

St Nicholas Church, Sighthill

Holy Communion

29 January 2023

FOR AS OFTEN AS YOU
EAT THIS BREAD
AND DRINK THE CUP
YOU PROCLAIM
THE LORD'S DEATH
UNTIL HE COMES

~ 1 CORINTHIANS 11:26 ~



Praise

**It is a great day to
praise the Lord**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch
?v=nfH4sjsLOPk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nfH4sjsLOPk)





Gathering Prayer

May Your star pause over this place of worship,
illuminating Your truth and justice. Confront us anew with Your call, to look for power in lowly places and to bring our gifts to worship. You, who are long gone from the stable, but present in every place and time – God with us.

Praise

O Praise ye the Lord
Praise Him in the
Heights

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5Ynxu3fSMk>



REFLECTIVE PRAYER

The Servant bringing justice – not by force or by power, but by gentle persistence.

Stealth that creeps in, undoing centuries of wrong overturning layers of tradition unearthing goodness buried deep ground down by harshness lost in the depths of holiness but there for the finding and ready to be brought to the surface. Grasped and gently nourished coddled into fullness of life unable to resist the pull of love that elicits the response of justice held out.

All: FragileVulnerable

Life giving

Life changing

Justice wrought not by force, but by love.

Assurance of forgiveness

All: We are a divine creation. We were created to be a community. We are forgiven and called into a vibrant relationship with God and with one another

Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory,

For ever. Amen Matthew 6: 9-13 (NKJV)



Bible Reading and brief Reflection - Micah 6:6,8

‘With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old?

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Praise

Behold the Lamb

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=481xyHUrwwQA>



Holy Communion

Invitation and Prayer

Welcome to our communion service.

We hope that as you participate in it, you have a real sense of the presence of God, as we remember His death and resurrection – in bread and in wine. As we come to this table, let's be quiet for a moment and prepare our hearts.



Moment of Silence

All: We are the people of God. We are the body of Christ. We are scattered, and the body of Christ is broken, but as we gather, the body of Christ is re-membered. Together we gather in obedience to Jesus' command, to remember, and to share together in breaking bread and drinking wine, in remembrance of the death of Christ. Each piece of bread that we eat was once scattered across and the grain that God gave to grow has become for us the bread of life. Each sip of wine that we drink was once many vines, and the grapes in the fields, that God us gave to grow .

These have now become for us the new wine of God's kingdom. In our communion with one another, we are fed with the bread of heaven that sustains us, and we drink the wine of gladness that brings us joy.

A Modern Affirmation

Leader: Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true Church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith we now declare:

All: We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.

Let us share in

BREAD

Together

The body of Christ broken for you....

Let us share in

WINE

Together

The **BLOOD** of Christ shed for you

Sharing the Peace



Prayer for Others



Blessed are we when the weight of daily life becomes too much to bear. When our lack of money, time, or love keeps us awake long into the night. May God bless us with calm minds and still spirits and a sure knowledge of God's love for us.

Blessed are we when our bodies fail us. When our pain envelops us, when disease invades us, when our minds betray us. May God bless us with healing and comfort.

Blessed are we when our souls cry out in grief. When it feels as though the weight of loss will crush our very being. May God cradle us and bless us with love.

Blessed are we when we see the world as it is: filled with pain, and injustice, and suffering. When we feel despair at how far the world is from God's vision. May God bless us with courage and determination.

All: Blessed are we in our imperfection. May God bless us with the eyes to see each other as God sees us.

PRAISE

What a Friend
we have in Jesus

[https://www.youtube.com
/watch?v=8SCorW9r_Is](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8SCorW9r_Is)





FINAL BLESSINGS

Jesus, may we follow you into all the darkness of the world, overthrowing the old and tired ways, fighting for justice, forging paths to peace, loving those it's hard to love, knowing You go before us and call us to follow.