

The Sheldon Community

*Annual
Community Re-Dedication*

Friday 4th August 2017

Music is playing as everyone takes their seats in silence.

Welcome

Welcome in the communion of the Holy Spirit
Welcome in the love of Jesus of Nazareth
Welcome in the name of the Wise, Compassionate, Living God

The Paschal candle is lit

God of mysterious presence
God who speaks light into being
God revealed to us in Jesus
you have called each of us by name
 The Lord be a light to our path
 The Lord lead you in all His ways

Community each light a candle

We bring our wholeness and our brokenness
 We bring the time of our lives
 May we seek your eternal kingdom
We bring our stewardship and our wastefulness
 We bring the time of our lives
 May we seek your eternal kingdom
We bring our skills and our ignorance
 We bring the time of our lives
 May we seek your eternal kingdom
We bring our service and our selfishness
 We bring the time of our lives
 May we seek your eternal kingdom
We bring our strength and our weakness
 We bring the time of our lives
 May we seek your eternal kingdom
We bring our stability and our restlessness
 We bring the time of our lives
 May we seek your eternal kingdom

We bring our energy and apathy
We bring the time of our lives
May we seek your eternal kingdom
We bring our successes and our failures
We bring the time of our lives
May we seek your eternal kingdom

Taize chant:

***The Lord is my light, my light and salvation
in God I trust, in God I trust.***

Confession and absolution

**God you know us as we are
you know our selfishness
our anger and bitterness
our fear and apathy
our hardness of heart
our deliberate blindness
our need to begin again
In your mercy and love forgive us
change and renew us in Christ
Amen**

Period of silence

The absolution is pronounced together, to one another

**Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners
Hear then the word of grace : your sins are forgiven**

Readings

After each reading, a short period of silence is kept

First reading

Growing in Trust - Jean Vanier - The Broken Body

The sense of belonging flows from trust: trust is the gradual acceptance of others as they are with their gifts and their

limits, each one with the call of Jesus. And this leads to the realization that the body of community is not perfectly whole and cannot be, that this is our human condition. And it is all right for us to be less than perfect. We must not weep over our imperfections. We are not judged for being defective. Our God knows that in so many ways we are lame and half blind. We will never win the olympics of humanity, racing for perfection, but we can walk together in hope, celebrating that we are loved in our brokenness:

helping each other
growing in trust
living in thanksgiving
learning to forgive
opening up to others
welcoming them

and striving to bring peace and hope to our world. So it is that we come to put down roots in community not because it is perfect and wonderful, but because we believe that Jesus has called us together. It is where we belong and are called to grow and serve.

Second Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians ch 2 v 1-5

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness or sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing that would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody must be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of their own interests first, but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

Intercessions

We pray for the Sheldon Community
for Carl, Sue, Jan, Hillary, Sarah, Rhian, Andrew

Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us**

We pray for Alison

living alongside Community and preparing for her future ministry

Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us

We pray for Tim, Claire, Isabelle and Matilda
making their home with us

Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us**

We pray for all who belong at Sheldon
for staff, volunteers, Friends

Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us**

We pray for all who are welcomed at Sheldon
for retreats, in crisis, groups, theatre

Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us**

We pray for all people in Christian ministry
as they seek to serve you

Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us**

We pray for those who are sick or distressed
especially those known to us

Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us**

We pray for the needs of the world
for people and planet

Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us**

Taize 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***

Silence

**Dear God, we ask you to accept all our prayers
and the unspoken desires of our hearts
in the name of Christ Amen.**

Community Re-Dedication

Blow out candles

Carl pours water into the large bowl and says

God of all that is, may this water be a sign to us of the life of Christ flowing in and through our lives.

Friends say to the Community:

Will you live, work and pray together as the Sheldon Community, seeking to develop stability in your common life?

Community response:

We will support and encourage one another as we seek to live out God's calling rooted and grounded in the rhythm of our common life

Friends say to the Community:

Will you accept the shared calling of servanthood, treating with love, dignity and respect all those you minister alongside and all the guests entrusted to your care?

Community response:

We seek to meet the needs of each person in a spirit of welcome, hospitality and service.

Members of the Community dip small bowls

Community to Tim and Claire

Tim and Claire we invite you to come and share our lives, living and working here as you test your vocation to Community.

May your life and ministry here be a blessing to you and to all those you serve

Tim and Claire say

Under God we choose to walk this path with you.

Community each make a sign of the cross on Tim and Claire's palms

Community to Isabelle and Matilda

Isabelle and Matilda we welcome you into the life of our
Community

May you be always surrounded in love

Community give Isabelle and Matilda each a small token

All say

We pray for you all in your common life and ministry.

Everyone stands

*Members of the Community take water to make a sign of the
cross on the palms of each guest.*

Each person sits down after receiving. When all are seated ...

Friends say to the Community:

**Will you be good stewards of the resources God gives
you, witnessing to the faithfulness of God's provision?**

Community response:

We will be trustworthy in our stewardship of God's gifts,
seeking God's purpose and God's glory.

The bowls of water are poured back into the central bowl

Community to Friends:

Will you as Friends pray for us and support us in our common
life, our ministry and our witness?

Friends' Response:

**We pray for you now and through the coming year. May
you be blessed in your life together, and through your
service bring blessing to many.**

We pray for strength, wisdom, guidance and support.

**We ask these things of the God who calls you and equips
you in His service, in the name of Christ. Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord God, intimately close,
yet always further on;
revealing yourself in simple ways,
yet greater by far than our imagining;
we praise you, saying

**Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of Hosts
the whole earth is full of God's glory!
Blessed is the One
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord.
It is made ready for those who love him
and who want to love him more.
So come,
You who have much faith and you who have little,
You who have tried to follow
and you who have failed.
Come,
Our Lord invites you to meet him here.

**Wisdom has built her house
she has mixed her wine
she has laid her table
Blessed be God forever.**

Let us hear the story of how this sacrament began:
On the night on which Jesus was betrayed
He sat at supper with his disciples.
He took a piece of bread and said a blessing
"This is my body. It is broken for you. Do this to remember me"
He took a cup of wine saying
"This cup is God's new covenant, sealed with my blood.
Drink this to remember me."

So now, following Jesus' example and command,
We take this bread and this wine,
The ordinary things of the world which Christ transforms.

Lord Jesus Christ, present with us now,
breathe your Spirit on us and upon this bread and wine,
that they may be heaven's food and drink for us.
May they renew, sustain and make us whole,
that we may be your body here on earth,
and share in bringing justice, peace and love to all the world.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts we remember Christ
and pray that you will make us one in him, our risen Lord,
Amen.**

Look, look,
Here is your Lord coming to you
in bread and wine.
These are the gifts of God
for the people of God.

The bread and wine are distributed

The Body of Christ

The Blood of Christ

A short period of silence

Faithful God,
you have adopted us as your children,
call us to be members of the body of Christ
and made us inheritors of your kingdom:
we thank you that you renew your promises within us,
and empower us by your Spirit to witness and to serve,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

The Blessing

Let the majesty of the Father
be the light by which you walk,
the compassion of the Son
be the love by which you walk,
the presence of the Spirit
be the power by which you walk.
Amen

The Lord is my light, my light and sal - va - tion. In
God I trust. In God I trust. The