



OPEN TABLE

East Cardiff

Safe sacred space for LGBTQIA+ Christians, our families,
friends & anyone who wants to belong in an accepting,

loving community

Every First Sunday

6pm

All Saint's Church, Cyncoed

All Souls and Trans Day of Remembrance

Welcome to Open Table, a Christian worship community which genuinely welcomes and affirms people who are: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer or Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual (LGBTQIA), + our families, friends & anyone who wants to belong in an accepting, loving community.

Open Table aims to create a safe sacred space for you to explore your faith and what it means for you. Whoever you are, wherever you come from, you are more than welcome here.

Open Table East Cardiff meets on the first Sunday of every month in All Saint's Church, Cyncoed, Cardiff at 6pm with refreshments. You are #MoreThanWelcome to #ComeAsYouAre.

Get in Touch:

email: rosemary@eastcardiff.church

Facebook: facebook.com/eastcardiffma/

Instagram: instagram.com/eastcardiffma/

Twitter: twitter.com/EastCardiffMA

For more about the Open Table network, visit: www.opentable.lgbt. For more about All Saint's visit: eastcardiff.church

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First Song

Welcome

Leader: We gather in the name of the God who creates, the Saviour who liberates, and the Spirit who heals.

All: **Amen.**

Leader: Grace and peace to you from God.

All: **God fill you with truth and joy.**

Leader: Listen! Listen for the voice of God, naming us all:

All: **Holy. Beloved. Cherished. Valued.**

Leader: We believe you delight in us! Make us people who recognize and proclaim your beauty and goodness in unexpected places.

All: **Surprise us. Challenge us. Transform us.**

Leader: We trust in you, Holy One, to reveal to us the sacredness of every life, of every way of being, of every expression of your Spirit.

All: **May it be so!**

(enfleshed.com)



A Time of Self Reflection

Please sit as we hold a moment of stillness, followed by confession.

Leader: We confess that we have made mistakes, not to make ourselves feel shameful or guilty, but to wrestle with the ways we have hurt others. We confess together the struggles of learning and unlearning in an exploiting world. We remember that grace and honesty are healing friends. So let us join together in confession. In this spirit, let us join together in confession.

We hold a moment of stillness.

From the stillness hear the words of assurance

Leader: God does not abandon us to the systems that destroy, bind us to our regrets nor forever hold us to what we once believed. God says, come and follow! Know forgiveness and sin no more. Wherever new life is desired, may the peace and forgiveness of Christ be welcomed among us.

All: Thanks be to God who leads us on paths of resurrection.

(enfleshed.com & Stephen Shakespeare)

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The Collect

A Collect is a prayer that gathers the themes of the service and readings together.

Leader: God of love, you weep with us in our grief and fear. Enfold in your loving embrace all those in our trans community and in our lives lost to death. You know their names, Divine Creator, even when they are misnamed or misgendered as a last act of violence and erasure. You see each one as beloved, and call them by their chosen name. You claim them as your children.

All: **Amen.**

(reconcilingworks.org)

The Readings

Please sit for our reading/s.

The reading/s may be, a piece of scripture chosen by the worship leader/team, a reflection or poem.

The Gospel

If it's comfortable for you, you are invited to stand to greet the Gospel. Standing is an ancient symbol in many faith traditions of attentive listening (see Nehemiah 8:5).

Reader: Hear the Holy Gospel of Jesus according to ...

All: **Our hearts and minds are open.**

The Gospel reading is either taken from the lectionary of the day or a Gospel reading that links with the themes of the preacher's homily.

Reader: This is the Gospel of Jesus

All: **Thanks be to God**

Please take a seat for a short reflection based on the readings/themes of the service.

The Prayers

Please take this time to pray for the loss of a loved one and to remember all lost in the Trans Community this year and their family and friends as they grieve for them.

Our time of prayer will conclude with:

Leader: God of peace, give comfort to those who mourn. Give courage to our trans communities in the face of cruelty and harassment. Bring to justice those who perpetrate this violence.

Challenge us, O Holy One, to speak out for those who are silenced, to stand with those who are bullied, and to go with those who face danger.

God of wonder, you are beyond gender. You made each of us in your image. Be with us today and always as we long for a day when every individual is safe and known and honored.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who brings us all together in one human family.

All: **Amen.**

(Leo Bancroft, ReconcilingWorks)

Sharing the Peace

We share the peace to demonstrate that we are a community that acknowledges its diversity and affirms it and rejoices in it.

Please stand if you are comfortable to do so.

Leader: Christ descended to death and hell, passed through doors locked by fear to breathe the Spirit of peace and make us one humanity; nothing can now separate us from the love of God.

Let us offer one another a sign of that peace.

It is entirely your choice how you share the peace. If you do not wish to shake hands etc. then simply smile and say 'peace be with you' but equally, if you do not feel comfortable interacting at all then feel free to sit quietly and simply imagine or pray for love to surround everybody gathered.

Please sit to sing our next song

Second Song

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The Communion

Leader: God is here

All: **God's Spirit is with us.**

Leader: Blessed be the names of Love

All: **They touch our hearts with grace.**

Leader: We open our hands in thanks

All: **Our song is one of welcome.**

Leader: Blessed are you, Lord God,
our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness
of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels and all
the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

All Say: **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord.**

God of power and God of might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory, your power and might.

Hosanna in the highest heaven.

Blessed is the one who comes

In the name of the Lord,

Hosanna in the highest heaven.

Leader: How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a
people as your own.

When they turned away and rebelled your love remained
steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to
be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied.
He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than
death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it
to them, saying:

‘Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in
remembrance of me.’

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you
thanks, 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.’

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

**All Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Leader: Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Bring us at the last with Blessed Mary and all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

All: Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

Leader: Together with all disciples in the Diocese of Monmouth and across the world, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**All: Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,**

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. Amen.

(The New Zealand Book of Prayer | He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa)

Leader: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All: Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

(Eucharistic Prayer from Common Worship with intro by Steven Shakespeare)

All are welcome to receive communion here.

If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please hold this service sheet in your hands. There is no obligation to receive a blessing or the sacrament. If you do not want to receive the sacrament or a blessing please feel free to just sit and listen to the music.

Come as you are.

Third Song-

Post Communion Prayer

Leader: Let us pray:

You whom we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands; the word of life in whom our joy is complete: send us out to declare your truth, your unshakable faith in the world you love.

All Amen

Please sit for any notices, following a time of stillness.

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Blessing

Leader: Let your blessing, wild and queer
shake the world;
let thrones of domination fall; let unheard
voices resound.

For yours is the life without limits and fear
and the grave will never more be your
home.

And may the blessing of God
Creator, Christ and ever present Spirit
be among you and remain with you
always.

All **Amen**

(Stephen Shakespeare)

The feast is now ended, let us depart in peace.
Remember the words we have said and the acts we have
done. The work of the world lies before us. Accomplish
justice, with grace.

All: **Amen!**

Please stand to sing if you are comfortable.

Fourth Song or Reflective music to depart

You are most welcome to stay for refreshments after the service.

If you are able to offer a donation to support the work of Open Table and East Cardiff MA, please place it in the bowl provided, scan the QR code or go to <https://eastcardiff.churchsuite.com/donate>

THANK YOU!