

SECOND SUNDAY OF CREATIONTIDE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY 12 SEPTEMBER 2021

ORGAN PRELUDE

The celebrant introduces the service.

HYMN 9

- 1 When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries, may Jesus Christ be praised: alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair; may Jesus Christ be praised.
- 4 Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find, may Jesus Christ be praised: or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this, may Jesus Christ be praised.
- The night becomes as day, when from the heart we say, may Jesus Christ be praised: the powers of darkness fear, when this sweet chant they hear, may Jesus Christ be praised.
- Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine, may Jesus Christ be praised:

be this the eternal song through ages all along, may Jesus Christ be praised!

GREETING

In the name of the living God: Father, Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you and also with you.

The celebrant welcomes those in attendance.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION

God's whole creation groans. The land produces thorns and thistle and longs to be set free. Our sin affects all around us. We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Creator God, we confess that we failed to honour and obey you. We have broken our relationships with one another, abused your fragile creation, wounded your love and marred your image in us.

We are sorry and ashamed and repent of all our sins.

Father, forgive us. Lead us from apathy to love. Strengthen us as stewards of your precious people and of your glorious creation, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed: forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will and give you the joy of his kingdom through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT

The celebrant prays the collect set for the day.

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

LESSON lames 2:1-17

A reading from the letter of James:

¹ Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ² For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³ If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴ Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵ So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶ And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸ but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who

are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹ Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 116:1-8

- 1 I love the Lord, for he has heard the voice of my supplication; because he inclined his ear to me on the day I called to him.
- 2 The snares of death encompassed me; the pains of hell took hold of me; by grief and sorrow was I held.
- Then I called upon the name of the Lord: 'O Lord, I beg you, deliver my soul.'
- 4 Gracious is the Lord and righteous; our God is full of compassion.
- The Lord watches over the simple;I was brought very low and he saved me.
- 6 Turn again to your rest, O my soul, for the Lord has been gracious to you.
- For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears and my feet from falling.
- 8 I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.

GOSPEL Mark 8:27-38

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁷ Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' 28 And they answered him, 'John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' 29 He asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.' 30 And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. ³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this guite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' 34 He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 35 For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

The appointed preacher offers a sermon.

We say together in faith Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.

We believe in God the Father, who created all things: for by his will they were created and have their being.

We believe in God the Son, who was slain: for with his blood, he purchased us for God, from every tribe and language, from every people and nation.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit: the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!' Even so come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

A member of the congregation offers prayers.

PEACE

The celebrant introduces the Peace with a suitable sentence:

To crown all things there must be love, to bind all together and complete the whole. Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts. The peace of the Lord be always with you, and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All exchange an appropriate sign of peace.

HYMN 763

- 1 Praise to the Holiest in the height, and in the depth be praise: in all his words most wonderful, most sure in all his ways.
- O loving wisdom of our God! When all was sin and shame, a second Adam to the fight and to the rescue came.
- 3 O wisest love! that flesh and blood, which did in Adam fail, should strive afresh against the foe, should strive and should prevail;
- 4 And that a higher gift than grace should flesh and blood refine, God's presence and his very self, and essence all-divine.
- O generous love! that he, who smote in Man for man the foe, the double agony in Man for man should undergo;
- 6 And in the garden secretly, and on the cross on high, should teach his brethren, and inspire to suffer and to die.
- Praise to the Holiest in the height, and in the depth be praise: in all his words most wonderful, most sure in all his ways.

EUCHARIST

The Lord be with you and also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
[Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.]

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

Eucharistic Prayer G

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread, he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory.

[Remember, Lord, your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace ...]

Bring us at the last with [N and] all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Amen.

The celebrant distributes communion.

MUSIC

O Praise God in His Holiness John Weldon (1676-1736)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS

Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.

NOTICES

BLESSING

The celebrants gives a suitable blessing:

May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all goodness and growth, pour his blessing upon all things created, and upon us his children, that we may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN 739

Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices, who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices; who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

- 2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us; and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
- All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given, the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven, the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore; for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

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This liturgy is taken from The Archbishop's Council 2000, *Common Worship* (London: Church House Publishing, 2000). The hymns are taken from *Ancient & Modern* (Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2013). Scripture reference, unless otherwise noted, are from the NRSV translation of *The Holy Bible*.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Currently we are not taking a collection during any of the services in the church building, because of Covid-19 restrictions. We ask those of you who would otherwise make your donations to Christ Church to consider setting up regular standing orders or some other electronic means of contributing. More information is available on our website.

Your contributions make a difference, and we are thankful for them.