord said: 'I am the Bread,  
the Bread of Life for mankind am I.'**

**Jesus the Lord said: 'I am the Light,  
the one true Light of the world am I.  
The one true Light of the world am I,  
the one true Light of the world am I.'  
Jesus the Lord said: 'I am the Light,  
the one true Light of the world am I.'**

**Jesus the Lord said: 'I am the Life,  
the Resurrection and the Life am I.  
The Resurrection and the Life am I,  
the Resurrection and the Life am I.'  
Jesus the Lord said: 'I am the Life,  
the Resurrection and the Life am I.'**



## THE BLESSING

*President:* May God who made the whole earth, bless us  
(make a huge circle with arms)

May God who draws us all together, bless us  
(make hug across body)

May God who loves each one of us, bless us  
(place hand on heart)

*President:* And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
Be with us and all who we love this day and always.

**All: Amen.**

## THE DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Growing Disciples, Building Community, Transforming Lives**

[www.solihullparish.org.uk](http://www.solihullparish.org.uk)

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