

Morning Prayer 20th September 2020 - Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Opening Responses

God calls us all to come and serve him.

**All: We come in different ways and
with different gifts**

But God offers to reward us all with equal
abundance and grace

**All: So let us all be generous in
bringing our praise to Him now**

Opening prayer

The night has passed, and the day lies
open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

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. **All: Amen.**

Confession

Gracious God, we come to you to
confess our sins in penitence and faith
by saying together:

**All: Lord, You dignify and bless us
by inviting us into Your service, but
sometimes we forget this grace, and
start to look critically at our
co-workers. Some seem less
committed than us, and others have
come into Your service late.
Forgive us when we judge and
denigrate the service of others,
or expect You to value and reward our
work more than theirs. Forgive us
when we challenge Your selection of
labourers, or question how You
choose to distribute Your grace.**

Absolution

Gradual Hymn

Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round,
the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become my inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart
which takes the humbler part,
and of its own shortcomings
weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong
with which the soul will long
shall far surpass
the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace
till we become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit
makes his dwelling.

The Word of God

Matthew 20:1-16

At the end of reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Our God has created an abundant universe, Giving life to all, and graciously preserving all.

We believe and trust in God.

Our Saviour has made a way to abundant life, Giving His life for all, and compassionately inviting all to share in His Kingdom.

We believe and trust in God.

Our Comforter is poured out as the abundant Spirit, Bringing power and gifts to all, and leading all to fullness of life.

We believe and trust in God, Three in One; Generous and Loving, Faithful and Eternal. Amen.

PRAYERS

Prayers of Intercession

The response to:

Lord, in your mercy

is: All: Hear our prayer

Finish by saying:

Merciful Father

All: accept these prayers, for the sake of your son, our saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.

The Collect

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven.....

Hymn

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.

But we make His love too narrow
By false limits of our own;
And we magnify His strictness
With a zeal He will not own.

For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.

Notices

Blessing & Dismissal

The Grace of Christ has been offered to us again today;

We receive it with thanks, and through our kindness we will share it with others.

The Love of God has come to us again today;

We fill our hearts in joy, and through our compassion we will share it with others.

The Fellowship of the Holy Spirit has embraced us again today;

We delight in it with gratitude, and through our generosity we will share it with others.

So may the Blessing....

Go in peace and thanksgiving, Live and work so that God's goodness may be recognised, **And God may be praised. Amen**