



Sunday 21 June 2020

- All the Bible readings come from the *New Revised Standard Version*.
- The liturgy assumes the service is Eucharistic. The prayers of consecration have been included at the end rather than in situ because many following the service will be in isolation and unable to celebrate the sacrament.
- The hymns are YouTube links. To hear the hymns please hover the mouse over each link, press Ctrl and then return.

Introduction and welcome

HYMN 1 Christ triumphant ever reigning (click on this link to hear the hymn)

The Welcome

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

All Amen.

The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

The Preparation

**All Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength.’

And the second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

All Amen. Lord, have mercy.

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Therefore, let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God’s commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Gloria

This version of the Gloria is sung to the tune of 'Cwm Rhondda'. Click [here](#) for the tune.

All Glory be to God in Heaven,
Songs of joy and peace we bring,
Thankful hearts and voices raising,
To creation's Lord we sing.
Lord we thank you, Lord we praise you,
Glory be to God our King:
Glory be to God our King.

**Lamb of God, who on our shoulders,
Bore the load of this world's sin;
Only Son of God the Father,
You have brought us peace within.
Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy,
Now your glorious reign begin:
Now your glorious reign begin.**

**You O Son of God are Holy,
You we praise with one accord.
None in heav'n or earth is like you,
Only you are Christ the Lord.
With the Father and the Spirit,
Ever worshipped and adored:
Ever worshipped and adored.**

The Collect for the Second Sunday after Trinity

Faithful Creator,
whose mercy never fails:
deepen our faithfulness to you
and to your living Word,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

First reading

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah

Jeremiah said, 'You deceived me, Lord, and I was deceived; you overpowered me and prevailed. I am ridiculed all day long; everyone mocks me. Whenever I speak, I cry out proclaiming violence and destruction. So the word of the Lord has brought me insult and reproach all day long. But if I say, "I will not mention his word or speak anymore in his name," his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot. I hear many people whispering, "Terror on every side! Denounce him! Let's denounce him!" All my friends are waiting for me to slip, saying, "Perhaps he will be deceived; then we will prevail over him and take our revenge on him."

‘But the Lord is with me like a mighty warrior; so my persecutors will stumble and not prevail. They will fail and be thoroughly disgraced; their dishonour will never be forgotten. Lord Almighty, you who examine the righteous and probe the heart and mind, let me see your vengeance on them, for to you I have committed my cause.

‘Sing to the Lord! Give praise to the Lord! He rescues the life of the needy from the hands of the wicked.’ *Jeremiah 20:7-13*

This is the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

Second reading

A reading from St Paul’s Letter to the Romans

Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Don’t you know that all of us who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. *Romans 6:1b-11*

This is the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

HYMN 2 Loving shepherd of thy sheep ([click on this link to hear the hymn](#))

Gospel reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

All Glory to you O Lord.

Jesus said, ‘The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the

head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

‘So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.

Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn

“a man against his father,
a daughter against her mother,
a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—
a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.”

Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.’ *Matthew 10:24–39*

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon

Jesus talks often in the Gospels about worshipping God in spirit and in truth. We should therefore expect him to say the truth about worship and discipleship. In today’s Gospel he does—but at first it sounds more like ‘bad news’ than ‘good news’!

In today’s passage, Jesus is saying that following him can get in way of those things that do not operate on the level of spirit or truth. We often have to choose between truth and untruth and between spiritual and unspiritual. Following Jesus often means that we need to take sides: ‘a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, etc.’

Sadly, when we take sides, the side we oppose gets upset. Suddenly, we ourselves are opposed just as much as the person or thing we follow is opposed. That's what Jesus is talking about in today's Gospel passage: he's saying that being a disciple is not just a simple matter of following Jesus.

Being Jesus' disciple is a public statement that we're taking sides against untruth and against those things that oppose spirituality. Viewed this way, discipleship is two-way journey away from untruth toward truth. It's also a journey away from everything that opposes the spirit toward everything that promotes spirituality.

Some truths are obvious, like simple maths: $2 + 2 = 4$. But other truths are not so simple. Indeed, sometimes my truth is true but your (different) truth is also true: 'I like this soup and you don't!' Jesus is not talking about these trivial examples.

The best way to look behind the opposing claims of truth and untruth, choosing between being spiritual and unspiritual, is to identify ourselves with Jesus. As we grow into our own, customised discipleship so we start to see things through his eyes rather than through our own. We so much don't *learn* this ability as grow into it, just like children naturally grow taller at the same time as they get older.

We need to become more Christ-like if we want to see truth the same ways that Jesus did. A big ask! But that's why St Paul in our second readings is imploring us to stop sinning. He's not thinking about polite behaviour and conformity or becoming nicer people. He wants us to seek holiness of life. Holiness is the pre-condition for God the Holy Spirit to live in a human soul.

When the Holy Spirit lives in a soul, He directs everything in the soul toward God. We might remember Jesus' pithy sentence from the Beatitudes, '**Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God**'. And think of a related phrase from the Letter to the Hebrews, '**Without holiness no one will see the Lord**.' St Paul is directing us to stop sinning in impel us toward God.

We can now return to the Gospel passage, where Jesus talks about discipleship. It's hard work and always will be, in large part because we're real people living in a real world. We need to make choices. In what ways is our worship conducted in spirit and in truth? Our discipleship could end up opposing Jesus rather than following him. But if we seek holiness of life, and if we allow the Holy Spirit to live in our souls, then God himself will help us when we face the tough choices and hard decisions disciples always face.

The Creed

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
the source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Prayers of intercession

Lord God you are the father of all people and we come before you today with our prayers knowing that you will hear us, help us and guide us.

Lord, in your mercy

All Hear out prayer.

We pray for our families and friends, and the communities where we live. We thank you for the support systems in place to help us. We pray today for reconciliation and forgiveness in our own lives. May peace begin with us and we ask that the changes we all long for in the world would be present in our own lives and that we be an example to others.

Lord, in your mercy

All Hear out prayer.

We give thanks for the ways in which your church, here and around the world, has continued to find new ways of reaching out in worship during these times of social isolation. We give thanks for the increased awakening of spirituality within people who have reached out to the online services and prayer sessions.

Lord, in your mercy

All Hear out prayer.

Lord we ask you to help us to seek out opportunities to work for understanding and tolerance between people of different religious backgrounds, different social backgrounds, different racial and political backgrounds. We pray especially that religious views would not lead to bitterness and hatred between your children whom you so love and with whom your patience and tolerance is without limit.

Lord, in your mercy

All Hear out prayer.

We pray for the needs of our troubled world. During this pandemic let us not forget those who are hungry, those who lack clean running water and those who have nowhere safe to sleep.

Lord, in your mercy

All Hear out prayer.

We pray for those who feel alone, for those who are sick, for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, may they, and us, feel your love and peace at this time. We pray for their families unable to see their loved ones in their time of need. Help them to trust those who are able care for them. Lord, in your grace and mercy, enfold them in your love, and give them courage, strength and patience, to bear this added burden.

Lord, in your mercy

All Hear out prayer.

Merciful Father,

**All accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The peace

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy and peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you,

All And also with you.

HYMN 3 Lift high the Cross

(please click on this link to hear the hymn)

The liturgy of the Communion Service appears below

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Bible readings © The publishers of the NRSV translation.

Sermon © Revd Dr Paul Monk.

Prayers of intercession © Lucie Reilly.

The Dismissal

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and
be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you
and give you his peace;

and the blessing of God the Almighty:

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

be with you now and remain with you always.

All Amen.

HYMN 4 At the name of Jesus

(please click on this link to hear the hymn)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Eucharistic Prayer (prayer E)

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, you made the world and love your creation.
You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.
His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.
And so we gladly thank you,
with saints and angels praising you, and saying,

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**All Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

**All Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

All We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him,
and he in us. Amen.

Communion is distributed.

Prayer after Communion

Loving Father,
we thank you for feeding us at the supper of your Son:
sustain us with your Spirit,
that we may serve you here on earth
until our joy is complete in heaven,
and we share in the eternal banquet
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

All Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory. Amen.