

# New Kilpatrick

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2020

Communion

Matthew 16:13-20

## Welcome

Hello... thank you once more for the invitation to join you... but today... we join a whole crowd of people... past and present... and we join them at the table... a table where we share bread and wine together today...

Last week the Canaanite woman... the least in her community... opened Jesus eyes to the possibility that the kingdom was universal... where everyone was invited... Even the dogs eat the crumbs...

And the crumbs are enough... The whole of the kingdom is contained in just the crumbs... so all of us... us who are the gentiles... whose legacy is that of the Canaanite woman... are welcome... so we gather...

You may wish to pause here for a moment to fetch some bread and some juice or wine... and come back to this virtual table.....

So welcome... everyone... of every race and colour and language and culture... of every faith and none... of every age and generation and gender and sexuality... every denomination and none... those confident... those doubting... and all of us in between... It is an open table we gather round...

Let us pray

## Gathering Prayer

As we gather round the table  
To listen to the stories that call us in  
May we recognise the humanity  
And vulnerability of us all.

Here in the place where we meet  
Wherever that may be  
Whomever that may be with  
May we recognise our shared  
community and love.

Just as the crumbs fell under the table  
Today, may we all come forward to the table  
Where the least are called first  
And recognise the sanctity of this space.

## Reading – Matthew 16:13–20

Jesus and the disciples arrived in Caesarea Philippi. But what you need to know is that in this place, many Romans and Greeks lived. And so the village was surrounded by statues of Zeus and Apollo and the emperor. So many.

And surrounded by all these statues of other gods, Jesus paused, looked at them all and asked his disciples: “Who do people say I am?”

The didn't hesitate. They had lots to choose from.

“Some think you are John the Baptizer, some say Elijah, some Jeremiah or one of the other prophets.”

But Simon Peter, in a moment of inspiration said, “You're the Christ, the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

“God bless you, Simon” said Jesus, “You didn't get that answer out of books or from teachers. God himself, let you in on who I really am. And now I'm going to tell you who you are, *really* are. You are Peter, a rock. This is the rock on which I will put together my church, a church so great with energy that not even the gates of the underworld will be able to keep it out.”

## Who Do You Say I am?

Who do we say Jesus is? What words can we use today, surrounded by our contemporary statues of those who like to think they are godlike, through fame or wealth or position... or companies and social media whose popularity lift them above others. Who do we say Jesus is today... We asked members of the congregation... here is what they said...

## Stories

Who do you say I am... You are a story... a story that leads here to this table... a table set with stories... each one saying... This is who you are...

David

All stories call us to the table to break bread.

Mary and Martha waiting and serving,  
preparing the table to be spiritually fed.

Kirsteen

All stories call us to the table to break bread  
5000 waiting hungry  
are fed food and justice and love

Alfred

All stories call us to the table to break bread  
of Zacchaeus searching high  
called down into companionship

Ian G

All stories call us to the table to break bread.  
When we walk with questions to Emmaus  
we recognise who is in our midst.

Iain M

All stories call us to the table to break bread.  
Where neighbour checks neighbour  
and community pulls together as one

Linda

All stories call us to the table to break bread.  
In the feeding our neighbours today,  
and all who need are fed.

Roddy

All stories call us to the table to break bread  
and in the tangle of them all  
we say "this is who you are"

## **Invitation**

This is who you are  
an invitation  
to us all  
to share this story  
of body broken  
together

And God calls us by our names to be here.  
Say your name  
for you are invited  
just as you are  
*whoever you are*  
*wherever you are*  
We are here  
God is here  
all are invited

if you are a member or not  
a believer or not  
God is bigger than this table  
the church  
the bible  
and all are welcome  
let's gather

### **Communion Prayer**

Loving God, you gather us in to your presence, into your love, into your forgiveness, in you there is no beginning, no end. When you invite us in, you hold us, you forgive us, there is no place where you are not, facing out towards us where no one is hidden from your sight, no one excluded from your presence.

And here we praise you and we thank you, for your generous providing

This is who we say you are:

Bread maker  
story teller  
friend of children  
thank you  
for bread  
and story  
and a table to share them

and as we stir in the ingredients  
and wait for its rising  
and the baking into it  
of every story  
may the bread we break  
and the loaves we share  
tell your story  
of love  
of celebration  
of life  
and promise

Come let us make  
bake  
and break bread  
in your name

Amen

### **Communion**

In this new way  
we share an old, old story together

This bread is special  
because it speaks of Jesus

who gave everything away  
and shared everything he had  
and in doing so  
found love

This is who Jesus said he was

So with me  
together  
let us all  
take the bread we have before us  
lift it

and together  
break it  
as a sign of the body of Christ  
broken for us all

Let us lift the cup  
a sign of the new promise  
sealed in Jesus name

And let us eat  
and let us drink  
and remember  
Jesus Christ  
among us all

The gifts of God  
for the people of God  
please share  
and feast  
and let us do that together

## **Peace**

How do we share the peace when we cannot touch?  
When we are out of range of each other

Worry not. We asked the Zoomday School for suggestions.

Namaste  
Peace in sign language  
Making a heart shape with your hands  
However you chose  
Peace be with you  
May peace be with us all  
Amen

### **Sending Prayer**

Loving God  
we give thanks  
for we have shared stories  
community  
peace  
friendship  
company  
bread  
love

May we go now  
into the world  
with these very gifts  
saying: This is who we say you are

and in your name  
in this new community  
celebrate  
your promise  
your belonging  
your love  
with all

Hear us as we say the Lord's Prayer  
Our father  
Who art in heavens  
Hallowed thy name  
Thy kingdom come  
Thy will be done  
On earth as it is on heaven  
Give us this day our daily bread  
And forgive us our debts  
As we forgive our debtors  
And lead us not into temptation  
Ut deliver us from evil  
For thine is the kingdom  
The power and the lory

For ever  
Amane

## **Benediction**

Go into the world  
renewed and reborn  
And let us repeat the grace  
together

## **Announcements**

Thank you for your company... Thank you for letting us be your company today... To all those whose voices you heard and faces you saw today... a big thank you... We've been sharing communion across all our platforms, here, Podcasts, Zoom and phone line... together we have made community in this new way...

We aren't yet able to meet together in church... but that just invites us to keep being creative and exploring ways we can gather in our new context... When we open for worship... with we imagine will be in the next few weeks... we will be limited to 50 people... all wearing face masks... socially distanced and not able to sing... We will reshape our worship when we do meet to suit that context... but we will continue to meet here online or by phone for it will be a while yet before we can gather safely...

So please keep safe... break bread again with those you can... and we look forward to gathering again next time... Take care... hope to see you soon...