

Our Sunday Service Together

June 21st 2026

3rd 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 Psalmody Psalm 69.8-11 and 18-20

For your sake have I suffered reproach; shame has covered my face.
I have become a stranger to my kindred, an alien to my mother's children.
Zeal for your house has eaten me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.
I humbled myself with fasting, but that was turned to my reproach.
Answer me, Lord, for your loving-kindness is good; turn to me in the multitude of your mercies.
Hide not your face from your servant; be swift to answer me, for I am in trouble.
Draw near to my soul and redeem me; deliver me because of my enemies.
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 Romans 6.1b-11

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.
⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

At the end of the reading we say:

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

Gloría

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 Matthew 10.24-39

²⁴ 'A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶ 'So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² 'Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ 'Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father,

and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

³⁶ and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

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

Jesus only ever tried to help people, to heal them, listen to them, give them some directions on how to live the best life possible – to love God and neighbour. But some people hated him for what he said and did. Hated him to the point they accused him of being a devil; of being 'beelzebul'.

This wasn't just calling Jesus names; this was a complete attack on his personality! This was saying to the crowds the very opposite of what the people were beginning to say about Jesus; 'this is the messiah, the Son of God'. We think fake news is a new phenomenon, but it has been going on for years. The authorities did not like the challenge Jesus presented to their rule and order; better get an alternate message out there.

Jesus' comments to, 'Don't be at all surprised when you follow me, when you dedicate yourselves to my way of service to God's love for the world, to His justice, his peace, his call to be a blessing to the earth, if you find you face opposition to what you are doing – if it happened to the 'master', it will happen to the 'master's' workers, to his disciples. But don't be fearful, this is the kingdom of God you pray for breaking into the systems of power, the ways of division and hatred among peoples, this is a threat to the old ways. If they hated me, they will hate you, but do not fear for not one hair of your head will be lost to the God you serve!

This has always perplexed me; why, when Jesus followers try to do some goodness in the community, across the world, do some people react with such anger? Why do some people not do good things? Why do some people want war and hatred and division among peoples?

Surely it is the people who love these things everyone should be shouting to – stop! But no, so often we are the church faces opposition and hatred, when all we are doing are good things.

Maybe, rather than shy away, speaking with a whisper, his followers should shout God's love for the world all the more, from the rafters, never give up and keep doing the good things of Kingdom. After all, goodness shines a blazing light on the darkness that stalks the world and actually shows fully who is from God, and who is like a devil.

It might be that Jesus words to us today help in both giving us courage when we face opposition. After all, if it happened to the master, then maybe we can take heart. And further, if it is happening then we must be doing the right things in God's eyes! And surely that is the benchmark we aim for!

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 Fiona, and all those who seek to serve you in this diocese lay and ordained. May they be filled with the Spirit and speak with authority. *Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.*

We Pray for our all in public office. May they hear you call to seek justice, peace and reconciliation and be able to serve with humility and compassion. *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: Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts whereby we call you Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that we and all creation may be brought to the glorious liberty of the children of God; 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