

# Morning Worship

20<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## The Preparation

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.

*Eph 2:8-9*

I will exalt you, my God the King;

I will praise your name for ever and ever.

**Every day I will praise you**

**and extol your name for ever and ever.**

Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;

**his greatness no one can fathom.**

*Ps 145:1-3*

Let us celebrate God's majesty, and delight in the wonder of God's love, because we believe in the presence among us of our Saviour Jesus Christ, and in the mighty power of the Holy Spirit.

## Hymn:

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

## Confession

Together we shall confess our sins and receive assurance that we are forgiven.

Hear these words of scripture.

As God who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct.

**Spirit of God, search our hearts.**

In silence, we remember our need for God's forgiveness.

## Silence

Let us confess our sins to God.

**Almighty and merciful God,  
we have sinned against you,  
in thought, word and deed.**

**We have not loved you with all our heart.**

**We have not loved others  
as our Saviour Christ loves us.**

**We are truly sorry.**

**In your mercy forgive what we have been,**

**help us to amend what we are,**

**and direct what we shall be;**

**that we may delight in your will**

**and walk in your ways,**

**through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

Almighty God, who pardons all who truly repent, forgive your sins, strengthen you by the Holy Spirit, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

**Amen.**

## The Ministry of the Word

One generation commends your works to another;

**they tell of your mighty acts.**

They speak of the glorious splendour of your majesty—

**and I will meditate on your wonderful works.**

They tell of the power of your awesome works—

**and I will proclaim your great deeds.**

They celebrate your abundant goodness

**and joyfully sing of your righteousness.**

*Ps 145:4-7*

As the scriptures are read, we can allow God's word to speak to us, and ponder its meaning for our lives.

## The Readings – Paul Huffam

Jonah 3:10 - 4:11; Philippians 1:21-30

## Song:

*Heaven.*

## The Reading from the Gospel

**Matthew 20:1-16** – Ian Hardcastle

## The Sermon – Ian Hardcastle

## Prayers – Paul Huffam

In our prayers, we give thanks for God's goodness, we pray for others as well as for ourselves, and we offer our lives anew in Christ's service.

Make your ways known upon earth, O God,

**your saving power among all peoples.**

Renew your Church in holiness,

**and help us to serve you with joy.**

Guide the leaders of this and every nation,

**that justice may prevail throughout the world.**

Let not the needy, O God, be forgotten,

**nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Make us instruments of your peace,

**and let your glory be over all the earth.**

## Unite714 Litany

[Mt 18:19-20 ESV] *“Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”*

[Rev 8:1-5 ESV] *When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. And another angel came and stood at the altar with a golden censer, and he was given much incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar before the throne, and the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel. Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and threw it on the earth, and there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.*

Heavenly Father, it is clear in Scripture that we have great power when we come before Your throne in prayer as individuals. We rejoice in this privilege. Yet, You also reveal in Scripture an incredible multiplier—the power of unified prayer. You promise if two of us agree on anything in prayer, it will be done. We are claiming this promise as we boldly come before Your throne today with millions of believers from 179 nations.

**Lord, today we stand unified as part of a great praying multitude, asking You to eradicate COVID-19 and bring a fresh outpouring of Your Spirit on the earth.**

You also promise when two or three of Your people meet to pray, Your presence is powerfully in their midst. Even when we are praying alone, we are not alone in our battle against COVID-19 and our cries for revival. We are spiritually connected to millions of other believers who are praying the same thing at the same time, every day. We are so grateful for the opportunity for our prayers to be amplified by the unified voices of the multitudes of Your people around the world.

**Heavenly Father, as the unified prayers of millions thunder through the courts of Heaven, we are asking You to release the healing rains of Your Holy Spirit onto our broken cities and shattered nations. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen**

For our own parish now, we pray for those in need of prayer, in particular, Shirley Davis and Herb Pryde and in a moment of silence we may uphold others known to you.

We also pray for our vicar and others ministering to our parishioners and for all involved in responding to this pandemic.

#### *The Collect of the Day*

**God, you have given us a lodging in this world but not an abiding city.**

**Help us, as a pilgrim people, to endure hardness, knowing that at the end of our journey Christ has prepared a place for us.**

**This we ask through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we pray

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
are yours now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

#### *The Gifts of the People.*

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation;  
through your goodness we have been able to offer  
this money, the fruit of our labour and of the skills  
you have given us.

Bless us and our offerings to do your work in the  
world.

**Amen. Blessed be God for ever.**

#### *The Dismissal*

The LORD is gracious and compassionate,  
slow to anger and rich in love. [Ps 145:8]

So may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all for evermore.

**Amen.**