**Emmanuel Group of Churches, Northampton**

**Midweek Holy Communion Wednesday 13th May 2020**

**Welcome and Introduction**

Listen to the words of comfort that we can find in this Psalm.

**Psalm 3**

3    But you, Lord, are a shield about me;  ♦

you are my glory, and the lifter up of my head.

4    When I cry aloud to the Lord,  ♦

he will answer me from his holy hill;

5    I lie down and sleep and rise again,  ♦

because the Lord sustains me.

8    Salvation belongs to the Lord:  ♦

may your blessing be upon your people.

**Confession and Absolution**

**When faith is tested to the limit,
and we stumble,
forgive us.**

**When feet stray from the path,
and we wander,
forgive us.**

**When our neighbour is in need,
and we pass by,
forgive us.**

**When the voices of this world,
drown out your whisper,
forgive us.**

**When love draws us to your feet,
in repentance,
forgive us.**

May the God of love and power

forgive you and free you from your sins,

heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,

and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Gospel Reading: John 15.1-8**

 I am the true vine, and My Father is the keeper of the vineyard. **2**My Father examines every branch in Me and cuts away those who do not bear fruit. He leaves those bearing fruit and carefully prunes them so that they will bear more fruit; **3**already you are clean because you have heard My voice. **4**Abide in Me, and I will abide in you. A branch cannot bear fruit if it is disconnected from the vine, and neither will you if you are not connected to Me.

**5**I am the vine, and you are the branches. If you abide in Me and I in you, you will bear great fruit. Without Me, you will accomplish nothing. **6**If anyone does not abide in Me, he is like a branch that is tossed out and shrivels up and is later gathered to be tossed into the fire to burn. **7**If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.   **8**This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

**Reflection**

**Prayers of Intercession**

**Eucharistic Prayer**

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, we give thanks for your Son, Jesus Christ,
whose perfect love casts out our fear,
and in whom we live, like branches of a vine,
drawing our life from him
that we might bear much fruit to your glory.
With angels and archangels
and with all your people on earth and in heaven,
we proclaim your glorious name,
evermore 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.**

We praise you, Lord God,
creator and sustainer of the universe.
Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us
the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who on the night that he was betrayed,
took bread, gave thanks, broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,

‘Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.’

In the same way, after supper,
he took the cup and gave you thanks,
and gave it to them, saying,

‘This is my blood of the new covenant
poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, whenever you drink it,
in remembrance of me.’

Send down your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us the body and blood of Christ.
Unite us with him for ever
and bring us with the whole creation to your eternal kingdom.
**Amen.**

And as Jesus said a prayer before sharing,

let us do so too.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Let us say together the prayer that Jesus taught us,

in your preferred language or format:

**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 the Bread**

The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
The cup we take is a sharing in the blood of Christ

**Invitation to receive**

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ,
which was given for you,
and his blood which was shed for you.
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving. Amen.

*[All receive the bread and the wine]*

**Blessing**

May God the vine grower tend you and make you fruitful;
May Christ Jesus abide in you and give you life;
And may the Holy Spirit cast out all fear

and fill you with God’s love;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you
now and always.

**Amen.**

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
........***In the name of Christ. Amen.***