

**Sunday 7 September**  
**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Joint Service and**  
**Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

***All are welcome***

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;**

God's love is strong, and it never ends.

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;

God's love is strong, and it never ends.

**HYMN CH4 159**

**Lord, for the years**

your love has kept and guided,  
urged and inspired us,  
cheered us on our way,  
sought us and saved us,  
pardoned and provided,  
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word,  
the Word of life which fires us,  
speaks to our hearts  
and sets our souls ablaze,  
teaches and trains,  
rebukes us and inspires us,  
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.

Lord, for our land, in this our generation,  
spirits oppressed  
by pleasure, wealth and care;  
for young and old,  
for commonwealth and nation,  
Lord of our land,  
be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world;  
when we disown and doubt Him,  
loveless in strength,  
and comfortless in pain;  
hungry and helpless,  
lost indeed without Him,  
Lord of the world,  
we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord, for ourselves;  
in living power remake us,  
self on the cross  
and Christ upon the throne;  
past put behind us,  
for the future take us,  
Lord of our lives,  
to live for Christ alone.

*Timothy Dudley-Smith (b.1926) Ccli licence 585218*

# PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

As the start of the prayer, we say the words of hymn 658 together

Before I take the body of my Lord,  
before I share his life in bread and wine,  
I recognise the sorry things within:  
these I lay down.

The words of hope I often failed to give,  
the prayers of kindness buried by my pride,  
the signs of care I argued out of sight:  
these I lay down.

The narrowness of vision and of mind,  
the need for other folk to serve my will,  
and every word and silence meant to hurt:  
these I lay down.

Of those around in whom I meet my  
Lord,  
I ask their pardon and I grant them  
mine,  
that every contradiction of Christ's  
peace  
might be laid down.

Lord Jesus Christ, companion at this  
feast,  
I empty now my heart and stretch my  
hands,  
and ask to meet you here in bread and  
wine  
which you lay down. *John L. Bell (b. 1949) and  
Graham Maule (b. 1958) Ccli licence 585218*

## ALL AGE TIME

### HYMN CH4 530 One more step along the world I go,

one more step along the world I go,  
from the old things to the new,  
keep me travelling along with you.

*And it's from the old I travel to the new,  
keep me travelling  
along with you.*

Round the corners of the world I turn,  
more and more about the world I learn,  
all the new things that I see  
You'll be looking at along with me.

*Chorus*

As I travel through the bad and good,  
keep me travelling the way I should.  
where I see no way to go,  
You'll be telling me the way, I know.

*Chorus*

Give me courage when the world is rough,  
keep me loving though the world is tough.  
leap and sing in all I do,  
keep me travelling along with you.

*Chorus*

You are older than the world can be,  
You are younger than the life in me.  
ever old and ever new,  
keep me travelling along with you.

*Chorus*

## **Exodus 12:21-27**

**T**hen Moses summoned all the elders of Israel and said to them, ‘Go at once and select the animals for your families and slaughter the Passover lamb. Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it into the blood in the basin and put some of the blood on the top and on both sides of the door-frame. None of you shall go out of the door of your house until morning. When the LORD goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the top and sides of the door-frame and will pass over that doorway, and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down. ‘Obey these instructions as a lasting ordinance for you and your descendants. When you enter the land that the LORD will give you as he promised, observe this ceremony. And when your children ask you, “What does this ceremony mean to you?” then tell them, “It is the Passover sacrifice to the LORD, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when he struck down the Egyptians.” ’ Then the people bowed down and worshipped.

## **John 2:13-22**

**W**hen it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. To those who sold doves he said, ‘Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a market!’ His disciples remembered that it is written: ‘Zeal for your house will consume me.’ The Jews then responded to him, ‘What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?’ Jesus answered them, ‘Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.’ They replied, ‘It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?’ But the temple he had spoken of was his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

## **SERMON**

## **HYMN CH4 374**

**From heaven You came,  
helpless babe,**

entered our world, Your glory veiled;  
not to be served but to serve,  
and give Your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King,  
He calls us now to follow Him,  
to bring our lives as a daily offering  
of worship to the Servant King.*

There in the garden of tears,  
my heavy load He chose to bear;  
His heart with sorrow was torn.  
'Yet not my will but Yours,' he said.

*Chorus*

Come see His hands and His feet,  
the scars that speak of sacrifice,  
hands that flung stars into space,  
to cruel nails surrendered.

*Chorus*

So let us learn how to serve  
and in our lives enthrone Him.  
Each other's needs to prefer,  
for it is Christ we're serving.

*Graham Kendrick © 1983 Kingsway's Thankyou Music Ccli  
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## **NOTICES, OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND INTERCESSION**

### **HYMN CH4 664**

**Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face  
to face;**

here would I touch and handle things unseen,  
here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,  
and all my weariness upon Thee lean.

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.

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.

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

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# AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**Minister:** 'We believe in God'

**All:** Yes – we do believe that there is One who brought us to this day and leads us to another – sometimes in darkness, sometimes in light – a God who loves the world and all its people, of every kind and creed, including us.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who lived two thousand years ago in Palestine, and yet who amazingly lives among us here and now.

We believe in the Holy Spirit – a presence who breathes deeply within us – stirs restless longings – measures out a new rhythm to our lives, and draws us towards one another. We believe in the community of God – people of every age and generation who have embodied your loving presence for us and for the world. We believe in a pilgrim Church – a living, breathing, struggling body of people who walk together in peace and conflict, in search of the light of God's truth.

We believe in life everlasting. Amen.'

## COMMUNION

### HYMN 664 (Tune St Agnes)

**Too soon we rise; the symbols disappear;**

the feast, though not the love,

is past and gone;

the bread and wine remove, but thou art here,

nearer than ever, still my Shield and Sun.

I have no help but thine; nor do I need

another arm but thine to lean upon;

it is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;

my strength is in thy might, thy might alone.

Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,

yet, passing, points

to the glad feast above,

giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,

the Lamb's great bridal feast

of bliss and love.

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## BENEDICTION