

# The Downs Benefice

## Family Communion And All Souls'

*Please remain seated throughout this service and respect social distancing measures whilst you are in church. A 2-metre gap should be observed between individual household 'bubbles' at all times.*

### ***Welcome and Notices & Banns of Marriage***

#### ***The Gathering***

**Leader:** In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**All:** **And also with you.**

**Leader:** We meet this morning to remember our loved ones with thanksgiving, to renew our trust and confidence in Christ, and to pray that together we may be one in him, through whom we offer our praise to the Father.

**Leader:** The Lord is my strength and my salvation

**All:** **He is at my right hand, and I shall not fall.**

*Leader:* Show us your mercy, O Lord:

***All:* And grant us your peace.**

*Leader:* For with you is the well of life:

***All:* And in your light shall we see light.**

### ***Absolution***

*Leader:* 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.

**Amen.**

***Hymn*** *Congregation to listen as the hymn tune is played*

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the ancient of days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all laud we would render: O help us to see  
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.**

*Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908)*

## ***The Collect Prayer***

**Leader:** Blessed are you, Lord our God, lover of souls  
you uphold us in life and sustain us in death  
to you be glory and praise for ever.  
For the darkness of this age is passing away  
as Christ the bright and morning star  
offers to us all eternal life.  
As you give light to those in darkness  
who walk in the shadow of death,  
so remember in your kingdom your faithful servants,  
that death may be for them the gate to life  
and to unending fellowship with you;  
where with them you live in love now and forever.

**All:** Amen.

**Hymn** *Congregation to listen as the hymn tune is played*

**Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy powerful hand:  
bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs and praises  
I will ever give to thee.**

***The Gospel Luke 14: 12-14***

Alleluia, Alleluia. I appointed you to go and bear fruit that will last, says the Lord.

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end of the reading:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

***The Sermon***

***Reading of Loved Ones' Names***

*A candle will be lit at the Altar and the names of all those whom we remember will now be read as we listen to the following hymn:*

**Hymn**    *Congregation to listen as the hymn tune is played*

**Abide with me; fast falls the eventide:  
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:  
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee  
help of the helpless, O abide with me.**

*Reading of names*

**Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;  
Change and decay in all around I see:  
O thou who changest not, abide with me.**

*Reading of names*

**I need thy presence every passing hour;  
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.**

*Reading of names*

**I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.**

*Reading of names*

**Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;  
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies:  
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain  
                  shadows flee;  
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.**

*H. F. Lyte*

## **Prayers**

*Leader:* We remember before God those whom we love, and a candle symbolises the light of Christ which eternally shines and brings hope. Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'

*Leader:* Hear us, O merciful Father, as we remember in love all those whom we place in your hands. Enfold them in the arms of your mercy, in the blessed rest of everlasting Peace, and in the glorious company of the saints in light.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Leader:* All our laughter, all our sadness

*All:* **Safe now in God's hands**

*Leader:* All our anger, all our gladness

*All:* **Safe now in God's hands**

*Leader:* Those we remember, those we love

*All:* **Safe now in God's hands**

*Leader:* What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor human heart conceived, God has prepared for those who love him.

**All:**           **God of all consolation,  
in your unending love and mercy  
you turn the darkness of death  
into the dawn of new life.  
Show compassion to your people in their sorrow,  
be our refuge and our strength  
to lift us from the darkness of grief  
to the peace and light of your presence.  
Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
after dying for us, conquered death,  
and by rising again, restored life.**

**May we then go forward eagerly to meet him,  
and after our life on earth  
be reunited with our brothers and sisters  
where every tear will be wiped away.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

### ***The Peace***

Peace reigns where God is. As we pray together today,  
May God's gift be ours in abundance,  
That we may share it freely here and everywhere.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

***The Prayer of Consecration***

*The gifts of the people, the bread and the wine are blessed at the Altar:*

With this bread and wine that we bring,  
**We remember Jesus.**

Bread for His body, wine for His blood,  
Gifts from God to His table we bring.  
**We remember Jesus.**

***The Eucharistic Prayer***

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.  
**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Father, you made the world and love your creation. You gave your Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Saviour. His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels forever praising you and saying:

*We say together:*

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord.  
God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you loving Father ...  
... we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes  
in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

*Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:*

**All: 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,  
Forever and ever, Amen.**

### ***The Breaking of the Bread and sharing in Holy Communion***

We break the bread of life

And that life is the Light of the World.

**God here among us, Light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

### ***Giving of Communion***

Jesus is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to His supper.

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

*If you wish to receive a Communion wafer, please come forward individually, and the President will drop a wafer into your hand.*

### ***The Post-Communion Prayer***

**All: Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us through 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.**

## ***The Blessing and Dismissal***

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, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

The service has ended. Now our work has begun.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Sadly, we are not able to gather for refreshments after the service.*

*Please respect social distancing measures as you leave church.*

### ***Induction Loop and Gluten Free wafers***

*Both these are offered during this service. Please have a word with one of the Sides-people on duty this morning, who will be able to help you.*