



St Ives Uniting Church

5th March 2023

Holy Communion

Lent 2

Choir Anthem: God so loved the world (Stainer)

Call to worship and welcome

Hymn: 161 Tell out, my soul!

Prayers of adoration and confession

Assurance of forgiveness

Hear Christ's word of grace to us: "Your sins are forgiven"

Thanks be to God

Notices

Bible Readings

Genesis 12:1-4

Max Osborne

12 The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you.

² "I will make you into a great nation,
and I will bless you;

I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.

³ I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will curse;
and all peoples on earth
will be blessed through you."

⁴ So Abram went, as the Lord had told him
This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

John 3:1-17

Shirley Luttrell

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ² He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

³ Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

⁴ “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

⁹ “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰ “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? ¹¹ Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹² I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. ¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Choir Anthem: O Saviour of the world (Goss)

Sermon: Born from above

Hymn: 416 Great God, your spirit like the wind

Offering and prayer

Choir Anthem: Is it nothing to you (Ouseley)

Prayers of the people

Hazel Ruskin

Hymn: 511 Let us break bread together with the Lord

Holy Communion

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

... sing hymns of never-ending praise

Choir: Sanctus Benedictus (*Holy, holy, holy*)

So, as we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died;

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again.

Because you are one with us, O Christ,
make us one with you as we pray
the prayer you taught us:

**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. Amen.**

Christ is the cup of life, who revives the faint-hearted.
Choir: *Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)*

We join in our prayer after communion:
**God of heaven and earth,
you make us one in Christ.
Inspire us with new vision
and give us strength to walk together
until we come to our eternal home.
In Christ's name. Amen.**

Hymn: 154 Great is your faithfulness

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

Postlude

Organist

Jim Abraham