



To journey in faith and share God's love

Welcome to our resource for a time of Prayer and Praise on the 11th Sunday after Trinity,(23/08/2020) for use while we are all unable to meet as a Congregation. Despite the need to stay at home, we hope that you will feel united with all who make up our Parish at this time – and with Christian people around the world. We join with them in praising God and praying for one another ...we are never alone!

If possible, use this at the time you would normally join your fellow worshippers to be united with them.

Picture those you normally worship alongside, name them if you can, feel close to them and the whole Church family and then remember that The Lord is here too.

The Gathering

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Say or sing

Praise my soul the King of Heaven,
To his feet thy tribute bring
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me his praise should sing
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress
Praise him still the same as ever
Slow to chide and swift to bless:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Glorious in his faithfulness

Father like he tends and spares us
Well our feeble frame he knows
In his hands he gently bears us
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels help us to adore him
Ye behold him face to face.
Sun and moon bow down before him
Dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Praise with us the God of grace.

Exhortation

Brothers and sisters in Christ, as we gather for worship, we must recall the promises and warnings given to us in the Scriptures. Let us therefore examine ourselves and repent of our sins. Let us give thanks to God for his redemption of the world through his Son Jesus Christ, and as we remember Christ's death for us, and receive this [pledge of his love, let us resolves to serve him in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life.

Confession

In the wilderness we find your grace; you love us with an everlasting love. Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy.

There is none but you to uphold our cause: our sin cries out and our guilt is great. Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Heal us, O Lord, and we shall be healed; restore us and we shall know your joy. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us and forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen**

A prayer to collect us together:

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace: keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Read

Matthew 16 verse 13 -20

13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' 14 And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 15 He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' 16 Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah,* the Son of the living God.' 17 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. 18 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. 19 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.' 20 Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was* the Messiah.*

Our reflection is provided by Louisa

Who do you say that I am ?

A question that Jesus asked his disciples. For him the end was coming very near, and he needed to spend as much time with them as he could. He had so much to say to them ,and so much more to teach them even though there were many things which they could not bear even less understand. The problem for Jesus was there any one who understood him ? was there anyone who had recognized him for who he was

,would there be any one else to carry on his ministry after he gone to the father. With all that we know now ,what would our answer be if he where to ask us.

Who do you say that I am?

Here we have a homeless penniless Galilean carpenter with twelve very ordinary men around him. At that moment the orthodox are actually plotting and planning to destroy him as a dangerous heretic. Today we have the homeless ,those without means and very ordinary people.

Who do you say that I am?

When Jesus had heard the verdict of the crowd ,as to whom he might , was he John the Baptist back from the dead? The great prophet Elijah ,or Jeremiah he asks the all important question of them and you who do you say that I AM? What a loaded question ! what was going through their minds? As they tried to put into words how they saw him . And then head strong , angry Peter made his great discovery and his great confession proclaiming “You are the Messiah ,the son of the living God”. Whow ! what a realization to come to.

And you who do you say that I am?

Peter loved his Lord very much and knew that he was loved and forgiven and that Jesus could trust him to carry on his work that he had begun.

We are his ordinary people who he died for and rose again . Now more than ever we need to keep his gospel alive in the hearts of those we meet.

Who do you say that I am ?

Our answer should be nothing less than Peters We proclaim with our whole hearts that Jesus is the only son of God , the Messiah who will return to this earth one day. May he continue to help us to make him known to those we meet. Some once said to me “I wish I had your faith” my reply was that faith is for every one., sometimes its hard to hold on to ,even harder to understand!! But o so worthwhile when we can proclaim him as Peter did.

So who do you say that he is. amen

Sing or say

Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found;
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers toils and snares
I have already come.
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we first began.

We profess our faith

We believe in God, the Father, from whom every family in heaven and 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

Our prayers of intercession are offered by Chris Hickson

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Everlasting God, we thank you for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, and for revealing him as Messiah, and Saviour of the world. Thank you that Jesus gave Peter the keys to the kingdom as a reward for his faith, and made him the foundation of your church here on earth.

Lord in your mercy Hear our prayer

Holy God, we pray for the church and ask that it might always provide a solid foundation of worship, praise, teaching, and fellowship to sustain us in our service to you, and to each other. We pray especially for Christians who are persecuted for their faith, and who experience daily hostility from their governments, employers, and neighbours because they proclaim Christ as their Saviour. We thank you for the freedom we have to worship you together here at St George's.

Lord in your mercy Hear our prayer

Creator God, we pray for the world, and ask that all world leaders act with wisdom and compassion for the good of all, to face the uncertain health and economic challenges of Covid 19, and to reverse the tide of global warming. Help us all to be better stewards of the world you created.

Lord in your mercy Hear our prayer

Healing God, we pray for all who are experiencing sickness of any kind just now, thinking in particular of any members of our church family, and any others known by us, to be in need of your healing and wholeness in their lives. We pray for all NHS staff, all who work in the emergency services, and all who provide care for those in need. Thank you for their skill, knowledge, patience, and resilience.

Lord in your mercy Hear our prayer

Eternal God, we pray for those who have recently died, and for those whose anniversary of passing falls at this time. Bring comfort to those who mourn, and give them the faith to be able to look beyond their present troubles.

Lord in your mercy Hear our prayer

Faithful God, forgive us when we only turn to you in times of trouble, and when we forget to thank you for your blessings and bounty. Help us to recognise all the wonderful things in your world for which we should be grateful, and send us out into the coming week ready to show our gratitude in all that we do and say.

Merciful Father Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

We say the Lord's Prayer

Say or sing

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

And when I think of God, His Son not sparing;
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And lead me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow with humble adoration,
And then proclaim, "My God, how great Thou art!"

*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.*

The dismissal

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life, perfect in us the image of his glory; and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with us all now and for ever. **Amen**

