

Sunday 23rd August 2020

Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Prayer and worship at home

If a household are praying together, one person may act as leader and the others as the congregation and they join in the words in bold type.

If alone, read all the words aloud.

You may want to light a candle before you begin, and have a Bible, cross or crucifix to look at.

You might prepare for this act of worship by listening to some music, or by being still.

Preparation

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

The Lord is here

His spirit is with us

The Act of Penitence

As we pray, we reflect on the week that has passed and ask the Lord for his forgiveness and healing.

Like as the hart longs for flowing streams,
so longs my soul for you, O God:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

O send out your light and your truth,
that they may lead me:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

May we come to your altar, O God,
the God of our salvation:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Words of forgiveness

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Special Prayer for this week

God of glory,
the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,
and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

The Word of the Lord

First Reading | Romans 12. 1-8

A reading from the letter to the Romans

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.

And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel | *Matthew 16. 13-20*

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

Affirmation of faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

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

Prayers of intercession

(At home you may wish to offer prayer in your own words, or be prompted by the words here)

We pray for our world, especially at this time of anxiety and fear...

We pray for our nation and its well-being...

We pray for neighbours, family and friends and we remember all those self-isolating at the moment...

We pray for all who are sick, worried or anxious, and for those who feel cut off from friends and family...

We pray for those who have died in recent days, and all whom we remember with love and affection.....

The Lord's Prayer

Joining with Christians throughout the world, we pray:

Our Father...

Or

Our Father in heaven...

The Grace

We conclude our prayers with The Grace

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all, evermore. Amen**