

FIRST SUNDAY OF CREATIONTIDE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY 5 SEPTEMBER 2021

ORGAN PRELUDE

The celebrant introduces the service.

HYMN 532

- All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia, alleluia!
 Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam:

 O praise him, O praise him,
 Alleluia, alleluia, allelluia!
- 2 Thou rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heaven along, O praise him, alleluia! Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice; ye lights of evening, find a voice: O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, allelluia!
- 3 Thou flowing water, pure and clear, make music for thy Lord to hear, Alleluia, alleluia!
 Thou fire, so masterful and bright, that givest us both warmth and light: O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, allelluia!

- Dear mother earth, who day by day unfoldest blessings on our way,
 O praise him, alleluia!
 The flowers and fruits that in thee grow, let them his glory also show:
 O praise him, O praise him,
 Alleluia, alleluia, allelluia!
- Let all things their creator bless, and worship him in humbleness;
 O praise him, alleluia!
 Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One:
 O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, allelluia!

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.

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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 James 2:1-17

A reading from the letter of James:

¹ My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ² For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³ and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say,

'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', 4 have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? 5 Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷ Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? 8 You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' ⁹ But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. 11 For the one who said, 'You shall not commit adultery', also said, 'You shall not murder.' Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. 12 So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³ For judgement will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgement. ¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? 15 If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷ So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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

PSALM Psalm 146

- 1 Alleluia.
 Praise the Lord, O my soul:
 while I live will I praise the Lord;
 as long as I have any being,
 I will sing praises to my God.
- 2 Put not your trust in princes, nor in any human power, for there is no help in them.
- When their breath goes forth, they return to the earth; on that day all their thoughts perish.

- 4 Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the Lord their God;
- 5 Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them; who keeps his promise for ever;
- 6 Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong and bread to those who hunger.
- 7 The Lord looses those that are bound; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;
- The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous;
- 9 The Lord watches over the stranger in the land; he upholds the orphan and widow; but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.
- 10 The Lord shall reign for ever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Alleluia.

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 7:24-37

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

²⁴ From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶ Now the woman

was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷ He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' 28 But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' ²⁹ Then he said to her, 'For saving that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' ³⁰ So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. ³¹ Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³² They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³ He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴ Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' 35 And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷ They were astounded beyond measure, saving, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

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

SERMON

The appointed preacher offers a sermon.

CREED

(cf. Revelation 4.8,11; 5.9; 22.17, 20)

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 536

- 1 Creator God, the world around declares your glory flower and tree, the evening sky and torrent's sound and mountain stream and rolling sea. Yet all this beauty cannot show a God whom we can truly know.
- 2 Composer God, all music sings your power, your praise, your majesty: in drum and trumpet, flute and strings,

in choir and song and symphony. Yet music which inspires our praise can never fathom all your ways.

- Designer God, in shape and form the beauty you inspire is shown; in line and colour, etched or drawn, in sculpture, painting, glass and stone. Yet all these talents can't express the full truth of your loveliness.
- 4 Mysterious God, though all the arts of nature and of human skill may move us, yet our longing hearts are never satisfied until in Jesus Christ you show your face: a God of love and truth and grace.

EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Prayer G

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.

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

Author of Life Divine Cecilia Mc Dowall (b. 1951)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, 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 476

- 1 Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go, my daily labour to pursue; thee, only thee, resolved to know, in all I think or speak or do.
- 2 The task thy wisdom hath assigned O let me cheerfully fulfil; in all my works thy presence find, and prove thy good and perfect will.
- 3 Preserve me from my calling's snare, and hide my simple heart above, above the thorns of choking care, the gilded baits of worldly love.
- Thee may I set at my right hand, whose eyes my inmost substance see, and labour on at thy command, and offer all my works to thee.
- Give me to bear thy easy yoke, and every moment watch and pray, and still to things eternal look, and hasten to thy glorious day;
- For thee delightfully employ
 Whate'er thy bounteous grace hath given,
 and run my course with even joy,
 and closely walk with thee to heaven.

DISMISSAL

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

ORGAN POSTLUDE

NOTICE OF COPYRIGHT

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.