

The Feast of Life and Love

Reflections on the Eucharist

An autumn sermon series at All Hallows, looking at this down-to-earth yet heavenly practice of sharing bread and wine to remember and celebrate Jesus's dying for the life of the world



all hallows church

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“ The practice of the Eucharist has become so ritualised and privatised that it has lost much of its meaning – meaning which an examination of its original practice can help us recover.

A two-dimensional communion service has the right words and actions – bread and wine are shared and eaten. A four-dimensional Eucharist includes a sharing community moving toward justice. The extra dimensions are not optional, but lie at the heart of the original rite.”

BRIAN WREN, HYMN-WRITER

“ Taking the bread and wine is an inescapably political act – the ‘sign of love’ – because it signifies what society must become, and how power must be exercised, if we are to come into line with God’s reality.”

TIMOTHY GORRINGE, *THE SIGN OF LOVE*

6 OCTOBER '19 HARVEST SUNDAY

Sign of Hope

Paul Magnall

The origins of the Eucharist in the Last Supper and the practice of the early church – and how we got to all the different ways of celebrating Communion today. Is it a 'magic' ritual, a theological enigma, an optional extra, or a transformational sign of the Kingdom of God?

13 OCTOBER '19

Kingdom Economics

Anna Bland

The divine economy based on sharing, generosity and gift: "you give them something to eat" (Luke 9:13)

20 OCTOBER '19

The Open Table

Various short contributions

This service will be a shared worship meal centred on an informal Eucharist. Vegetarian food provided

Jesus ate with all sorts of people; God's Kingdom is like a great feast to which everyone is welcome and the riffraff are given the best places

Continuing the Journey

On the website there will also be links to **further reading** and **other resources**, for those who want to explore our Christian understanding of the Eucharist more deeply.

We hope to arrange opportunities for **discussion, reflection and prayer** on the challenging themes raised in this series.

27 OCTOBER '19

Communion with God who is Love

Angela Birkin

The Eucharist as a celebration of the mystery of the Triune God who is Love and whom we recognise in each other

3 NOVEMBER '19 ALL HALLOWS SUNDAY

Forming an Alternative Community

Jan Betts

The Eucharist as a Passover meal of liberation, setting us free to become an alternative community in which we can learn to live well and become truly human, loving and serving God and others

10 NOVEMBER '19 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Remember!

Toby Parsons

As Jesus told his disciples at the Last Supper, we are to remember his death for us, overcoming violence and death through his faithful witness to God's Kingdom

You can catch up on any sermons you miss at allhallowsleeds.org