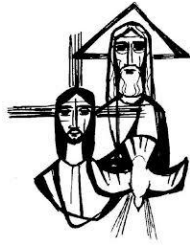


Our Sunday Service Together

12th October 2024

17th 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 Psalm 111

Alleluia.

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the faithful and in the congregation.

The works of the Lord are great, sought out by all who delight in them.

His work is full of majesty and honour and his righteousness endures for ever.

He appointed a memorial for his marvellous deeds; the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

He gave food to those who feared him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

He showed his people the power of his works in giving them the heritage of the nations.

The works of his hands are truth and justice; all his commandments are sure.

They stand fast for ever and ever; they are done in truth and equity.

He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant for ever;

holy and awesome is his name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have those who live by it; his praise endures 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 Timothy 2.8-15

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, ⁹ for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. ¹¹ The saying is sure:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him;

if we deny him, he will also deny us;

¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful — or he cannot deny himself.

¹⁴ Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. ¹⁵ Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

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 17.11-19

¹¹ On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³ they called out, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!' ¹⁴ When he saw them, he said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵ Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶ He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Then

Jesus asked, 'Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they?' ¹⁸ Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' ¹⁹ Then he said to him, 'Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.'

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

The season of Thanksgiving continues! Both the allotted psalm for the day and the passage from Luke underscore the place of thanksgiving within a life of faith.

Jesus is on his way to Jerusalem and passes by Galilee (full of gentiles) and Samaria (the old Israel of the ten tribes who split from Judah and Benjamin). This journey will result for Jesus in the cross and the fulfilment of his mission – the restoration of humanity's relationship with their creator God.

On his way Jesus meets 10 Lepers, one of whom it appears is a Samaritan. This is significant in its own right, because Samaritans and Jews did not get along, they kept their distance from one another and considered each other like foreigners. But leprosy leaves each and all of them shunned and excluded by society and faith; be that Jewish, Samaritan or Gentile. They journey together in their common shame, exclusion and longing to be. Of course, the lepers were not the only excluded and shunned people in the land, just think of all the 'sinners and tax collectors'.

The ten keep their distance and shout to Jesus for help. They have probably called out to others before for pity, for help in their dilemma, for food, for money – 'please mister, help us, have pity'. At this point of the story we would expect to hear that Jesus healed them, but Luke makes no mention at all. Instead Jesus directs them to go and show themselves to the priests, who in the Levitical regulations were the ones who would declare if someone was fit, clean enough, acceptable to be a part of society or not.

We are told the men were cleansed from their leprosy as they took the journey to the priests. But one man returned, the Samaritan. If we stop and think for a moment this man could not go to a Levitical Priest, being a Samaritan he could not be welcomed back into Israel, he was forever excluded. What could he do then on realising he too had been cleansed? He could have gone home to Samaria and maybe told everyone in his village of the man who had cleansed and restored him – like the Samaritan woman who met Jesus at the well!

But he doesn't, he returns to Jesus giving thanks and praise to God for his cleansing and restoration into life and community. Here is the good news Luke is wanting the world to know, in Jesus all are able to be restored to live in faith with God, be they Jew, Samaritan or Gentile – he is the way!

It is this good news, this gospel, that Paul encourages Timothy to not be ashamed of, and more to remind all of the church Timothy leads to be out, loud and proud both living the restored life they have in God through Christ Jesus and in doing so reveal to others that they too can be restored to life; for no one is beyond the welcome of God and His Kingdom!

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

God our Father, your kingdom embraces the whole of creation. Guide your church throughout the world to assist in your harvest and speak your truth into areas of doubt. We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith, and for Open Doors and all Christian charities, who take risks to bring your word into places of violence and oppression.

Lord of faith and trust, help us to trust in you.

Lord, you search the secret motives of our leaders to reveal hypocrisy and virtue. Pour out your spirit of integrity on all world leaders. Grant us all the wisdom to discern your voice and the courage to follow your will. Bring your peace and justice to our world.

Lord of faith and trust, help us to trust in you.

Lord, you see fully into our hearts and know what we can become. We pray for those who affirm and encourage others, especially teachers and those who care for young and vulnerable people.

Lord of faith and trust, help us to trust in you.

Lord, you know our needs and concerns before we ask. Hear us as we bring before you all who are sick or in special need...

Bless them and fill them with your healing strength.

Lord of faith and trust, help us to trust in you.

Lord, there is no darkness that can extinguish your eternal light.

In this faith we entrust to you all who have died...

Raise us with them to your eternal kingdom.

Lord of faith and trust, help us to trust in you.

The Collect

All: Almighty God, you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city
where we shall see you face to face;
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