



**Service of Spiritual Communion**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> August 2020 'A better story'**  
**Romans 12: 1-8 & Matthew 16: 13-20**  
**Revd Mandy Hewson & Ralph Michell**

A warm welcome to Church of Our Saviour as we join together in worship of our God - Father Son and Holy Spirit.

During the pandemic we 've not been able to meet together on a Sunday to celebrate Holy Communion as would usually do. And so today's service offers us the opportunity to receive God's gifts in a spiritual way instead. The words for this can be found on our website if you don't already have them.

Our theme for today is 'a better story'. And our readings come **Romans 12: & Matthew 16: 13-20**

Let's begin now by pausing and welcoming God into our hearts and minds...

**Gathering Prayer**

Let us come together in the Name of our Lord Jesus. The Messiah, the son of the living God. Lets bow down and worship him, open ourselves to the working of his Holy Spirit and receive all that he has for us today. Amen.

CONFESSSION

Lord, thank you that you are always ready to forgive me when I trust you enough to confess my sins to you, even when I feel I don't deserve it.

Be merciful to me, O God.

Forgive me for the times when just because someone else's story is different from mine I don't always want to believe it.

Forgive me for the times I only live my story, not seeing the bigger picture.

Be merciful to me, O God.

Forgive me for the times I see you as less than the Son of God, and my whole outlook on life needs a good dose of your love and understanding.

Be merciful to me, O God.

Amen.

**Absolution** May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son, and strengthen us to live in the power of his Spirit all our days. Amen.

**Shortly we will have our readings, talk and intercessory prayers. But first lets praise God in the words of the song....**

**Song: I raise a Hallelujah <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2XtRuPfaAU>**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Romans 12: 1-8

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Matthew 16: 13-20

Talk by Ralph

**Intercessional Prayer Led by Valerie**

Followed by Lords prayer

**The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver

us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

**Act of Spiritual Communion**

**O loving God, in union with Christian people throughout the world and across the centuries gathered to make Eucharist, hearing your holy Word and receiving the Precious Body and Blood of your dear Son, I offer you praise and thanksgiving. Even though I am exiled from tasting the Bread of Heaven and drinking the Cup of Life I pray that you will unite me all the saints and with your Son who gave his life for us.**

**Come Lord Jesus, dwell in me and send your Holy Spirit that I may be filled with your presence.**

Jesus, as the hem of your garment, touched in faith, healed the woman who could not touch your body, so may the soul of your servant be healed, for though I cannot receive you in the sacrament I can, through this offering of my prayer, receive you in my heart; grant this for Christ's sake. **Amen.**

O Lord and heavenly Father, we your humble servants entirely desire your fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching you to grant, that by the merits and death of your Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all your whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. **Amen.**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen**

Closing Song; In Christ Alone

## Notices

Private prayer each day 11 -12 Monday to Saturday

Short service of Holy Communion on Tuesday at 11.30.

Please let Mandy know if you would like to come as places are limited to maintain social distancing.

Join us for a catch up after the service. Details on our website.