



Online Parish Communion Ordinary Time





The Sermon on the Mount

Jan Brueghel the Elder, 1598

Collection of The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles

Jan Brueghel the Elder was a key figure in a distinguished dynasty of Flemish painters of the 16th and early 17th centuries. His illustrious father Peter produced a famous series based on the seasons, depicting wide landscapes, the power of nature and scenes of everyday peasant life in novel ways. Jan worked on a smaller scale, both in terms of imagery (concentrating often on precise renderings of individual flowers) and the actual size of his paintings (remarkably the dimensions of this immensely detailed image are only 10 ½ inches by 14 ½ inches). His capacity to paint richly layered, delicate works earned him the contemporary nickname ‘Velvet Brueghel.’

Amidst the gathered crowd, Jesus is almost lost in it, yet can be found just to the left of the centre of the image, in a yellow garment and with his arms outstretched in exhortation. The semi-circular, almost orbit-like field of light around him is contrasted with the shadows of the fore- and backgrounds, subtly reminding us of Jesus’ assertion that he is ‘the light of the world’ and that ‘he who follows shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life’ (John 8:12).

With meticulous attention to detail, Brueghel depicts a huge range of characters, with their individuality conveyed in their differing faces, clothes and attitudes to Jesus. Those closest to him listen attentively, while everyday life goes on in the foreground without much, if any, awareness of his presence - close to the centre a pretzel seller in purple distributes his wares and nearby a crouching fortune teller tries to cast her spell. Distinctions in social class are also conveyed: in the foreground, on the right, elegant ladies in fine dress as well as more modestly attired women arrive concurrently on the scene. These depictions vividly recount what John’s Gospel records - ‘the word became flesh and lived among us’ (1:14) - and demonstrate Jesus’ willingness to enter right into a community’s life, just as it stood, in order to bring his message of new life, reconciliation and hope.

Perhaps most notably, Brueghel does not re-imagine the scene in the hot, dusty and primitive setting of Palestine during Jesus’ lifetime. Rather, he locates it in a then contemporary, recognisably European landscape, with deciduous trees providing shade and verdant moss on the forest floor. In the distance, down the mountain, domes, spires and masted ships in port also point to a developed society, both culturally and commercially. This shift in focus underlines the timelessness and universality of Jesus’ teachings in the Sermon on the Mount, as well as their applicability and reach beyond the boundaries of time, place, culture and nation.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The minister welcomes everyone

Hymn – All creatures of our God and King

All creatures of our God and King
lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia, alleluia.

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
*O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him, alleluia.

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice;
Chorus

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia, alleluia.

Thou fire so masterful and bright,
that givest hearts both warmth and light:
Chorus

Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise him, alleluia.

The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
let them his glory also show:
Chorus

Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness;
O praise him, alleluia.
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One;
Chorus

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

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.

The Collect

Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

The Transfiguration

² Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³ and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵ Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁶ He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷ Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” ⁸ Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

The Coming of Elijah

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession – Nick Owen

At the end we say

Merciful Father,
**Accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

We are the body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
And builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

Preparation of the Table

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 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 praising you, and *saying*:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.
So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

God's holy gifts
For God's holy people
Jesus Christ is holy
Jesus Christ is Lord
To the glory of God the Father

Prayer after Communion

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of 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 Notices

Hymn – O Worship the King

O worship the King all glorious above;
O gratefully sing his power and his love;
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendour and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
his chariots of wrath the deep thunder clouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm..

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end!
our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.

O measureless might, ineffable love,
while angels delight to hymn thee above,
thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall sing to thy praise.

Blessing

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

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

The hymns for this service were recorded remotely by the Choral Scholars of St Martin-in-the-Fields in their homes, and edited together.

This booklet is for use in the Parish of Itchen Valley, which comprises the churches of St Mary's Avington, St John the Baptist, Itchen Abbas, St Mary's Easton and St Swithun's Martyr Worthy

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