

SERVICE OF THE WORD – 2 AUGUST 2020

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Preparation

GREETING

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you all
and also with you.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
Let those who love your salvation say for ever,
“Great is the Lord”.

Psalm 70: 4

Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning,
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our lives.

Psalm 90: 14

PENITENCE

Let us confess our sins.

**Awesome and compassionate God,
you have loved us with unfailing, self-giving mercy,
but we have not loved you.
You constantly call us, but we do not listen.
You ask us to love, but we walk away from neighbours in need,
wrapped in our own concerns.
We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.
God of grace, as you come to us in mercy,
we repent in spirit and in truth,
admit our sin, and gratefully receive your forgiveness
through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.**

Merciful Lord,
Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,
That we may be cleansed from all our sins,
And serve you with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Blessed are you, O Lord,
and blessed are those who observe and keep your law:
Help us to seek you with our whole heart,
to delight in your commandments
and to walk in the glorious liberty
given us by your Son, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: Thanks & Praise 53 “How good is the God we adore”

Listen to and sing along with this hymn at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-r1amUICtO0>

How good is the God we adore,
our faithful, unchangeable friend:
whose love is as great as his power
and knows neither knows measure nor end!

For Christ is the first and the last;
his Spirit shall guide us safe home;
we'll praise him for all that is past,
and trust him for all that's to come.

Joseph Hart (1712-1767)

Ministry of the Word

The First Reading: Isaiah 55: 1-5

The reading below may be read, or an audio version listened to at

<https://www.biblica.com/bible/niv/isaiah/55/>

“Come, all you who are thirsty,
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without cost.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
and your labor on what does not satisfy?
Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,
and you will delight in the richest of fare.
Give ear and come to me;
listen, that you may live.
I will make an everlasting covenant with you,
my faithful love promised to David.
See, I have made him a witness to the peoples,
a ruler and commander of the peoples.
Surely you will summon nations you know not,
and nations you do not know will come running to you,
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has endowed you with splendour.”

The Second Reading: Romans 9: 1-5

The reading below may be read, or an audio version listened to at

<https://www.biblica.com/bible/niv/romans/9/>

I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it through the Holy Spirit—I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race, the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption to sonship; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

Hymn before the Gospel: CH 379 *“Break thou the bread of life”*(long version)

Listen to and sing along with this hymn at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ZLR-0e1gp0>

Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
as thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;
beyond the sacred page I seek thee, Lord;
my spirit pants for thee, O living Word.

Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me,
as thou didst bless the bread by Galilee;
then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall,
and I shall find my peace, my all in all.

Thou art the bread of life, O Lord, to me,
thy holy word the truth that saveth me.
Give me to eat and live with thee above;
teach me to love thy truth, for thou art love.

Mary Artemisia Lathbury (1841-1913)

The Gospel: Matthew 14: 13-21

The reading below may be read, or an audio version listened to at

<https://www.biblica.com/bible/niv/matthew/14/>

When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.”

Jesus replied, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

“We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,” they answered.

“Bring them here to me,” he said. And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

SERMON

Very Reverend Stephen Lake, Dean of Gloucester has prepared a sermon which you can view at:

<https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/2020/weekly-roundup-sermon-podcast-and-readings-for-august-2/>

COLLECT OF THE WORD

Heavenly Father,
though we do not deserve your goodness,
still you provide for all our needs of body and soul.
Grant us your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge your gifts,
give thanks for all your benefits,
and serve you in willing obedience;
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Response

SCRIPTURAL AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

THANKSGIVING

Let us give thanks to God.

For the love of our Father, the maker of all,
the giver of all good things,
let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For Jesus Christ our Saviour,
who lived and worked among us,
let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For his suffering and death on the cross
and his resurrection to new life,
let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For his rule over all things
and his presence in the world,
let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For the Holy Spirit, the giver of life,
who teaches and guides us,
let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

For the grace of the Spirit
in the work of the Church
and the life of the world,
let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

Blessed are you, eternal God,
to be praised and glorified for ever.

Hear us as we pray for your holy catholic Church:
make us all one, that the world may believe.

Grant that every member of the Church
may truly and humbly serve you:
that the life of Christ may be revealed in us.

Strengthen all who minister in Christ's name:
give them courage to proclaim your Gospel.

Inspire and lead those who hold authority
in the nations of the world:
guide them in the ways of justice and peace.

Make us alive to the needs of our community:
help us to share each other's joys and burdens.

Look with kindness on our homes and families:
grant that your love may grow in our hearts.

Deepen our compassion for all who suffer from sickness,
grief or trouble:
in your presence may they find their strength.

We remember those who have died:
Father, into your hands we entrust them.

We praise you for all your saints who have entered
your eternal glory:
bring us all to share in your heavenly kingdom.

GENERAL COLLECT

Almighty God,
the fountain of all wisdom,
You know our necessities before we ask:
Have compassion on our weakness,

and mercifully grant us those things
which for our unworthiness we dare not,
and for our blindness we cannot ask;
through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us sum up all our prayers and praises
in the words our Saviour Christ has taught us, saying:

**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.**

Closing Hymn: CH 647 *"Guide me, O thou great Jehovah"*

Listen to and sing along with this hymn at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wT4n1hGjDDg>

Guide me, O my great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your powerful hand:
bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,

Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery, cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong Deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises
I will ever give to thee.

William Williams (1717-91)
tr. *Peter Williams (1722-96) and William Williams*
based on Exodus 13: 21-22; 14: 26-31; 16: 4-18; 17: 4-6

Going out as God's People

CONCLUDING PRAYER

**Lord God,
Almighty and everlasting Father,
You have brought us in safety to this new day:
Preserve us with your mighty power,
That we may not fall into sin,
Nor be overcome by adversity;
And in all we do direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep our hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

FINAL ACCLAMATIONS

The Lord God almighty is our Father:
he loves us and tenderly cares for us.

The Lord Jesus Christ is our Saviour:
he has redeemed us and will defend us to the end.

The Lord, the Holy Spirit, is among us:
he will lead us in God's holy way.

To God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be praise and glory today and for ever. Amen.