

# Service for the Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity



**St Laurence Church, Downton**

6 September 2020

# *Preparation*

## Call to Worship

Now is the moment to wake from sleep.

**For salvation is nearer to us now  
than when we became believers;**

The night is far gone,  
**the day is near.**

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: Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour  
*(St Peter Swinton)*

Lord, enthroned in heav'nly splendour,  
first-begotten from the dead,  
thou alone, our strong defender,  
liftest up thy people's head.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Jesus, true and living Bread!

Here our humblest homage pay we;  
here in loving reverence bow;  
here for faith's discernment pray we,  
lest we fail to know thee now.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Thou art here: we ask not how.

Paschal Lamb! Thine off'ring finished  
once for all when thou wast slain,  
in its fullness undiminished  
shall forevermore remain.

Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Cleansing souls from ev'ry stain.

Life-imparting heav'nly manna,  
stricken rock, with streaming side,  
heav'n and earth with loud hosanna  
worship thee, the Lamb who died.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Ris'n, ascended, glorified!

*George Hugh Bourne (1840-1925)*

### **Gathering:**

People of God, open your eyes!  
Look around!  
The presence of our Lord Jesus Christ is here -  
among us and within us.

God's salvation is close at hand - nearer than you know.  
So open your hearts and minds to the Spirit,  
and let us worship God together!

Come, let us praise God together!  
Sing a new song - a song of God's goodness and mercy,  
faithfulness and love.

For God delights in his people,  
crowning them with honour and glory!

Let's worship together.

*based on Romans 13, Matthew 18 & Psalm 149*

### **A Time to Consider:**

God of light and life,  
you set before us today  
the challenges of laying aside the works of darkness;  
of putting on the light of Christ;  
of being watchful and prepared for your coming in our midst  
in the person of Jesus Christ.

As the people of God in this place,  
we know that a crucial part of our witness  
is in revealing Christ to the world  
through the way we love and care for one another.

Forgive us when people do not see any evidence in us  
of the One who is to come.

So many people, young and old, grope helplessly  
in the gloom of despair and suffering,  
yearning for the light of hope to dawn in their lives.

Remind us that the light of Christ shines through people like us.

Merciful God,  
cleanse our hearts and minds of all that hinders us  
from loving you and loving our neighbour.  
so that our lives radiate faith active in love,  
as we watch and wait for your breaking  
into our world once more  
in the person of Jesus Christ. Amen

*Moira Laidlaw - inspired by Romans 13*

*Silence is kept*

May almighty God,  
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,  
bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## *The Liturgy of the Word*

Readings:

Romans 13:8-end

Matthew 18:15-20

*After each reading:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Reflection

Music: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul  
(Howard Skempton - 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

Almighty God,  
who called your Church to bear witness  
that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself:

help us to proclaim the good news of your love,  
that all who hear it may be drawn to you;  
through him who was lifted up on the cross,  
and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**Blessing:**

Hear the teaching of Jesus:

‘Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it.’

Go now to do God’s will;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

You shall go out in joy,

and be led back in peace.

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**