



***All Age Eucharist  
with the admission of first communicants***

**First**  **Communion**

The central graphic features four symbols of the Eucharist: a host on a paten (a circular wafer with a cross) at the top, a chalice (a cup on a stem) below it, a stalk of wheat to the left, and a bunch of grapes to the right.

**St Alphege Parish Church, Solihull**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 9.30am**

GATHERING HYMN – SoF 2249 Come, people of the risen King

**1** Come people of the risen king,  
who delight to bring him praise;  
come all and tune your hearts to sing  
to the **Morning Star** of grace.  
From the shifting shadows of the earth  
we will lift our eyes to him,  
where steady arms of mercy reach  
to gather children in.

*Refrain*

**Rejoice, rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!  
One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!**

**2** Come, those whose joy is morning sun,  
and those weeping through the night;  
come, those who tell of battles won,  
and those struggling in the fight.  
For his perfect love will never change,  
and his mercies never cease,  
but follow us through all our days  
with the certain hope of peace.

*Refrain*

**3** Come, young and old from every land-  
men and women of the faith;  
come, those with full or empty hands-  
find the riches of his grace.  
Over all the world, his people sing-  
shore to shore we hear them call  
the truth that cries through every age  
**'Our God is all in all!'**

*Refrain*

Kristyn Getty, Keith Getty (born 1974) and Stuart Townend (born 1963)  
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## THE GREETING

Welcome all, we begin by making the sign of the cross upon our bodies, joining together in the words and actions on-screen:

**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.**

President Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**All**        **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*Please sit*

*The President introduces the service.*

Today is a great day of celebration! Today, some of our young people will receive our risen Lord Jesus Christ for the first time in bread and wine. They have been preparing with the encouragement of their families by learning a deeper understanding of what we do when we meet together for the breaking of bread. We welcome them with their families and supporters and look forward to admitting them later in the service.

## WE SAY SORRY

Jesus is risen and all that is wrong can be made right.

Let's be quiet for a minute and think about the things we have done, said and thought this week which have not been loving and have separated us from those around us, and from God.

*We keep a moment of stillness.*

Remembering God's mercy and compassion, let us confess our sins, using the words and actions on-screen.

*(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.**

*(Hands curled into fists.)*

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

**All Forgive us and help us.**

*(Hands placed over heart.)*

For the times we have only thought of ourselves,

**All Forgive us and help us.**

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

*(Hands with palms facing upwards.)*

Through the power of the risen Christ,

God have mercy on you,

+ pardon you

and set you free.

Know that you are forgiven

and be at peace.

God strengthen you in all goodness

and keep you in life eternal.

**All Amen.**

## COLLECT PRAYER

Risen Christ,  
by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples:  
help your church to obey your command  
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**All Amen.**

*President*

## THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Please stand if you are able*

**Chorus**

**Alle, Alle, Alle-lu-jah!**

**Alle, Alle, Alle-lu-jah!**

**Alle, Alle, Alle-lu-jah!**

**Alle-lu-jah!**

**I am the bread of life, feed on me,**

**I am the bread of life, feed on me,**

**I am the bread of life, feed on me,**

**Alle-lu-jah!**

**Chorus**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke  
**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

*From Luke 24 using Tom Wright's My Big Story Bible:*

That afternoon, two of Jesus' disciples were walking from Jerusalem to a village called Emmaus. They felt sad. Jesus, their leader, teacher, and dearest friend, was gone. He had been crucified and buried, and they thought they would never see him again. As the two friends were walking along, Jesus himself came up, and walked beside them. They greeted him politely, but they didn't recognize him. "Why are you so sad?" he asked. They answered him, "We were with Jesus of Nazareth. We hoped he would rescue God's people. But he was crucified. And that was three days ago." Jesus replied in a comforting voice. "Don't you see?" he said. "In the Bible it explains that God's Son has to suffer before he becomes king of the world."

They came to Emmaus and went indoors. When they had sat down to eat, Jesus took some bread, blessed it, broke it, and started to share it. As soon as he did that, they recognized him! But then, before they could say anything, he vanished from their sight. The two friends were amazed. "Of course!" they said. "It was Jesus himself! Our hearts were burning with excitement as he talked to us."

Without waiting to finish their meal, the two friends got up and hurried back to Jerusalem. They found the other disciples and told them what had happened. As they were talking, Jesus appeared in the middle of the room. The disciples were alarmed. Were they seeing a ghost? But Jesus showed them the wounds in his hands and his feet where he had been nailed to the cross. Then they gave him something to eat, and that convinced them that it really was Jesus, raised from the dead.

"It's nearly time," said Jesus. "God has new work for you to do, and he will give you his own special power to do it."

*At the end of the Gospel:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ**

*Junior Choristers move to the nave seats*

THE TALK

WE BELIEVE

*Please stand*

Let us all stand and affirm our common faith in Jesus Christ using the Makaton signs on the starred words:

**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\*.**

REMINDER OF BAPTISM

*The President invites the candidates to stand and addresses them:*

Since it is through Baptism alone that we have access to the Lord's Table,  
I invite you to come to the font  
where you will make the sign of the cross on your forehead  
with the blessed water of baptism  
as a reminder of your Baptism  
by which you became a member of the worldwide Christian family, the Church.

*The candidates, president and CYF Ministry walk to the font, following the processional cross. Close family members and any Godparents are invited to follow. We all stand and turn to face the font.*

*The candidates are invited to dip their fingers in the water of the font and make the sign of the cross on their foreheads;*

*President*

As we prepare to invite these young people to the Eucharist, I invite them to walk from the font, the place of baptism, to gather in front of the altar, where we will share the Lord's Supper.

*Candidates face the congregation, with parents, siblings, and godparents standing behind.*

## WELCOME TO FIRST COMMUNICANTS

Ben and Sue together:

On behalf of this community,  
we present to you these young people  
to be admitted to the fellowship of the Lord's table.

*President:* Have they completed faithfully and diligently  
their course of preparation?

Ben and Sue together: They have.

*President:*

Brothers and sisters,  
today we are welcoming these young people to Holy Communion.  
Some time ago, all these children were baptized  
and became members of the Body of Christ.  
As parents and godparents, and as the community of Solihull Parish,  
we share the responsibility of encouraging them in their worship and learning,  
and of supporting them by our friendship, our example and our prayers.

Will you help them to grow in faith and love?

**All We will.**

*The President addresses all the candidates by reading out their names.*

**Annabelle, Ethan, Caleb, Alexander, Moses, Louie, Juno, Jocelyn, Matilda, Makka, Gabriella, and Madeleine**

You love God, you follow Jesus, and you live the Christian life.  
Do you wish to receive Holy Communion?

*Candidates :*      We do

*Addressing the congregation, the president asks:*

People of God, these young people are members of our Christian family.  
On behalf of the whole people of God, I ask: are you ready to welcome them with joy as communicant members of the Church?

**All            In the Lord's name we welcome them.**

In the name of our Bishops, Michael and Esther, I admit you to the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. May God bless you as you continue with us on the pilgrim journey of faith.

#### PRESENTATION OF CROSSES

As a sign of our welcome and as a reminder of this happy day we give to each of you a cross, a reminder that you need never feel alone. We pray that as you look upon the cross of Jesus you will come to know how much the Lord loves you. We ask you to accept this gift with our love and as a sign of our welcome and fellowship in the name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*Tammy Strong to distribute crosses to each candidate.*

*Once the crosses have been distributed the community expresses its joy and welcome with applause.*

*President:*

As all these young people receive today the sacrament of the body and blood of Christ, let us pray that we may all know and reflect the love of Christ.

Loving God, we pray for  
Annabelle, Ethan, Caleb, Alexander, Moses, Louie, Juno, Jocelyn, Matilda, Makka,  
Gabriella and Madeleine

asking that they may know you are with them every day,  
and that your presence would guide and strengthen them in every situation.  
Help them to be confident to share in your life  
and courageous in sharing that life with others.

**All Amen.**

*Ben:*

Loving God, as we give thanks for these young people  
and this step that they are taking today,  
help each of us to walk with you,  
to know the presence of your Spirit within and beside us,  
that together we might grow in holiness,  
ready to be sent into the world, to love and serve in Jesus' name.

**All Amen.**

THE PEACE

Please stand if you are able

Alleluia! Christ has been raised from the dead.  
May the peace of the Lord be always with you. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**All And also with you. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

We remain in our places and offer one another a sign of peace.

*Junior Choristers return to sit in the chancel.*

*The candidates, parents, siblings, godparents and tutors return to their seats.*

OFFERTORY SONG – HON 289 I come with joy

**I come with joy, a child of God,  
forgiven, loved and free,  
the life of Jesus to recall,  
in love laid down for me.**

**I come with Christians far and near  
to find, as all are fed,  
the new community of love  
in Christ's communion bread.**

**As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,  
each proud division ends.  
The love that made us, makes us one,  
and strangers now are friends.**

**The Spirit of the risen Christ,  
unseen, but ever near,  
is in such friendship better known,  
alive among us here.**

**Together met, together bound  
by all that God has done,  
we'll go with joy, to give the world  
the love that makes us one.**

Brian Wren (born 1936) © 1971, 1995 Stainer & Bell Ltd

**PREPARATION OF THE TABLE**

Father, by your Holy Spirit,  
you keep the Church in unity and truth.  
As we break bread together,  
may we be one with Christ  
in faith and hope and love,  
now and forever.

**All Amen**

*Children are invited to come forward and gather around the altar table.*

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.**

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;  
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away  
you did not reject us,  
but came to meet us in your Son.

**All You embraced us as your children  
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life  
that we might live in him and he in us.

**All He opened his arms of love upon the cross  
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,  
at supper with his friends  
he took bread, and 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.

**All Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his body is the bread of life.**

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 for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**All Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,  
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine  
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

*All* **As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of praise  
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

*All* **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of pow'r and God of might:  
heaven and earth, heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
your pow'r and might.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'ns.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'ns.**

*Please sit*

## 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.**

*All join in singing:*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.**

## THE INVITATION

*The young people around the altar are given the bread and wine to elevate.*

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

**All** **Therefore let us celebrate the feast.**

*The First Communicants remain at the altar to receive Holy Communion along with those helping with the administration. The others return to their seats.*

*Once these have received, the congregation are then invited to come forward.*

*If you, or your children, regularly receive the bread and wine at any Christian church,  
you are most welcome to do so today.*

*If you do not usually receive the bread and wine, or prefer not to do so today,  
you are invited to come forward to receive a prayer of blessing.*

*If you do this, you may want to hold your hands together in prayer  
so that we know your intention.*

*The Junior Choristers sing HON 766*

*In the Lord I'll be ever thankful in the Lord I will rejoice!*

*Look to God, do not be afraid;*

*lift up your voices: the Lord is near, lift up your voices the Lord is near.*

SONG DURING COMMUNION – HON 282 How sweet the name  
(tune SoF 782)

**How sweet the name of Jesus sounds  
in a believer's ear;  
it soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,  
and drives away his fear.  
It makes the wounded spirit whole,  
and calms the troubled breast;  
'tis manna to the hungry soul,  
and to the weary rest,  
and to the weary rest.**

**Dear Name, the rock on which I build,  
my shield, and hiding-place;  
my never-failing treasury, filled  
with boundless stores of grace.  
Jesus, my Shepherd, Saviour, friend,  
my Prophet, Priest and King;  
my Lord, my Life, my Way, my End,  
accept the praise I bring,  
accept the praise I bring.**

**Weak is the effort of my heart,  
and cold my warmest thought;  
but when I see you as you are,  
I'll praise you as I ought,  
I would your boundless love proclaim  
with every fleeting breath;  
so shall the music of your name  
refresh my soul in death,  
refresh my soul in death.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen**

## NOTICES AND BANNINGS OF MARRIAGE

*The President gives out any notices and bannings of marriage.*

Please stand, if you are able, to sing the final song.

*Verse 1*

**In my wrestling and in my doubts,  
in my failures, you won't walk out;  
Your great love will lead me through.  
You are the peace in my troubled sea,  
You are the peace in my troubled sea.**

*Verse 2*

**In the silence, you won't let go,  
in the questions your truth will hold.  
Your great love will lead me through.  
You are the peace in my troubled sea,  
You are the peace in my troubled sea**

*Chorus*

**My lighthouse, my lighthouse,  
shining in the darkness, I will follow you.  
My lighthouse, my lighthouse,  
I will trust the promise  
you will carry me safe to shore,  
safe to shore, safe to shore, safe to shore.**

*Verse 3*

**I won't fear what tomorrow brings,  
with each morning I'll rise and sing.  
My God's love will lead me through.  
You are the peace in my troubled sea,  
You are the peace in my troubled sea.**

*Chorus*

*Mid section*

**Fire before us, you're the brightest.  
You will lead us through the storms.**

*(repeat three more times)*

*Chorus*

## PRESENTATION OF CANDLES

*Before the final blessing each candidate is presented with a candle as a reminder of this special day and a certificate to show completion of their preparation.  
Alison to Light and distribute candles, Lynn to distribute certificates.*

You have received the light of Christ;  
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**All Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.**

## THE BLESSING

God the Father,  
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,  
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.

**All Amen.**

God the Son,  
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

**All Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,  
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

**All Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

## THE DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**All Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**