

# Our Sunday Service Together

July 7<sup>th</sup> 2025

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



## 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 Psalms 138

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods will I sing praise to you.  
I will bow down towards your holy temple and praise your name,  
because of your love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.  
In the day that I called to you, you answered me; you put new strength in my soul.  
All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.  
They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, that great is the glory of the Lord.  
Though the Lord be high, he watches over the lowly; as for the proud, he regards them from afar.  
Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you will preserve me; you will stretch forth your hand against the fury of  
my enemies; your right hand will save me.  
The Lord shall make good his purpose for me; your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever; forsake not the  
work of your hands.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen

## Scripture Reading Colossians 2.6-15

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup> See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup> For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup> and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. <sup>11</sup> In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; <sup>12</sup> when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup> And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup> erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup> He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

*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 Luke 11.1-13

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' <sup>2</sup> He said to them, 'When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread.

<sup>4</sup> And forgive us our sins,  
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.  
And do not bring us to the time of trial.'

<sup>5</sup> And he said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him." <sup>7</sup> And he answers from within, "Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything." <sup>8</sup> I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

<sup>9</sup> 'So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup> Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup> Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

*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

Harry Lauder sat on a train journey, a long train journey through Scotland and wrote a song, the chorus goes;

"Keep right on to the end of the road, keep right on to the end  
Though the way be long, let your heart be strong;  
Keep right on 'round the bend".

There was nothing new in the prayer Jesus gave to his disciples; they were well known phrases within Judaism. Even the concept of the fatherly nature of God was not new; this was at the heart of the faith from their exodus from Egypt, with the provision of 'daily bread' by God, and the presence and wisdom of God too.

But that was a long time ago, and life was different now with Roman occupation and Greek Philosophy to the fore – some of which Paul acknowledges to the Colossians was very enticing indeed.

The words Jesus gives for prayer would have reminded his disciples of both who God is, and also who they were - the beloved of God and as such they are family and a community. This was the foundation of their faith, but they the disciples knew they needed a new exodus, a new deliverance through a promised Messiah. The people had been praying for such a deliverance, for a long time, why was it taking so long?

Jesus encourages the disciples to persevere in prayer, to be in conversation with God and relationship with God. And more, he reminds them this is a familial relationship with God and each other – if God is father, then we are brothers and sisters.

Jesus calls his disciples to remember that God, as a father, knows their needs and longings and will respond, appropriately and in season.

Jesus also reminds them of their familial obligation to each other to be the answer God wishes to give to prayers uttered. Knock and keep knocking, and the answer will be given to you might be better said in English

as 'knock on the door of a fellow 'child of God', keep knocking, keep searching, for God has placed the answer to your need in the community already (this reminds me of the search Joseph and Mary made, seeking out God's already established provision).

Don't be put off, 'seek and you will find'!

Paul encourages the Colossians in a similar fashion – you know who your foundation is, don't be drawn away – persevere in relationship, worship and prayer! Paul can see the desire of the people to know the fullness of Christ, and with it their true nature as the redeemed children of God – as those who are able to pray 'Father, holy is your name'. But how will this be possible if they allow philosophy and empty deceit, human tradition, elemental spirits of the universe to take them captive – how will they give you the fullness of Christ you desire; only Christ is Christ?

In an age of instant everything, of sirens that call the disciples of Christ away to be dashed on their rocks, be that age the best part of 2,000 years ago or today, the calling remains the same. It is a calling to remain fixed to the foundation of our faith, Christ. To persevere in prayer and to living as those always seeking the answer to prayer and being the answer to prayer.

"Keep right on in the ways of the Lord, keep right on to the end  
Though the way be long, let your heart be strong;  
Keep right on to the end".

## 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 Bishop Michael and all those who seek to serve you in this diocese May they be filled with the Spirit and speak with authority. May they have confident optimism as they preach the love of God.  
*Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.*

We pray for world leaders, may they seek your kingdom and will on earth. Especially we pray for the leaders of Ukraine and Russia, of Israel and The Palestinian Authority that a just solution may be found for their disputes, and that they may become good neighbours to each other. *Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.*

We pray for our King, Prime Minister, and local councillors that they may have the Spirit of wisdom, justice, truth and peace to lead our nation. *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 those who suffer as a result of war and for those who work to relieve their suffering.  
*Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.*

We pray for the sick, suffering, dying and those who mourn and we give thanks and pray for those who care for them. *Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.*

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all your saints, we commend ourselves and the whole creation to your unfailing love. Amen.

## The Collect

All: Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, 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