



Benefice Eucharist

A service to celebrate and dedicate the formation of the South Newbury Benefice.
September 29th 2024



South Newbury - St George, St John, St Michael

The Gathering

A minister says:

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



Words of welcome and introduction.

Opening Hymn

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation.
All ye who hear; now to his temple draw near;
joining in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shieldeth thee gently from harm, or when fainting sustaineth:
hast thou not seen how thy heart's wishes have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper they work and defend thee,
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend thee:
ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
if to the end he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in us adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him.
Let the 'Amen' sound from his people again,
gladly for ay we adore him.

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The Prayer of Preparation

**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.**

Prayer of Penitence

My brothers and sisters,
as we prepare to celebrate the presence
of Christ in word and sacrament,
let us call to mind and confess our sins.

A short silence follows offering space for reflection.

**Gracious God,
we confess that we have not loved you with all our heart.
We have not cared for others as ourselves.
In your great mercy, forgive our sins and help us to lead a new life in
your service. Amen.**

The presiding priest says the Absolution (God's forgiveness of sin):

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.

The Peruvian Gloria

We stand to sing our response to God's compassion and welcome.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father,
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father,
To him be glory for ever,
To him be glory for ever,
Alleluia, amen,
Alleluia, amen, Alleluia, amen, Alleluia, amen.

Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father ...

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit ...

The Collect

Let us pray.

The Collect is preceded by a short period of silent prayer.

Creator God, you made us in your image:
may we discern you in all that we see,
and serve you in all that we do;
form us in the likeness of Christ,
that we may reach out to all people
and share your healing love in our communities.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Ephesians 2. 17-22

Christ came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of

God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

At the end of a reading,

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me lie in pastures green,
he leads me by the still, still waters,
his goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in you alone,
and I will trust in you alone,
for your endless mercy follows me,
your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,
and he anoints my head with oil;
and my cup - it overflows with joy,
I feast on his pure delights.

And I will trust in you alone ...

And though I walk the darkest path -
I will not fear the evil one,
for you are with me, and your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know.

And I will trust in you alone ...

Gospel Reading Matthew 5:13-16

Please stand. When the Gospel is announced the reader says:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

We stand to affirm our faith:

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

Offering of symbols of thanksgiving and dedication

The Associate Archdeacon says;

Gracious God, we praise and glorify you, because in your infinite love you have formed throughout the world a holy people for your own possession, a royal priesthood, a universal Church, that, sharing in the ministry of our Saviour Christ, we might be witnesses of what he has done for us.

Gracious God, we praise and glorify you.

Water for baptism is presented, and the congregation is asked:

Will you rejoice to bring new Christians to baptism and to share with them the Living Water, Jesus Christ himself?

**Together, by God's grace,
we will grow in our faith and discipleship.**

Oil of healing is presented, and the congregation is asked:

Will you be people of reconciliation, showing God's forgiveness and healing?

**Together, by God's grace,
we will be a Christ-like community of love.**

A Bible is presented, and the congregation is asked:

Will you study the Scriptures, proclaim the Word and explore the faith?

**Together, by God's grace,
we will nurture faith and grow in love and service.**

Bread and wine are presented, and the congregation is asked:

Will you be radical communities of grace fed by Christ's body and blood, and sharing his life in the world?

**Together, by God's grace,
we will seek to be the living body of Christ.**

A coffee mug and biscuits are presented, and the congregation is asked:

Will you be people of welcome and inclusion working together to reach out to all?

**Together, by God's grace,
we will serve our communities with humility and courage.**

When all the symbols have been presented all respond;

Will you dedicate yourselves to being the body of Christ here in south Newbury?

With the help of God, we will dedicate ourselves to being salt and light in this Benefice, serving others and being beacons of hope for all. Gracious God, we praise and glorify you. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

After each prayer this response is used,

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

And at the end:

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

We stand to share God's peace.

We are the body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you;
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We share a sign of peace with those around us.

The Offertory Hymn

During which the bread and wine are brought to the altar table.

Angel-voices ever singing
round thy throne of light,
angel-harps for ever ringing,
rest not day nor night;
thousands only live to bless thee,
and confess thee Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest
mortal eye can see,
can it be that thou regardest
our poor hymnody?
Yes, we know that thou art near us
and wilt hear us constantly.

Yea, we know that thou rejoicest
o'er each work of thine;
thou didst ears and hands and voices
for thy praise design;
craftsman's art and music's measure
for thy pleasure all combine.

In thy house, great God, we offer
of thine own to thee;
and for thine acceptance proffer
all unworthily,
hearts and minds and hands and voices
in our choicest psalmody.

Honour, glory, might and merit,
thine shall ever be,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
blesséd Trinity.
Of the best that thou hast given
earth and heaven render thee.

Preparation of the Table

*The altar table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.
The presiding priest takes the bread and wine and praises God in these words:*

Wise and gracious God,
you spread a table before us;
nourish your people with the word of life
and the bread of heaven

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer (Prayer H)

The presiding priest says:

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 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.

**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.

**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.

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

Bells are rung.

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.

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

Bells are rung.

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.

**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:

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord;
holy is the Lord God almighty.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord;
holy is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come,
holy, holy, holy is the Lord!**

Please sit.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

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.

Breaking of the Bread

The presiding priest breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread

to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body,

because we all share in one bread.

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.

Giving of Communion

The presiding priest says this invitation to communion:

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

The presiding priest and people receive communion with these words,

The body of Christ. **Amen**

The blood of Christ. **Amen**

*All are invited to God's Table. Come up as invited by the sides people.
Communion is received standing and we return to our seats down the
side aisles. If you do not wish to receive the bread and wine, please keep
hands lowered to receive a prayer of blessing.*

Choir anthem Ave Verum, Mozart

Hymns during Communion

**Here is bread, here is wine,
Christ is with us, he is with us.
Break the bread, taste the wine,
Christ is with us here.**

*In this bread there is healing,
in this cup is life for ever.
In this moment, by the Spirit,
Christ is with us here.*

Here is grace, here is peace,
Christ is with us, he is with us.
Know his grace, find his peace,
feast on Jesus here.

Here we are, joined in one,
Christ is with us, he is with us;
we'll proclaim, till he comes,
Jesus crucified.

Brother, sister, let me serve you;

let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
fellow travellers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christlight for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

Prayer after Communion

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast:
for here we receive you,
here the memory of your passion is renewed,
here our minds are filled with grace,
and here the pledge of future glory is given,
when we shall feast at that table where you reign
with all your saints for ever.

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with 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 Dismissal

Notices

Final Hymn

Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace ;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions :

*all are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus :

*all are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where love is found
in water wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

*all are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:

*all are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

*all are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

The presiding priest uses this or another suitable blessing:

God give to you
and to all those you love and serve
his comfort and his peace,
his light and his joy,
in this world and the next;
and the blessing
of God almighty,
the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit,
be among you
and remain with you always. **Amen.**

A minister says:

Unless the Lord builds the house,
those who build it labour in vain.

Like living stones, precious in God's sight,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ.

Amen.

All are warmly invited to the benefice celebration lunch
at St George's Church in Wash Common, RG14 6NU
which follows immediately after the service.
Extra parking is available in Falkland School
next to the church.

Our Benefice celebrations end this evening with a special
Choral Evensong at St Michael and All Angels, Enborne,
at 6pm followed by Forest Church style refreshments.



'You are the salt of the earth.'

The Benefice of South Newbury are Inclusive Churches

This means we affirm and welcome everyone as a beautiful human person made in the image of God - which includes their sexuality, gender, race, dis/ability, ethnicity, diversity and whole-life story.

Benefice of South Newbury - St George, St John & St Michael
www.stg-stj.org.uk

Material in this service is copyright:
Common Worship© 2000 The Archbishops' Council
Benefice Office, 206 Andover Road, RG14 6NU. Tel: 01635 41249



South Newbury - St George, St John, St Michael