

**THE GROUPED PARISHES OF  
ANNAHILT AND MAGHERAHAMLET**

**A SERVICE OF  
HOLY COMMUNION**

**ON**

**SUNDAY 6 JUNE 2021**

**PRESIDENT AND PREACHER:**

**THE RECTOR**

**THE REVD CANON ROBERT HOWARD**

**THE GREETING**

*The Rector greets the congregation with the following words:*

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus  
Christ be with you all  
**and also with you**

Jesus said: 'Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made  
heaven and earth.' *Psalm 124:7*

**HYMN CH 652**

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us  
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;  
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,  
for we have no help but thee;  
yet possessing every blessing,  
if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us,  
all our weakness thou dost know;  
thou didst tread this earth before us,  
thou didst feel its keenest woe;  
self denying, death defying,  
thou to Calvary didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending,  
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,  
love with every passion blending,  
pleasure that can never cloy; †  
thus provided, pardoned, guided,  
nothing can our peace destroy.

**THE COLLECT FOR PURITY**

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden;  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**PENITENCE**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:  
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart  
and with all your soul and with all your mind.  
This is the first and great commandment.  
And the second is like it.  
You shall love your neighbour as yourself.  
On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.  
*Matthew 22: 37-39*

**Lord, have mercy on us,  
and write these your laws in our hearts.**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ, to  
save us from our sins, to intercede for us in heaven, and to bring us  
to eternal life.

Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith,  
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments  
and to live in love and peace:

*Silence*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned in thought and word and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us,  
that we may walk in newness of life  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*The Rector pronounces the Absolution:*

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (SUNG)**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's 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**

#### **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

God,  
the strength of all those who put their trust in you:  
Mercifully accept our prayers  
and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature  
we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your  
grace,  
that in the keeping of your commandments  
we may please you, both in will and deed;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### **THE OLD TESTAMENT READING**

The Old Testament Reading is from the 1<sup>st</sup> book of Samuel Chapter 8 beginning at verse 4

4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, <sup>5</sup>and said to him, 'You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations.'

10 So Samuel reported all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king. <sup>11</sup>He said, 'These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots; <sup>12</sup>and he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plough his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. <sup>13</sup>He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. <sup>14</sup>He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers. <sup>15</sup>He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and his courtiers. <sup>16</sup>He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle\* and donkeys, and put them to his work. <sup>17</sup>He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. <sup>18</sup>And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves; but the LORD will not answer you in that day.'

19 But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, 'No! but we are determined to have a king over us, <sup>20</sup>so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles.'

14 Samuel said to the people, 'Come, let us go to Gilgal and there renew the kingship.' <sup>15</sup>So all the people went to Gilgal, and there they made Saul king before the LORD in Gilgal. There they sacrificed offerings of well-being before the LORD, and there Saul and all the Israelites rejoiced greatly.

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

## PSALM 138

- 1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; ♦  
**before the gods will I sing praise to you.**
- 2 I will bow down towards your holy temple and praise your name,  
because of your love and faithfulness; ♦  
**for you have glorified your name  
and your word above all things.**
- 3 In the day that I called to you, you answered me; ♦  
**you put new strength in my soul.**
- 4 All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, ♦  
**for they have heard the words of your mouth.**
- 5 They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, ♦  
**that great is the glory of the Lord.**
- 6 Though the Lord be high, he watches over the lowly; ♦  
**as for the proud, he regards them from afar.**
- 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you will preserve me; ♦  
**you will stretch forth your hand against the fury of my  
enemies;  
your right hand will save me.**
- 8 The Lord shall make good his purpose for me; ♦  
**your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever;  
forsake not the work of your hands.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
**As it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

## THE EPISTLE

The Epistle is from the 2<sup>nd</sup> letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians  
Chapter 4 beginning at verse 13

13 But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—‘I believed, and so I spoke’—we also believe, and so we speak, <sup>14</sup>because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. <sup>15</sup>Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

16 So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of

glory beyond all measure, <sup>18</sup>because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

5For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

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

## GRADUAL HYMN T&P 147

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.  
He makes me lie in pastures green.  
He leads me by the still, still waters,  
his goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in you alone,  
and I will trust in you alone,  
for your endless mercy follows me,  
your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,  
and he anoints my head with oil,  
and my cup, it overflows with joy,  
I feast on his pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path,  
I will not fear the evil one,  
for you are with me, and your rod and staff  
are the comfort I need to know.

## THE GOSPEL READING

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ according to Saint Mark  
Chapter 3 beginning at verse 20

**All sing: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

<sup>20</sup>and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. <sup>21</sup>When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, ‘He has gone out of his mind.’ <sup>22</sup>And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, ‘He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.’ <sup>23</sup>And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, ‘How can Satan cast out Satan? <sup>24</sup>If a kingdom is divided against itself, that

kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup>And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. <sup>26</sup>And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. <sup>27</sup>But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

28 'Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; <sup>29</sup>but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin'— <sup>30</sup>for they had said, 'He has an unclean spirit.'

31 Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. <sup>32</sup>A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, 'Your mother and your brothers and sisters\* are outside, asking for you.' <sup>33</sup>And he replied, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' <sup>34</sup>And looking at those who sat around him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers! <sup>35</sup>Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All Sing: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

#### **THE SERMON**

#### **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;  
was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of 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.**

#### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
you promised through your Son Jesus Christ  
to hear the prayers of those who ask in faith.

Lord of your people:

We give thanks for the grace that always exceeds what we can hope  
or ask for.

We pray this diocese and for David our Bishop. We pray for this  
Group of Parishes, in particular those preparing for Confirmation;  
also the Parish of Comber, and the Minister in Charge, the Revd  
Sam Johnston.

As we are fed by word and sacrament, make us strong in your  
service. As restrictions ease may we find wise and safe ways to re-  
establish links with our local communities and our organisations.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord of creation:

Come to the rulers of this world and make them know themselves to  
be responsible only to you, the Ruler of all.

Bless Elizabeth our Queen, the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Brandon Lewis & the Government, the First Minister, Arlene Foster, Deputy First Minister, Michelle O'Neill & Executive; also President Michael D Higgins, the Taoiseach, Micheál Martin, Tánaiste, Leo Varadkar and government in the Republic.

We pray too for all engaged in the G7 summit meeting this week in Cornwall. Give to all who desire the good of humanity a shared will and a common purpose to work freely together.

On this Royal Ulster Constabulary George Cross Day, we remember and give thanks for the service and sacrifice of those who served in all ranks of the RUC. Steadfast to their legacy and mindful of continuing needs, may our eyes shine with the light of hope as we embrace the future.

On this anniversary of the D Day Landings may we give thanks for all who served gallantly and sacrificed dutifully for an end to conflict in Europe. Equip us with the spirit of peace, an abundance of your grace, and the wisdom and strength to meet the challenges that lie before us in our day.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

Lord of our relationships:  
Show us the way to relieve the needs that lie close to us.

Shield our families from the assaults and fear of coronavirus. We pray for those who are living in fear: fear of illness, fear for loved ones, fear of others' reaction to them, fear of emerging from isolation.

If we are ill, strengthen us. If we are tired, fortify our spirits. If we are anxious, heal the doubts and conflicts that may trouble us. Teach us to know that all are members of our family, because they are yours.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Lord of all healing:  
May the compassion of Christ still prevail to heal the sick and feed the hungry especially in the Horn of Africa and South Sudan, through the divine love that never fails.

Give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who are caring for the sick and your wisdom in rolling out and developing vaccines.

We pray for all who are bereaved and grant them the assurance of your love.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

We give thanks for those who have crossed from life through death, and have come to rest in life eternal. Grant them a safe harbour and the peace that cannot be broken.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to 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.**

#### **THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

**We do not presume to come to this your table,  
merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness  
but in your manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under  
your table.  
But you are the same Lord,  
whose nature is always to have mercy.  
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*The Rector introduces the Peace with these words:*

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. We meet in his name and share his peace.

*followed by:*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

## HYMN CH 418

Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;  
here faith can touch and handle things unseen;  
here would I grasp with firmer hand thy grace;  
and all my weariness upon thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God;  
here drink with thee the royal wine of heaven;  
here would I lay aside each earthly load;  
here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.

I have no help but thine; nor do I need  
another arm save thine to lean upon;  
it is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;  
my strength is in thy might, thy might alone.

Mine is the sin, but thine the righteousness;  
mine is the guilt, but thine the cleansing blood;  
here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace –  
thy blood, thy righteousness, O Lord my God.

This is the hour of banquet and of song;  
this is the heavenly table spread for me;  
here let me feast, and, feasting, still proclaim  
the hallowed hour of fellowship with thee.

## CELEBRATING AT THE LORD'S TABLE

### THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

*The Rector takes the bread and wine and may say*

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us  
**therefore let us celebrate the feast.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Father, Lord of all creation,  
we praise you for your goodness and your love.  
When we turned away you did not reject us.  
You came to meet us in your Son,  
welcomed us as your children  
and prepared a table where we might feast with you.

In Christ you shared our life  
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened wide his arms upon the cross and,  
with love stronger than death,  
he made the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

Lord Jesus Christ, our redeemer,  
on the night before you died  
you came to table with your friends.  
Taking bread, you gave thanks, broke it  
and gave it to them saying,  
Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**Lord Jesus, we bless you:  
you are the bread of life.**

At the end of supper  
you took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said,  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**Lord Jesus, we bless you:  
you are the true vine.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ:  
**dying, you destroyed our death,  
rising, you restored our life;  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Holy Spirit, giver of life,  
come upon us now;  
may this bread and wine be to us  
the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us, who know our need of grace,  
one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Blessed Trinity:  
with your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of thanks and praise  
and lift our voice to join the song of heaven,  
for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,  
God of power and might.  
Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might  
Heaven and earth are full,  
full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest,  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Thanks be to you, our God, for your gift beyond words.  
**Amen. Amen. Amen.**

#### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*The Rector breaks the consecrated bread in preparation for the  
Communion*

The bread which we break  
is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**We being many are one body,  
for we all share in the one bread.**

#### **THE COMMUNION**

*The Rector says*

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Remember that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

#### **THE GREAT SILENCE**

*When all have received communion, silence is kept for reflection.*

#### **GOING OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

Eternal Father,  
we thank you for nourishing us  
with these heavenly gifts.  
May our communion strengthen us in faith,  
build us up in hope,  
and make us grow in love;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All say*

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

#### **BLESSING**

The peace of God,  
which passes all understanding,  
keep your 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 you and remain with you always. *(All sing)* **Amen.**

## HYMN CH 634

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown;  
Jesu, thou art all compassion,  
pure unbounded love thou art,  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
never more thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation,  
perfectly restored in thee;  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

## DISMISSAL

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

*Notices*