

Morning Worship

24th May 2020

Prelude

Played by Chara Fowler

The Preparation

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace when we are in time of need.

Ps 68: You are awesome, O God, in your sanctuary; the God of Israel gives power and strength to his people. Praise be to God!

**Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom,
thanksgiving and honour, power and might,
be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.**

Hymn: How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, you people of God,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say to you than He has said,
to everyone trusting in Jesus, our head?

In every condition, in sickness, in health;
In poverty's vale, or abounding in wealth;
At home and abroad, on the land, on the sea,
As your days demand, shall your strength ever be.

Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen and help you, and cause you to stand
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavour to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake.

PD: R. Keen

Birthdays: Florence Brown

Thy Kingdom Come

For the last several years, the Archbishop of Canterbury has invited the Anglican Communion to join in a time of focussed prayer from Ascension to Pentecost. He calls it "Thy Kingdom Come."

Once again, this year we are invited to pray each day through to next Sunday, Pentecost, for five individuals to come to know Christ.

Here is his invitation to us:

{Video}

It is a simple thing to choose the names of five people and pray for them each day over the next week. On the church website, I will post some resources families may use together with the children so they too can be involved.

Each day we will post a short video on our Church Facebook page and website to support you in your prayer. Do watch out for them.

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
let us praise and worship God who has called us together.

Let us celebrate God's majesty,
and delight in the wonder of God's love.

We do this because we believe in the presence among us of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and in the mighty power of the Holy Spirit.

Confession

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

Hear these words of Scripture:

If we claim to be sinless, we are self-deceived and strangers to the truth.

If we confess our sins, God is just and may be trusted to forgive our sins and cleanse us from every

kind of wrong.

Spirit of God, search our hearts.

Let us in silence remember our need for God's forgiveness.

Silence

Let us confess our sins to God.

**God of mercy,
we have sinned against you and against others.
We have sinned in what we have done,
and in what we have failed to do.
We are truly sorry.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for our sins,
forgive us all that is past
and raise us to newness of life. 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

O come, let us sing to the Lord,
let us rejoice in the rock of our salvation.
We sing to you, O God, and bless your name;
and tell of your salvation from day to day.
We proclaim your glory to the nations,
your praise to the ends of the earth.

The Readings from the New Testament

Acts 1:6-14; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Read by Lorraine Lloyd

Song – Softly and Tenderly

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
Calling for you and for me.
See on the portals he's waiting and watching,
Watching for you and for me.
Come home, come home,

Ye who are weary come home.
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
Calling, "Oh sinner, come home."

Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised,
Promised for you and for me.
Though we have sinned he has mercy and pardon,
Pardon for you and for me.
Come home, come home,
Ye who are weary come home.
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
Calling "Oh sinner, come home!"

PD: William Thompson

The Reading from the Gospel:

John 17:1-11 – Read by Lorraine Lloyd

The Sermon

Preacher: Peter Lloyd

Prayers:

Intercessor: Michelle Clough

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.

Morning Collect

God the source of eternal light,
shed forth your unending day on us
who watch for you;
that our lips may praise you,
our hearts bless you and our lives glorify you;

through our Saviour Jesus Christ.
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.**

Unite714 Litany

Lord Jesus, You are the Anointed One. We are
thankful our Heavenly Father has given us the Holy
Spirit. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, enable us
to boldly proclaim the Good News to a world
ravaged by anxiety, fear, panic, and loss.

We ask You to pour out Your Holy Spirit on our
broken world so that 2020 will become "the year of
the Lord's favour."

Oh God, we ask You to heal our broken world.

Only You can replace panic with peace, fear with
faith, and grief with grace. Lord, for many of our
world's most vulnerable people groups, this
worldwide quarantine has been a time of darkness,
fear, and anger.

Many are struggling mentally, emotionally, and
financially. Lord, lift them out of despair. Deliver
them by Your great salvation. May they truly
discover the eternal freedom only found in You.

We thank You for mitigating the effects of COVID-
19 and expanding Your footprint in the nations of
the world. Millions of people are asking You for

refuge and protection. We know You hear them and
are freshly touching our world.

With one voice, we boldly come before Your throne
of grace in prayer:
**Heavenly Father, in the name of Your Son, Jesus,
eradicate COVID-19 and pour out Your Spirit on
the earth. Amen.**

We pray for those of our congregation who are
unwell, suffering or facing challenging health or
financial issues.

We remember Eleanor Battley, Herb Pryde, Pat
Franks and others of whom we know. Lord, you
know who else in this parish needs our prayers
maybe for things unknown to anyone else. For all
these we pray:

Loving father, we know that life's journey
sometimes leads us through dark valleys,
and that many are travelling that path just now,
even as we are.

Help us to remember that however dark the
valley the darkness does not hide us from you.
May it never hide you from us,
but may we know that you are always near us,
sharing our burden and entering into our grief.
Help us to remember that the valley will not go
on for ever:
that with you by our side we shall at length
emerge from it,
the darkness will lift, and we will praise you our
saviour God.

Amen

The Collect of the Day

Christ our great high priest,
you understand our weakness;
you pray for us while we are sinners.
Help us, through you,
to find a new and living way to God;

for the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

Hymn: Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall rise and set no more.

Blessings abound where Jesus reigns;
The prisoner leaps to lose his chains;
The weary find eternal rest,
The hungry and the poor are blessed.

Let all creation rise and bring
the highest honours to our king;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen.

PD: Isaac Watts

The Gifts of the People are acknowledged.

Almighty God;
you give seed for us to sow,
and bread for us to eat;
make us thankful for what we have received;
make us rich to do those generous things
which supply your people's needs;
so all the world may give you thanks and glory.
Amen.

Notices

1. You may have noted earlier I referred to the Church Facebook page. Yes, we are on Facebook, do have a look and follow us to get news and notices from the parish.

2. Remember invitation from the Archbishop of Canterbury to pray – look for the resources on our website against this service posting.

3. We have been using intercessory prayers from a movement of churches called Unite714. This is a response in prayer to the pandemic. They are

organising an online prayer event for Pentecost which you can watch if you will. It will happen live at 3am next Saturday, but you will be able to watch it afterwards online. Links will be on our web and FB pages.

4. On Monday, the Cabinet will make a decision based on the advice of the Director General of Health about our Level 2 status and whether anything changes for church meetings. Our parish Pandemic Team has already planned for how we may meet under the likely restrictions but of course, rules may change still further.

When we have that decision and the Diocesan advice, we will be able to plan in more detail and we will let you know. So, please watch out for our email and postings when we can tell you when and how we can meet together again.

The Dismissal

On this Sunday after Ascension we pray to Jesus - risen, ascended and enthroned:

Jesus, Lord of time,
hold us in your eternity.
Jesus, image of God,
travel the life of faith with us.
Jesus, friend of sinners,
heal the brokenness of our world.
Jesus, Lord of tomorrow,
draw us into your future.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be with you now and remain with you.

Amen.

Go now to love and serve the Lord.

Go in peace.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

Hymn: Thy Kingdom Come

Hymn words written for the 2020 They Kingdom Come Global Prayer movement.