**Communion: Tangible and Virtual**

Our communion is always a virtual reality.

At the house in Emmaus, when Jesus broke the bread,

His disciples realised his presence with them

Even as he vanished from their sight.

When Thomas declared he would not believe

Unless he could touch and feel the wounds of the crucifixion,

Jesus invited him to touch and see – and declared a blessing

On all those who would not see, and yet would believe.

At the Ascension, angels asked the disciples why they still looked up into the sky –

They should expect now to find Jesus in everyday places.

We celebrate our communion strangely in this season,

And yet our confidence and hope is in the God

Who is always both a virtual and a real presence:

In bread, in wine, in water, in the spaces between us.

The still centre at the heart of all our circling.

Come, living God,

Infuse our presence with your absence

And our absence with your presence.

Amen

*By Rev Dr Miranda Threlfall-Holmes, Team Rector of St Luke in the City, St Bride’s and St Michael’s in the City and a Council Member of Modern Church*