

FOURTH SUNDAY OF CREATIONTIDE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY 25 SEPTEMBER 2022

ORGAN PRELUDE

Adagio from the Violin Concerto in D Major Antonio Vivaldi (transcribed by J.S. Bach)

HYMN 299 (TUNE I)

- 1 Give us the wings of faith to rise within the veil, and see the saints above, how great their joys, how bright their glories be.
- 2 Once they were mourning here below, their couch was wet with tears; they wrestled hard, as we do now, with sins and doubts and fears.
- ³ We ask them whence their victory came: they, with united breath, ascribe their conquest to the Lamb, their triumph to his death.
- 4 They marked the footsteps that he trod, his zeal inspired their breast, and, following their incarnate God, possess the promised rest.
- 5 Our glorious Leader claims our praise for his own pattern given; while the long cloud of witnesses show the same path to heaven.

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 so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. 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 forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; 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.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Amos 6:1, 4-7

A reading from the Book of Amos:

¹ Alas for those who are at ease in Zion, and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria, the notables of the first of the nations, to whom the house of Israel resorts! ... ⁴ Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory, and lounge on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the stall; ⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and like David improvise on instruments of music; ⁶ who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! ⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Praise the Lord * praise the Lord / O my / soul: while I / live · I will / praise the / Lord;

While I / have · any / being: I will sing / praises / to my / God.

Put not your / trust in / princes: nor in the sons of / men who / cannot / save.

For when their breath goes from them * they return a-/-gain · to the / earth: and on that day / all their / thoughts / perish.

Blessèd is the man whose help is the / God of / Jacob: whose hope is / in the / Lord his / God,

The God who made / heaven · and / earth: the sea and / all / that is / in them,

+ Who keeps / faith for / ever: who deals justice to / those that / are op-/-pressed.

The Lord gives / food \cdot to the / hungry: and / sets the / captives / free.

The Lord gives / sight · to the / blind: the Lord lifts up / those · that are / bowed / down.

The Lord / loves the / righteous: the Lord cares for the / stranger / in the / land.

He upholds the / widow · and the / fatherless: as for the way of the wicked he / turns it / upside / down. Psalm 146

† The Lord shall be / king for / ever: your God O Zion shall reign through all generations * Praise / - the / Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and / to the / Son: and / to the / Holy / Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and / ever / shall be: world without / end./ A-/-men.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 4:11-16

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians:

¹¹The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming.¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 799 (TUNE I)

- The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; 1 he makes me down to lie in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.
- 2 My soul he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake.

- 3 Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale, yet will I fear none ill; for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.
- 4 My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes; my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me; and in God's house for evermore my dwelling-place shall be.

GOSPEL

Luke 16:1, 19-31

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

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, 'There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ...¹⁹ 'There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day.²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side.²⁴ He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames."²⁵ But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us."²⁷ He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." ²⁹ Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." ³⁰ He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." ³¹ He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead."

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

SERMON

CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

A member of the congregation offers prayers.

PEACE

The celebrant introduces the Peace with a suitable sentence:

The peace of the Lord be always with you. And also with you. Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

HYMN 291

- 1 Blessèd city, heavenly Salem, vision dear of peace and love, who of living stones art builded in the height of heaven above, and with angel hosts encircled, as a bride dost earthward move!
- 2 From celestial realms descending, bridal glory round thee shed, meet for him whose love espoused thee, to thy Lord shalt thou be led; all thy streets and all thy bulwarks of pure gold are fashioned.
- Bright thy gates of pearl are shining, they are open evermore; and by virtue of his merits thither faithful souls do soar,

who for Christ's dear name in this world pain and tribulation bore.

- 4 Many a blow and biting sculpture polished well those stones elect, in their places now compacted by the heavenly Architect, who therewith hath willed for ever that his palace should be decked.
- 5 Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the Head and cornerstone, chosen of the Lord, and precious, binding all the church in one, Holy Sion's help for ever, and her confidence alone.
- All that dedicated city, dearly loved of God on high, in exultant jubilation pours perpetual melody, God the One in Three adoring in glad hymns eternally.
- 7 To this temple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of Hosts, to-day; with thy wonted loving-kindness hear thy servants as they pray, and thy fullest benediction shed within its walls alway.
- 8 Here vouchsafe to all thy servants what they ask of thee to gain, what they gain from thee for ever with the blessed to retain, and hereafter in thy glory evermore with thee to reign.

Laud and honour to the Father, laud and honour to the Son, laud and honour to the Spirit, ever Three, and ever One, consubstantial, co-eternal, while unending ages run.

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.

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.

Eucharistic Prayer G

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.

ANTHEM

HYMN 721

1 Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.

- 2 Jesu, thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.
- 3 Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy grace receive; suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave.
- 4 Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above; pray, and praise thee, without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
- 5 Finish then thy new creation: pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
- 6 Changed from glory into glory till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through 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.

BLESSING

The celebrant may use a seasonal blessing, or another suitable blessing:

...and the blessing of God Almighty the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN 584

- All my hope on God is founded; he doth still my trust renew.
 Me through change and chance he guideth, only good and only true.
 God unknown, he alone calls my heart to be his own.
- Human pride and earthly glory, sword and crown betray his trust; what with care and toil he buildeth, tower and temple, fall to dust.
 But God's power, hour by hour, is my temple and my tower.
- God's great goodness aye endureth, deep his wisdom, passing thought: splendour, light, and life attend him, beauty springeth out of naught. Evermore from his store new-born worlds rise and adore.

- 4 Daily doth th' Almighty giver bounteous gifts on us bestow; his desire our soul delighteth, pleasure leads us where we go. Love doth stand at his hand; joy doth wait on his command.
- 5 Still from earth to God eternal sacrifice of praise be done, high above all praises praising for the gift of Christ his Son. Christ doth call one and all: ye who follow shall not fall.

DISMISSAL

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

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Voluntary in G Major John Stanley (1712-1786)

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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

We are taking a collection during all of the services in the church building through the offering plate and through a tap and pay card reading system at the back of the church. PayPal and standing orders are also possible through our website or by contacting the church Treasurer. More information is available on our website.

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