

WINTERTON GROUP OF CHURCHES

Vicar: The Revd. Alice Nunn

Weekend of Sunday 15th May 2022

Parish Eucharist

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Altar and Vestment colours are White

The New Creation

Christ at this season puts fresh heart in us to spread his kingdom. He gives us his new commandment of love and encourages us with the promise of the new Jerusalem.

Holy Communion

The Eucharist is not just a weekly way of celebrating our faith, but should radically affect our relationship with others, especially those most in need.

The Eucharist affects the life of our Christian communities, it is where the Church receives her identity and mission. It is not simply a memorial of what Jesus did for us. Rather, it is something that Christ does for us, filling us with his grace and nourishing us with His own life.

Just as Christ loved to be with others, and gave Himself to all on the Cross, so we are called to give ourselves generously to our brothers and sisters, sharing in their joys and sorrows. The Eucharist gives us the grace to feel forgiven and to be ready to forgive others.

In the Eucharist we experience the forgiveness of God, and our hearts are enlarged to receive and show mercy.

We can talk to God before the Eucharist and talk to our friends after the Eucharist.

Let us pray: Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 11: 1-18

You will be baptised with the Holy Spirit

The apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, 'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?' Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth." But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and

bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved." And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?' When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, 'Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

A reading from the Book of Revelation 21: 1-6

God will wipe away all tears from their eyes

And I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.' And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.'

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'I give you a new commandment: love one another, just as I have loved you. **Alleluia!**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ ✠ according to John
Glory to you, O Lord. 13: 31-35

I give you a new commandment: love one another.

During the supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

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

Then follows the sermon, Creed, our prayers, the Peace and The Consecration

Holy Communion is the most sacred part of the Eucharist. Baptised persons who are communicant members of other churches are very welcome to receive the Holy Sacrament at our Altar. If you would prefer to receive a blessing please bring your service book with you and after you have been blessed please return to your place.

Let us pray: God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Blessing

