



St Paul's

Sunday 27th July 2025



Title: Knocking on Heaven's Door [sculpture]

Date: 2004 Artist: Dunikowska, Kinga, 1974-

Service led by the Rev'd Becky Warner

Informal Welcome

Hymn

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his Name!**

**Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.**

**Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine;
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.**

**These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
he will accept for the Name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.**

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his Name!**

The Gathering

In the name of the Creator,
and of the Redeemer,
and of the Sustainer. **Amen**

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

Please be seated

Sunday Club

The children collect a Bible from the altar.
And they pray for us:

Dear God,
may the adults see us and listen to us,
may they grow in faith and guide us,
may they have open hearts,
and learn from us children who are precious in your eyes.

Amen

Scripture Sentences

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

Colossians 2

Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.

Luke 11

Call to repentance

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy spirit from me.

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

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

All Amen.

Prayer for the week

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you

that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
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**

Gloria

Glory to the Father,

Glory to the Son,

Glory to the Spirit,

Ever Three and ever One. *(Repeat all three times)*

Music: Tim Boniface

Liturgy of the Word

Reading, Colossians 2:6-19

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

Watch out that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principles of the world, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by the removal of the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside,

nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

Therefore, do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food or drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or Sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the body belongs to Christ. Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, initiatory visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and tendons, grows with a growth that is from God.

For the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Chant


**O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer:
When I call answer me.**

**O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer:
Come and listen to me.**

© Taizé

The Gospel Reading, we sing twice:

II. Tune 6 ("Norah Duncan IV"):



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Norah Duncan IV © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave, Chicago

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." ² So he said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

⁵ And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, ⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷ And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹ "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? ¹³ If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Rev'd Becky

Prayers of Intercession

The intercessions may end with:

**Merciful God,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**

The Peace

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.
and also with you.

Offertory Hymn

The offerings that have been given to the church, via cash and by other means are received, and thanks is given to God for all that is freely shared. We have a donation point at the church entrance, of use the QR code, right.



What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge;
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee;
thou wilt find a solace there.

Joseph M. Scriven

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Be present, be present,
Lord Jesus Christ,
our risen high priest;
make yourself known in the breaking of bread.
All Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord God,
our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.
You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

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

Please sit, if you would like

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.
He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He 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.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you 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, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.
Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.
As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Bring us at the last with [*N and*] all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**All Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today 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**

We break this bread, to share in the broken body of Christ
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

**O Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
O Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
O Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Music: T R Boniface

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
But only the say the word, and I shall be healed.

Invitation to Communion

So come to this table,

you who have much faith
and you who would like to have more;
you who have been here often
and you who have not been for a while
you who have tried to follow Jesus,
and you who have failed;
Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

(From the Iona Liturgy)

Everyone is welcome to join us at the communion table, to receive the body and blood of Jesus, in bread and wine. We have gluten free bread and non-alcoholic wine for children and others, please ask. If you are not able to come forward to the rail, the ministers will come to you.

Music during communion

Music is played

Prayers after Communion

God of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water:
refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with 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**

Final Hymn

**When peace like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well, with my soul**

**It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul**

**Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed his own blood for my soul**

Refrain

**My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul**

Refrain

**O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
even so, it is well with my soul.**

Refrain

Horatio Gates Spafford

Dismissal and Blessing

Christ, who has nourished us with himself the living bread,
make you one in praise and love,
and raise you up at the last day;
and the blessing ...

All Amen.

With the risen life of Christ within you
go in peace to spread joy and hope.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.