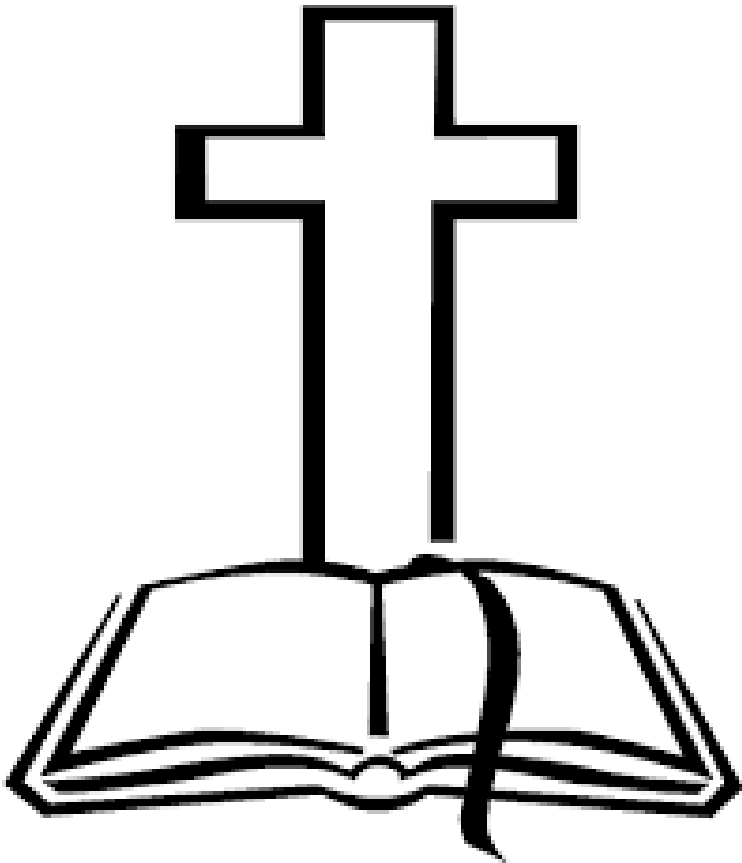


Service for Bible Sunday



St Laurence Church, Downton

25 October 2020

Preparation

Call to Worship

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

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

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

cf Colossians 3.16,17

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 Team Rector introduces the service

Hymn: *Ye holy angels bright*
(*St. Paul's Cathedral Choir*)

Ye holy angels bright,
who wait at God's right hand,
or through the realms of light
fly at your Lord's command,
assist our song,
for else the theme too high doth seem
for mortal tongue.

Ye blessèd souls at rest,
who ran this earthly race,
and now, from sin released,
behold the Saviour's face,
his praises sound,
as in his sight with sweet delight
ye do abound.

Ye saints, who toil below,
adore your heavenly King,
and onward as ye go
some joyful anthem sing;
take what he gives
and praise him still, through good and ill,
who ever lives.

My soul, bear thou thy part,
triumph in God above,
and with a well-tuned heart
sing thou the songs of love;
let all thy days
till life shall end, whate'er he send,
be filled with praise.

Richard Baxter (1615-1691)

Gathering:

We gather as people who know both pain and praise.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

We gather with faith, yet burdened by uncertainties.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

We gather to sing, to pray, to listen, to learn.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

We gather seeking insight for the journey of life.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

based on Psalm 119:105

Psalm 119:1-8

Happy are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the Lord.

Happy are those who keep his decrees,
who seek him with their whole heart,

who also do no wrong,
but walk in his ways.

You have commanded your precepts
to be kept diligently.

O that my ways may be steadfast
in keeping your statutes!

Then I shall not be put to shame,
having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

I will praise you with an upright heart,
when I learn your righteous ordinances.

I will observe your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

Prayer:

Great Teacher,
as surely as the sun shines in the sky
and the rivers flow to the sea,
you are here among us - vibrant, pulsating, and holy.
Speak to us, instruct us, and stir us to new life
through the words of sacred scripture.
Open our dim eyes and unstop our dull ears
so that we might learn better. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings:

Colossians 3:12-17

Matthew 24:30-35

After each reading:

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

Reflection

Music: Teach Me O Lord
(Choir Of Clare College Cambridge)

Prayers

We are led in a time of prayer

This response is used:

Hear us,
hear us, good Lord.

The Lord's Prayer is said:

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

Conclusion

The Collect

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures
to be written for our learning:

help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience,
and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast
the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Blessing:

Go now in peace,
knowing that you have been born again,
not of perishable seed, but of imperishable,
through the living and enduring word of God;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hear the teaching of Jesus:

‘Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it.’
Go now to do God’s will.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.