

# Our Sunday Service Together

June 30<sup>th</sup> 2024

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity



## An Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
one God, who was, and who is, and who is to come, the Almighty.

Alleluia

## Preparation

All: This is the day that the Lord has made.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
Through the brokenness of Christ, we become one body  
as one body we now gather in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to receive God's  
holy word, to pray for the needs of the world,  
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit  
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

## Our Confession

*Let us come to the light of Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.*

All: Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to  
you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength, and not by the power of your resurrection.  
In your mercy, forgive us, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing.  
In your mercy, forgive us, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven.  
In your mercy, forgive us, hear us and help us.

*Be still for a moment in confession and in receiving God's Grace in Christ*

All: May Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive us  
our sins, open our eyes to God's truth, strengthen us to do God's will and give us the joy of his  
kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. **Amen.**

## The opening prayer

All: The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

All: As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever. Amen.

## The Psalm - 30

I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have raised me up and have not let my foes triumph over me.

O Lord my God, I cried out to you and you have healed me.

You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead; you restored me to life from among those that go down to the Pit.

Sing to the Lord, you servants of his; give thanks to his holy name.

For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, his favour for a lifetime.

Heaviness may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

In my prosperity I said, 'I shall never be moved.'

You, Lord, of your goodness, have made my hill so strong.'

Then you hid your face from me and I was utterly dismayed.

To you, O Lord, I cried; to the Lord I made my supplication:

'What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit?

Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

'Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me; O Lord, be my helper.'

You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and girded me with gladness;

Therefore, my heart sings to you without ceasing; O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

## Scripture Reading 2 Samuel 1.1 and 17-27

After the death of Saul, when David had returned from defeating the Amalekites, David remained two days in Ziklag.

David intoned this lamentation over Saul and his son Jonathan. <sup>18</sup> (He ordered that The Song of the Bow be taught to the people of Judah; it is written in the Book of Jashar.) He said:

<sup>19</sup> Your glory, O Israel, lies slain upon your high places! How the mighty have fallen!

<sup>20</sup> Tell it not in Gath, proclaim it not in the streets of Ashkelon; or the daughters of the Philistines will rejoice, the daughters of the uncircumcised will exult.

<sup>21</sup> You mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew or rain upon you, nor bounteous fields!

For there the shield of the mighty was defiled, the shield of Saul, anointed with oil no more.

<sup>22</sup> From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan did not turn back, nor the sword of Saul return empty.

<sup>23</sup> Saul and Jonathan, beloved and lovely! In life and in death they were not divided; they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions.

<sup>24</sup> O daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you with crimson, in luxury, who put ornaments of gold on your apparel.

<sup>25</sup> How the mighty have fallen in the midst of the battle! Jonathan lies slain upon your high places.

<sup>26</sup> I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan; greatly beloved were you to me; your love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women.

<sup>27</sup> How the mighty have fallen, and the weapons of war perished!

*At the end of the reading we say:*

All: This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

## Gloria

All: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## The Gospel Mark 5.21-43

When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered round him; and he was by the lake. <sup>22</sup> Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet <sup>23</sup> and begged him repeatedly, 'My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.' <sup>24</sup> So he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. <sup>25</sup> Now there was a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years. <sup>26</sup> She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. <sup>27</sup> She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, <sup>28</sup> for she said, 'If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well.' <sup>29</sup> Immediately her haemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. <sup>30</sup> Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' <sup>31</sup> And his disciples said to him, 'You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, "Who touched me?"' <sup>32</sup> He looked all round to see who had done it. <sup>33</sup> But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. <sup>34</sup> He said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.'

<sup>35</sup> While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, 'Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?' <sup>36</sup> But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, 'Do not fear, only believe.' <sup>37</sup> He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. <sup>38</sup> When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. <sup>39</sup> When he had entered, he said to them, 'Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.' <sup>40</sup> And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. <sup>41</sup> He took her by the hand and said to her, 'Talitha cum', which means, 'Little girl, get up!' <sup>42</sup> And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. <sup>43</sup> He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

*at the end of the reading we say:*

All: This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

## A Reflection for the day

Mark gives us two accounts rolled into one, both linked by the number 12. The one story sees a father throw himself before Jesus asking him to come and heal his 12-year-old daughter. Into this account is woven that of a woman who had been haemorrhaging for 12 years, creeping up to Jesus, unseen within the pressing crowd.

The haemorrhaging for 12 years had bankrupted her as she sought every cure known to man. It would have also caused her repeated isolation from the religious life of the community; she would have had to regularly,

and repeatedly enter times and rituals to make her clean.

She has spent everything, but it seems faith remains, some hope is still to be found. Through the crowd, past the hustle and bustle, the bodyguard of disciples, she reaches to touch; even just the hem, the tassel fringe, the very edge of God's presence. In that moment Jesus finds himself spent of the Spirit within. He calls the women into the open and asks her story. He begins his reply to her with the word "Daughter" - she is not an outcast, or unclean in his eyes, she is the beloved of God.

"Daughter, your faith has made you well". Faith, not to conjure up God's works or somehow persuade the divine to act. No, this is simply faith that God is God, and if she could get past all the obstacles then God knows her heart and condition and she knows he will do what is right for her.

I find myself wondering how many people find themselves out on the edge of things in society, people that God simply thinks of as sons and daughters, and what might be if only they might hear God's welcome! Is this one of Mark's message to us, that church communities need to give voice to the welcome of God in Jesus Christ? 2022 survey data of non-Christians in England reveals that 53% know a practising Christian (a drop from 68% in 1995), however the majority of these people did not realise they could go to church – no one had ever suggested coming or said you are welcome!

In the middle of all of this encounter with the women comes the news that Jairus' daughter has succumbed to the ultimate enemy and has died. But Jesus is not fazed by this discovery and stepping past all the customary concerns about touching the dead, and reminiscent of Elijah and the widow of Nairn's son, he raises the girl's hand and with gentle words calls her up, 'Talitha cum'. Apart from the cry or dereliction from the cross, these are the only words recorded in Jesus' native Aramaic in the gospels - 'Father, why have you forsaken me?' and 'child, arise!'. Could it be that his abandonment gives rise to our hope, his moment of death brings to us resurrection, his darkness brings eternal light?

Jesus does not heal everyone in the crowd pressing to him or raise every child that died in his locality, but here he does. A woman isolated from God's presence for 12 years and a 12-year-old girl on the cusp of adulthood and the possibility of descendants – are they representative of the 12 tribes of Israel that God would see healed, raised to a new life if the people would only turn to him in Jesus Christ?

Though he was rich, he became poor for our sakes. Though he was the beloved Son he became the forsaken one so that we might hear his words 'child, arise'.

## The Creed

All: 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

*We make our intercessions*

We pray for our bishops and all who seek to lead and bless our diocese at this time. Especially this day we pray for all being ordained as Deacons and Priests in the Diocese. May they be filled with the Spirit and serve you as the first disciples. *Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.*

We pray for the victims of war, injustice, prejudice and abuse that they may find peace and reconciliation. May we never forget that all people are loved and valued by God regardless of differences. *Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.*

We pray for our families, friends and neighbours that we may serve Christ in one another and seek the common good. *Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.*

We pray for the sick, suffering and dying ..... and we give thanks and pray for those who use their skill and risk their lives to care for them. *Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer*

Hear us as we remember those who have died..... According to your promises grant them a share in your eternal kingdom. *Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen*

## The Collect

All: Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

*Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us*

All: 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.

## The Conclusion

All: Christ, as a light illumine and guide me this day.  
Christ, as a shield overshadow me.  
Christ under me, Christ over me; Christ beside me on my left and my right.  
This day be within and without me. Amen