**Sunday 30th May 2021 Westfield, Wyke 10.30am**

**Call to worship** Isaiah 6:1-3

**HYMN MP 699** **Thou whose almighty word**

Thou, whose almighty word

chaos and darkness heard,

and took their flight;

hear us, we humbly pray,

and where the gospel day

sheds not its glorious ray,

let there be light!

Thou, who didst come to bring,

on Thy redeeming wing,

healing and sight;

health to the sick in mind,

sight to the inly blind,

O now to all mankind

let there be light!

Spirit of truth and love,

Life-giving, holy Dove,

speed forth Thy flight;

move on the water's face,

bearing the lamp of grace,

and in earth's darkest place

let there be light!

Blessed and holy Three,

glorious Trinity,

wisdom, love, might;

boundless as ocean's tide,

rolling in fullest pride,

through the earth, far and wide

let there be light!

John Marriott (1780-1825) CCLI 180501

**Opening Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer**

May our hearts be raised in praise together

As we ‘drink in’ what it means to be –

A congregation met together, or together at a distance,

but one in your Spirit as we worship.

Yours is a Spirit that knows no bounds;

No house can contain you,

No human institutions proscribe you,

No human language speak for you.

Like the wind, Jesus says, your Spirit will blow where it wills.

And so, even as we praise you

Let us acknowledge that, wherever ‘here’ is for us,

We touch but the edge of your greatness, love and mercy.

We confess that, in our daily living,

We have been led more by our own spirit –

A spirit of self, self-fulfillment, self-justification

A spirit of quick-fix gratification, and the pleasure of ‘things’.

A spirit of lazy acceptance of injustice, privilege and inequality.

God, made known to us in Jesus,

Spirit-promiser, Spirit-breather, Spirit-giver,

Carry us up, we pray, into the mystery of your presence,

And into the joy of your delight.

Make of us something new,

something newly conceived,

newly grown.

Set us down again into the sometimes-hard realities of the world

To be agents of your Spirit-of-love.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Notices and mission prayer by Duty Elder**

**Prayer of Dedication of Offering**

**Introduction to theme**

**Bible readings** Isaiah 6:1-8

John 3:1-17

**HYMN MP 611 Spirit of holiness**

*Spirit of holiness,*

*wisdom and faithfulness,*

*Wind of the Lord,*

*blowing strongly and free;*

*strength of our serving*

*and joy of our worshipping,*

*Spirit of God,*

*Bring Your fulness to me!*

You came to interpret

and teach us effectively

all that the Saviour

has spoken and done;

to glorify Jesus is all Your activity,

promise and gift of the Father and Son:

*Spirit of holiness*..

You came with Your gifts

to supply all our poverty,

pouring Your love

on the church in her need;

You came with Your fruit

for our growth to maturity,

richly refreshing the souls

that You feed:

*Spirit of holiness*..

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**Address Nicodemus**

Address Outline

Nicodemus, I believe, should be regarded as a disciple of Jesus, who ends up among his faithful followers. However, before he can get there, he has barriers in his way. Nicodemus is:

* Privileged (like the young man in Mark 10, who goes away empty handed because he can’t respond to the call of Jesus)
* Prosaic (he is too literal in his response to Jesus – he doesn’t have the spiritual imagination to grasp Jesus’ vision of the Kingdom of God).
* Private (he comes to Jesus at night, presumably because he is embarrassed to ‘go public’ with his interest in Jesus).

Nicodemus may, or may not, be the kind of biblical character to whom we can liken ourselves –

But an anniversary is a good time to reflect on our own response to Jesus, and what barriers there might be to our own whole-hearted discipleship of Jesus. What would be our list of things we need to overcome in order to be part of his Kingdom?

**Prayers of Intercession**

**HYMN MP 66 Broken for me, broken for you**

Broken for me, broken for you,

the body of Jesus broken for you.

He offered His body,

He poured out His soul,

Jesus was broken

that we might be whole:

Broken for me, broken for you,

the body of Jesus broken for you.

Come to My table and with Me dine,

eat of My bread and drink of My wine:

Broken for me, broken for you,

the body of Jesus broken for you.

This is My body given for you,

eat it remembering I died for you:

Broken for me, broken for you,

the body of Jesus broken for you.

This is My blood I shed for you,

for your forgiveness, making me new:

Broken for me, broken for you,

the body of Jesus broken for you.

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**Shine share**

**The Lord’s Supper**

**Invitation**

Let us celebrate this joyful feast. People will come from east and west and north and south and sit at table in the Kingdom of God

**Narrative of Institution**

‘The Kingdom of Heaven is like this’, Jesus said.

and he showed them a seed.

‘Let God’s life grow new in you,’ he said

‘The Kingdom of Heaven is like this’, Jesus said.

and he showed them a child.

‘Become like her,’ he said, ‘and you will enter God’s house.’

‘The kingdom of Heaven is like this’, Jesus said,

and he showed them a broken loaf.

‘I am broken for you,’ he said. ‘Take it and remember’.

‘The Kingdom of Heaven is like this’, Jesus said

and he showed them blood red wine.

‘Drink this,’ he said, ‘for it binds you to God in a new way.’

‘The kingdom of Heaven is like this’, Jesus said,

and he washed their feet.

‘So may it be among you,’ he said, as he knelt.

**Thanksgiving**

Who would have thought (if ever we could have been there)

That in the first stirrings of creation

when matter, energy, and even time itself

began to show their separate qualities –

who would have thought that from such seeds

you kingdom would grow?

But Alleluia, it did.

Thanks be to you, our Father.

Who would have thought (though few were there to see)

that the figure of a rejected man,

a travelling preacher and wonder-worker

now hung helpless on a cross,

nailed there by the taunts of a disillusioned mob –

who would have thought that from such a one

Your Kingdom would grow?

But, Alleluia, it did.

Thanks to you our Saviour.

Who would have thought (though they were nobodies of the world)

That in the hearts of a dozen or so men and women

the conviction that they had been touched by the Spirit

could so open their minds and hearts to proclaim the Gospel

That the world would be turned upside down?

Who would have thought that in such a field

Your kingdom could grow?

But Alleluia, it did. Thanks be to you, the very source of our life.

Who would think that we, humble servants of God,

partakers of this common bread and wine

confessing our unworthiness

and surrendering all to Christ,

Could be seed of the Kingdom?

But alleluia, by your Spirit we can be,

we are, we shall be

Thanks be to you, our one God.

**Breaking and Sharing**

**The bread** which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

Take, eat, it is the body of Christ given for you.

Do this in remembrance of him.

**The cup** of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

Take it and drink, It is the new covenant in the blood of Christ shed for you and for all,

for the forgiveness of sin: drink of it.

**Prayer After Communion**

Peace we have received here

stilling our troubled hearts with your presence

Let us go out and share peace with the world.

Hope we have received here:

The hope that faces pain full-square

and sees beyond to resurrection life.

Let us go our to share hope with the world.

Joy we have received here.

The lasting joy of the Kingdom, a banquet for all.

Let us go out and share joy with the world.

Love we have received here.

Love undeserved, love beyond measure.

Let us go out in love, by love, for love.

**HYMN MP 664 The Spirit lives to set us free**

The Spirit lives to set us free,

walk, walk in the light;

He binds us all in unity,

walk, walk in the light.

*Walk in the light,*

*walk in the light,*

*walk in the light,*

*walk in the light of the Lord.*

Jesus promised life to all,

walk, walk in the light;

the dead were wakened by his call,

walk, walk in the light.

*Walk in the light..*

He died in pain on Calvary,

walk, walk in the light;

To save the lost like you and me,

Walk, walk in the light.

*Walk in the light..*

We know his death was not the end,

walk, walk in the light;

the Father’s kindness is revealed,

walk, walk in the light.

*Walk in the light..*

By Jesus’ love our wounds are healed,

Walk, walk in the light;

His light will shine for all to see,

walk, walk in the light.

*Walk in the light..*

Damien Lundy © Kevin Mayhew Ltd CCLI 180501

**Blessing**