

WELCOME & Notices

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

ALL: *AMEN.*

President: Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

ALL: *and also with you.*

President: *The minister may say*
We have come together in the name of Christ
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and 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.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

President: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us: but if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
1 John 1.8, 9

Let us therefore 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.***

President: 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. **AMEN.**

President: Let everything be said and done in the name of the Lord Jesus,
ALL: **giving thanks to God through Jesus Christ.**

President: Sing psalms, hymns and sacred songs:
ALL: **let us sing to God with thankful hearts.**

President: Open our lips, Lord:
ALL: **and we shall praise your name.**

You may wish to stand for the 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 COLLECT

The President introduces a period of silent prayer. The Collect for the day is said.

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit
 upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:
 grant that your people may be fervent
 in the fellowship of the gospel
 that, always abiding in you,
 they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;
 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.

First Reading Philippians 1:21-30

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so

that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well - since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

This is the word of the Lord All **Thanks be to God**

Second reading Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus said to his disciples: The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard.

When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went.

When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?"

They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard."

When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first."

When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat."

But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?"

So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

This is the word of the Lord All **Thanks be to God**

PRAYERS AND INTERCESSIONS

We sit or kneel to pray

President: 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy *All* **hear our prayer.**

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you promised through your Son Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith.

Strengthen *N* & our bishops and all your church in the service of Christ, that those who confess your name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Bless and guide *Elizabeth our Queen*; give wisdom to all in authority; and direct this and every nation in the ways of justice and of peace; that we may honour one another and seek the common good.

Give grace to us, our families and friends, and to all our neighbours, that we may serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit . . . ; give them courage and hope in their troubles; and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Hear us as we remember those who have died in the faith of Christ; according to your promises grant us a share with them in your eternal kingdom.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of [*N and of*] all your saints, we commend ourselves and the whole of creation to your unfailing love.

Merciful Father,

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

Closing Prayer

Almighty God,
we thank you for the gift of your holy word.
May it be a lantern to our feet,
a light upon our paths,
and a strength to our lives.
Take us and use us
to love and serve all people
in the power of the Holy Spirit
and in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing or Grace

President: Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**