

St Mark's Broomhill & Broomhall  
*Living Thinking Loving Faith*

## Night Service



***A liturgy for the Love Feast,  
or Agape Meal***

Welcome to St Mark's.

Our celebration is richer for your part in it.  
We are glad that you are here.

The Love Feast, or Agape Meal, is a Christian fellowship meal recalling the meals Jesus shared with disciples during his ministry. Tonight we will give thanks, listen to and discuss scripture, share food and hold a time of silent prayer together.

This is an informal opportunity to share in food, faith and fellowship, and everyone is welcome here.

Please feel free to keep this booklet for your own use.

## Opening Responses

Out of the darkness came light;  
**and the power of God was revealed**  
in the running wave and the radio wave,  
**in the electric spark and the shining stars.**

Out of the dust came life;  
**and the image of God was revealed**  
in the human face and the gentle heart,  
**in the warmth of flesh and the depth of soul.**

Out of justice came freedom;  
**and the wisdom of God was revealed**  
in the need to grow and the will to love,  
**in the chance to know and the power to choose.**

And God looked at the creation,  
**and behold, it was very good.**

## Chant (*as candles are lit*)

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,  
in the Lord I will rejoice!  
Look to God, do not be afraid;  
lift up your voices, the Lord is near,  
lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

*Taizé Community*

## Prayer of Approach and Thanksgiving

Living God, you cherish your creation  
and we praise you.

With earth, air, water, fire:  
in our element as your children, we praise you.

With our lips, with our lives, in all our diversity,  
each one made in your image, we praise you.

Because you share our human lives,  
our sorrow and joy, we praise you.

*We hold a time of quiet together as we reflect on the day that has been.  
If you wish, feel free to give thanks or pray aloud.*

The grace of God meets us now  
to renew us, reorientate us, restore us.

May the peace of God be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## Introduction to Sharing

We have shared in thanksgiving and peace;  
now, in solidarity and agape  
we remember the story of Jesus' final supper with his friends  
and share our meal together.

## Sharing the Story

I have handed down to you what came to me by direct revelation from the Lord himself. The same night in which he was handed over, he took bread and gave thanks. Then he distributed it to the disciples and said, “Take it and eat your fill. It is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.” He did the same with the cup of wine after supper and said, “This cup seals the new covenant with my blood. Drink it—and whenever you drink this, do it to remember me.”

Whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are retelling the story, proclaiming our Lord’s death until he comes.

*1 Corinthians 11.23-26 (The Passion Translation)*

## Sharing in Food

God bless our food;  
God bless our drink.  
Keep our homes and ourselves  
in your embrace, O God. **Amen.**

*‘Brigid’s Grace’, Northumbria Community*

*We begin our meal – sharing in food and fellowship as we celebrate this feast of love.*

## Prayer after Sharing

With gratefulness to God for all that we have shared  
and thankfulness for this good food  
we turn our gaze beyond this time and space  
to the world around us  
and all that lies ahead.

*We share a time of silence, lasting approximately 10 minutes, for our own reflections and prayers.*

We draw all our prayers together  
in the words that Jesus taught us:

**OUR FATHER in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## Chant

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,  
in the Lord I will rejoice!  
Look to God, do not be afraid;  
lift up your voices, the Lord is near,  
lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

## Closing Responses

O God, we give thanks for places of simplicity and peace  
**let us find such a place within ourselves.**

We give thanks for places of refuge and beauty  
**let us find such a place within ourselves.**

We give thanks for places of truth and freedom,  
of joy, inspiration and renewal;  
places where all may find acceptance and belonging.

**Let us search for these places:  
in the world, in ourselves and in others.  
let us restore them,  
strengthen and protect them;  
and let us create them.**

## Blessing

May God bless all  
who have gathered around this table.  
May we know the fullness of your presence  
at every meal and in all our sharing. **Amen.**

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You can make a donation by texting 'STMARKS 5' to 70085 to donate £5. This costs £5  
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Thank you.*



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