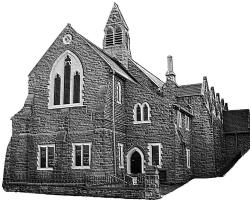


**THE MINISTRY AREA OF TAWE ISAF
(The Parishes of Morriston
& Llangyfelach with Clase)**



**AN ORDER FOR THE PARISH EUCHARIST TO USE
AT HOME**

EASTER 3 2020 - 26th April

In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Grace and peace be with you :
and keep you in the love of Christ.

**Heavenly Father, all hearts are open to you. No
secrets are hidden from you. Purify us with the
fire of your Holy Spirit that we may love and
worship you faithfully, through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.**

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord have mercy.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ said "Come to me, all whose work is hard, whose load is heavy and I will give you rest"

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life.

This is a true saying to be completely accepted and believed: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

A time for reflection on our lives : SILENCE

Let us together humbly confess our sins to God.

Merciful God, we have sinned in thought and word and deed: We are truly sorry, and repent and turn to you. Renew our lives by your Spirit in the image of Jesus Christ our Saviour, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on us and set us free from sin, strengthen us in goodness and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, Almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

6. THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through 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

Readings

[Zephaniah 3.14-end]

14 Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! 15 The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. 16 On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. 17 The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing 18 as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. 19 I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. 20 At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Acts 2.14a, 36-41

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 36Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.' 37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' 38Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' 40And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' 41So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 116.1-3, 10-end

1 I love the Lord, for he has heard the voice of my supplication; • because he inclined his ear to me on the day I called to him.
2 The snares of death encompassed me; the pains of hell took hold of me; • by grief and sorrow was I held.

3 Then I called upon the name of the Lord: • 'O Lord, I beg you, deliver my soul.'
10 How shall I repay the Lord • for all the benefits he has given to me?
11 I will lift up the cup of salvation • and call upon the name of the Lord.
12 I will fulfil my vows to the Lord • in the presence of all his people.
13 Precious in the sight of the Lord • is the death of his faithful servants.
14 O Lord, I am your servant, • your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.
15 I will offer to you a sacrifice of thanksgiving • and call upon the name of the Lord.
16 I will fulfil my vows to the Lord • in the presence of all his people,
17 In the courts of the house of the Lord, • in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Alleluia.

1 Peter 1.17-23

17 If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. 18You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, 19but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. 20He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. 21Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

22 Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. 23 You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 24.13-35

13 Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 14 and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15 While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, 16 but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. 18 Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' 19 He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20 and how our chief priests and leaders

handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. 21But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. 22Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, 23and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. 24Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' 25Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! 26Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' 27Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. 28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. 29But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. 30When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 31Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. 32They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' 33That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. 34They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' 35Then they told what

had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

In the readings today there is a common thread running through all of the passages. That thread lies around the reality of God's ways not always being in line with our ways.

In Acts there is a statement of the reality that in fact we can get in the way of God's plans or simply not see them or recognise them as God's.

Then behind the personal thanksgiving in the psalm for God coming to the writer's rescue, there are all the other requests people have uttered that God has not answered.

In 1 Peter there is the reminder of the new things that God is doing and of our need for re- birth into a new family, while in the Gospel we have two disciples whose hopes have been shattered and who can't see through the fog of disappointment and despair to see that God is still there and is walking with them.

The faith journey can be a very rocky road where we can't always be sure of where we're going or even see

the way ahead – or understand why things are the way they are.

How's a person meant to cope?

Acts says be open, constantly open, to being turned around.

The Psalmist says pray anyway.

Peter says, know you don't journey alone: that you have family travelling with you.

And Luke says: even in the darkest times, God is. Have trust.

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The risen Christ offers us his redemptive love and forgiveness. Let us focus our thought on this truth together as we come before God in worship. The things we have done in the past may have separated us from God, but through the death and resurrection of Christ we are shown the way to return to him. Let us bring our needs and the needs of the world before him now.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY. HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Let us pray for the whole church that in a spirit of humility and repentance we may give witness to the presence of Christ in our midst. May those who meet us be aware of Christ's presence with us, and be enabled to meet him for themselves.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY. HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Let us pray for all those who are troubled by or afraid of God's presence in their lives, that like the disciples, their fear may become peace. May they find assurance of God's love for them and be given confidence to trust him in every aspect of their lives.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY. HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Let us pray for all who have difficult decisions to make, which may affect their own lives and the lives of other people. May God give them wisdom and courage to decide what is right.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY. HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Let us pray for all who are struggling with ill health. May God touch them with his healing love and may they find hope and comfort and meaning in all that they are going through. May those who care for them be able to be sensitive and strong in the care that they give.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY. HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Let us in our prayers remember all who have died. We pray for those who have died this week and remember our own departed loved ones. May God give them eternal rest and life.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY. HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Let us now in quietness bring to God our own prayers and concerns. (SILENCE)

LORD IN YOUR MERCY. HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Heavenly father, help us in the ordinary actions of our lives to keep your commandments of love so that we may come to know you more and more

**The peace of the Lord be with you always and
God's people throughout the world.**

Silence.

As our Saviour Jesus Christ taught us, we boldly pray:

**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.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you draw and welcome us, emptied of pride and hungry for your grace, to this your kingdom feast. Nowhere can we find the food for which our souls cry out, but here, Lord, at your table. Invigorate and nourish us, good Lord, that in and through this bread and wine your love may meet us and your life complete us in the power and glory of your kingdom. Amen.

THE COMMUNION

A PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Post Communion

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious: his love is everlasting.

We thank you, Father, for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son in this holy sacrament, through which we are assured of the hope of eternal life. We offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice. Keep us in the fellowship of his body, the Church, and send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

The blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen