

# Service of Holy Communion

## Advent Sunday

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023



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## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

- † *If it is your custom to receive the Sacrament in your own church you are most welcome to do so here today, irrespective of your church tradition. You are invited to come forward to the Altar Rail to kneel and receive both the consecrated bread and wine. Please be sure to give some distance between yourself and others as you come from and return to your place.*
- † *If you still feel hesitant about receiving the wine it would be nice for you to take the Chalice into your hands for a brief moment as a gesture of receiving Christ into your heart, before you return.*
- † ***Please take a slip of paper from the proffered basket, write the names of those for whom you wish to pray and return it to the basket.***

***You can download the Order of Service using a QR Code on the poster by the Font.***

*A €10 Donation can be made  
by scanning this QR Code and following the instructions.*



*A plate will be brought round during the third hymn for your cash contribution to the work and ministry of this beautiful church. If you wish to sign up for our Envelope Giving Scheme or for our Mailing please ask for the form.*

## ***MOST IMPORTANT***

***Before the service starts please ensure your mobile/cell phone  
is switched off or is put on  
“Flight Mode”.***

***This is to prevent interference with our Wireless Sound System.***



# THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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## **The Gathering of God's People**

*We greet you all very warmly, and especially those joining us via the internet.*

*Please turn mobile/cell phones to Flight Mode*

## **THE GREETING**

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you all  
**and also with you.**

## **A PRAYER FOR THIS NATION**

Almighty and merciful God,  
Who in the days of old gave to this land  
The benediction of thy holy Church;  
Withdraw not, we pray, your favour from us,  
But so correct what is amiss,  
And supply what is lacking,  
That we may more and more bring forth fruit to thy glory;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## **THE HYMN OF PREPARATION**

*Hymn 135 "O Come O Come Emmanuel"*

*Our Service continues on page 201 in our Green Book of Common Prayer*

## **THE COLLECT FOR PURITY**

**Almighty God,**  
**to whom all hearts are open,**  
**all desires known,**  
**and from whom no secrets are hidden;**  
**Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts**  
**by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,**  
**that we may perfectly love you,**  
**and worthily magnify your holy name;**  
**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God  
with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.  
This is the first and great commandment.  
And the second is like it.  
You shall love your neighbour as yourself.  
On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.  
**Lord, have mercy on us,  
and write these your laws in our hearts.**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ,  
to save us from our sins, to intercede for us in heaven,  
and to bring us to eternal life.

## THE BEATITUDES

Let us hear our Lord's blessing on those who follow him:

Blessèd are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessèd are the meek,  
for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessèd are those who weep,  
for they shall be consoled.

Blessèd are those who hunger and thirst after justice,  
for they shall be satisfied.

Blessèd are the merciful,  
for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessèd are the pure in heart,  
for they shall see God.

Blessèd are the peacemakers,  
for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessèd are those who suffer persecution for the sake of justice,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

So, in the quietness of our hearts  
let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,  
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments  
and to live in love and peace:

*We keep a few moments of Silence*

Turn to us again, O God our Saviour,  
and let your anger cease from us.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Show us your mercy, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

Christ, have mercy

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your salvation is near for those that fear you,  
that glory may dwell in our land.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

## THE SUNDAY COLLECT

Almighty God,  
Give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and to put on the armour of light  
now in the time of this mortal life  
in which your Son Jesus Christ  
came to us in great humility;  
that on the last day  
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty  
to judge the living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who is alive  
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**



### Isaiah 64: 1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### THE PSALM

*Keep a marker on Page 204*

*Our Psalm is on Page 685 in our Green Book of Common Prayer;*

*Ps 80 and respond with the words after the red dots.*

### Psalm 80

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel,

**you that led Joseph like a flock;**

Shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim,

**before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.**

Stir up your mighty strength

**and come to our salvation.**

Turn us again, O God;

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

O Lord God of hosts,

**how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?**

You feed them with the bread of tears;

**you give them abundance of tears to drink.**

You have made us the derision of our neighbours,

**and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

Turn us again, O God of hosts;

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen**

## A READING FROM THE NEW COVENANT

### *1 Corinthians 1: 3-9*

*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**This is the Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God**

## THE HYMN OF WORSHIP

*Hymn 134 "Make Way Make Way For Christ The King"*

## A READING OF THE GOSPEL

*Please stand*

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ according to St Mark, ch 13 beginning at v 24  
**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jesus said "But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

**This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## THE SERMON

*Please sit for the Sermon*

## THE STATEMENT OF OUR BELIEF

*We turn to p205 in our Green Book of Common Prayer  
Please stand for the Creed*

We believe in one God,  
**the Father, the Almighty,**  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**  
the only **Son of God,**  
eternally begotten of the **Father,**  
**God from God,**  
**Light from Light,**  
**true God from true God,**  
begotten, not made,  
of one **Being with the Father.**  
**Through him all things were made.**  
**For us and for our salvation**  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate by the **Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,**  
and was made man.  
**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**  
he suffered death and was buried.  
**On the third day he rose again**  
in accordance with the **Scriptures;**  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the **Father.**  
**He will come again in glory**  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**  
the **Lord, the giver of life,**  
who proceeds from the **Father (and the Son),**  
who with the **Father and the Son** is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**  
**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**  
**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**  
and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**



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## The Prayers of the People

*At the end of each prayer the following is said*

Lord, hear us:

**Lord, you graciously hear us.**

*At the end of the Intercessions the following is said:*

Merciful Father,

**accept these our prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*Please stand for the Peace*

In the tender mercy of our God,  
the dayspring from on high  
shall break upon us,  
to give light to those who dwell in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of God be always with you.  
**and also with you.**

*Please share with each other a sign of peace either by touch or by gesture* 🙏

## THE HYMN OF THE PRESENCE

*During this Hymn your donations will be gathered in by the Stewards*

*Hymn 533 "God of Grace And God Of Glory"*

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## Celebrating at the Lord's Table

*In our Green Book of Common Prayer keeping a tab in p207, we go to p208*

### AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

How can we repay the Lord  
for all the benefits he has given to us?  
We will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call upon the name of the Lord.  
We will fulfil our vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people. **Amen.**

### THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us  
**therefore let us celebrate the feast.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

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.**

Father,  
almighty and everliving God,  
at all times and in all places  
it is right to give you thanks and praise.  
Salvation is your gift  
through the coming of your Son  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and by him you will make all things new  
when he returns in glory to judge the world:

And so with angels and archangels  
and with all the company of heaven  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

Blessèd are you, Father,  
the creator and sustainer of all things;  
you made us in your own image,  
male and female you created us;  
even when we turned away from you,  
you never ceased to care for us,  
but in your love and mercy  
you freed us from the slavery of sin,  
giving your only begotten Son to become man  
and suffer death on the cross to redeem us:  
he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice  
for the sins of the whole world:  
he instituted,  
and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue,  
a perpetual memory of his precious death  
until he comes again.

On the night that he was betrayed  
he took bread;  
and when he had given thanks to you,  
he broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
Take, eat,  
this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup;  
and when he had given thanks to you,  
he gave it to them, saying,  
Drink this, all of you,  
for this is my blood of the new covenant  
which is shed for you and for many

for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, Father,  
with this bread and this cup  
**we do as Christ your Son commanded:**  
**we remember his passion and death,**  
**we celebrate his resurrection and ascension,**  
**and we look for the coming of his kingdom.**

Accept through him,  
our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts,  
grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit  
that we may be made one in your holy Church  
and partakers of the body and blood of your Son,  
that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
**all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father,**  
**for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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 bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**We being many are one body,**

**for we all share in the one bread.**

## THE COMMUNION

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ

which he gave for you,

and his blood which he shed for you.

Remember that he died for you,

and feed on him in your hearts

by faith with thanksgiving.

## THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume to come to this your table,  
merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness  
but in your manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy  
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.  
But you are the same Lord,  
whose nature is always to have mercy.  
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.**

## RECEIVING COMMUNION

*All are welcome.*

*Whichever tradition you follow, you are welcome to receive the Sacrament here.  
Please come forward to kneel at the Rail to receive the Sacrament of Bread and Wine*

*Even if you don't want to receive the Sacrament of Wine for health reasons, please feel free to hold the Chalice for a moment in acknowledgement of God's gift to us.*

## THE GREAT SILENCE

*We all keep an extended silence for reflection*



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## Going Out as God's People

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our deliverer,  
Awaken our hearts  
to prepare the way  
for the advent of your Son, that,  
with minds purified by the grace of his coming,  
we may serve you faithfully all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Almighty God,  
**we thank you for feeding us  
with the spiritual food  
of the body and blood  
of your Son Jesus Christ.**  
Through him we offer you  
our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.  
**Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

## THE HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

*Hymn 118 "Behold The Mountain Of The Lord"*

## NOTICES

*You are cordially invited to partake of refreshments with us, served at the back of church.*

## THE DISMISSAL

Christ the sun of righteousness  
shine upon you,  
gladden your hearts  
and scatter the darkness from before you:

and so the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
is with you and will remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**in the name of Christ. Amen.**

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The service is live-streamed on [www.churchservices.tv/killarneystmarysloes](http://www.churchservices.tv/killarneystmarysloes)  
and is on catch-up on the same link (under the recordings tab)

There will also be a recording on our Church's YouTube Channel "St Mary's Church Killarney" under the Upload tab.



"The Church of the Sloes" is the marketing name of  
St Mary's (Church of Ireland) Killarney which is the operating name  
of the Registered Charity "Select Vestry of Parish of Killarney"  
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