

Service for the Eleventh Sunday after Trinity



St Laurence Church, Downton

23 August 2020

Preparation

Call to Worship

Let us draw close to the Lord Jesus
the saviour, the healer, the teacher
and worship him

Jesus asks: who do you say that I am?
We ask ourselves: who do we say he is?

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: *Morning has broken*
(*Salisbury Cathedral Choir*)

Morning has broken, like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird;
praise for the singing, praise for the morning,
praise for them springing fresh from the Word.

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass;
praise for the sweetness, of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning,
born of the one light Eden saw play;
praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's re-creation of the new day.

Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)

Psalm 138:

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;

I bow down towards your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love
and your faithfulness;

for you have exalted your name
and your word above everything.

On the day I called, you answered me,
you increased my strength of soul.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.

They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
for great is the glory of the Lord.

For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly;
but the haughty he perceives from far away.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;

you stretch out your hand,
and your right hand delivers me.

The Lord will fulfil his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures for ever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.

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:

Lord Jesus,
you are a Lord who walks beside your people.
So we pray for people who walk for justice.

You are a Lord who raises up those who are bent low.
So we pray for those held down by the grindings of life
and the indifference of the world.

You are a Lord who feeds the hungry.
So we pray for all who long for bread
and the means to provide it.

You are a Lord who celebrates the small and the insignificant.
So we pray for the children
and for those who are never noticed.

You are a Lord who says 'Follow me'.
So we pray for courage and faith in our hearts
that we may take up the cross and find it leads to life.

Christian Aid, inspired by Matthew 16

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings:

Romans 12:1-8

Matthew 16:13-20

After each reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Music: From Everlasting To Everlasting

(Bob Chilcott - The Oxford Choir)

Prayers

We are led in a time of prayer

This response is used:

Lord in your mercy,
Here our prayer.

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

O God, you declare your almighty power
most chiefly in showing mercy and pity:
mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace,
that we, running the way of your commandments,
may receive your gracious promises,
and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure;
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.

Blessing:

You are the body of Christ.
May you have the heart of Christ,
tender for mercy;
may you have the eyes of Christ
to see a world in need;
may you have the feet of Christ
to bring good news;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go in peace!
And God go with you

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.