

Sunday 18th September 2022

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Reading 1: 1 Timothy 2: 1-7

Gospel: Luke 16: 1-13

Call to Worship: We meet in the name of Jesus Christ,
who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father.
Grace and mercy be with you.

Today we come together to remember before God
her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II,
to give thanks for her life,
and to comfort one another in our grief.

Song: I the Lord of Sea and Sky
(click link) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UA2fMeXEKLA>

Prayer: O God, our sovereign and shepherd,
who brought again your Son Jesus Christ
from the valley of death,
comfort us with your protecting presence
and your angels of goodness and love,
that we also may come home
and dwell with him in your house for ever.
Amen.

Invitation to Confession:

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
So let us turn away from sin and turn to the Lord,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Prayer of Confession:

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.

Absolution: Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
who in his great mercy
has promised forgiveness of sins
to all those who with heartfelt repentance and
true faith turn to him:
have mercy on you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and bring you to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Reading 1: 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Instructions on Worship

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings should be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³ This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Luke 16: 1-13 The Parable of the Dishonest Manager

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. ² So he summoned him and said to him, “What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.” ³ Then the manager said to himself, “What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.” ⁵ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, “How much do you owe my master?” ⁶ He answered, “A hundred jugs of olive oil.” He said to him, “Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.” ⁷ Then he asked another, “And how much do you owe?” He replied, “A hundred containers of wheat.” He said to him, “Take your bill and make it eighty.” ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. ¹⁰ ‘Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Talk: (click link) <https://youtu.be/MSnPZEIjaFk>

Song: Take my life and let it be
(click link) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sss-g50Dw1Q>

The Creed: *Let us declare our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.*

**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.**

Prayers of Intercession:

Father God, we come to You today during a time of mourning for our Queen but also at a time of celebration for her life. Thankyou Father for the beautiful double rainbow you placed in the sky on the day she died, a day of sunshine and rain, a day of celebration and tears. As we think of the colours in the rainbow, we thank you that the Queen accepted people of every nationality, every colour. She was indeed a Queen of the people.

*Let us now pray for the Church,
for the world and let us thank God for His goodness.*

Blessed Lord, we pray for those in high position, for Liz Truss our new prime minister and newly appointed ministers who work alongside her. May she have wisdom in her new role and to have a really good relationship with our new King Charles 111. May King Charles too know your grace, strength and courage and wisdom as he takes on this role as monarch for this country and head of state of the other countries in the commonwealth realm.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Father as we think of colours we thank you so much for the colours of Autumn, for the colour changes in nature especially the leaves on the trees so often spectacular to see. We thank you for the fields now mostly harvested and getting ready for the new seeds to be sown. For some Father the changing seasons will be more difficult for many dealing with the colder weather coming. We pray that all communities may look after one another, supporting the vulnerable, encouraging the timid, providing practical help for those who need it and nurturing the young people in a climate of trust for the future.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Father your word says that you long to heal the broken hearted and bind up their wounds. May your comfort and consolation soothe those who are afraid or in pain. Refresh those who are mentally or physically exhausted and be a lifeline to those who are broken hearted or in despair. We all know someone that needs you at this time, bring them to our minds constantly please and bring your precious healing in mind, body and spirit.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

We praise you Father God that you guard and keep us in this your world. We thank you for the beauty of your world and the affection of our loved ones, help us Lord when sometimes our relationships with family or friends become difficult. We know even our late Queen had family difficulties and we pray for reconciliation in her family as we do for families we know going through tough times.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

We do thank you for all the different roles you give us to play in your church and in the wider world. We especially pray for our Curate Revd Jacqui whose ordination will be on the 1st October and our celebration of her First Holy Communion on the 2nd October - we lift her to you today for your blessing not just for her ordination but for all the days she diligently serves You and Your people.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Father Your word tells us that "Blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted". We pray today especially for the Royal Family in their grief and as they have a long day tomorrow with all the ceremony of saying a final public goodbye to their mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. We, too, know of those who grieve today and have upcoming funerals which won't be publicly televised but are still as precious to you and we lift them to you for your special touch.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Father God, we know that the late Queen had many privileges that most people will never have, but one thing we have in common with her is the privilege of knowing You. Just as the queen was seen as a rock and stability for so many, You Father are forever our rock, our hope and our salvation.

And so: with the confidence of our faith, with the assurance of hope, with the will to serve, may we love you with our whole hearts and love our neighbours as ourselves for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Silence is kept.

Collect: Merciful God, your Son came to save us and bore our sins on the cross: may we trust in your mercy and now your love, rejoicing in the righteousness that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Lord's Prayer: 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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever.
Amen.

*Pause for a moment to bring yourself
and all that you offer to God and give Him thanks.*

Song: Thine be the glory
(Click link) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D2HVIK0xnUs>

Blessing: God grant to the living, grace;
to the departed, rest;
to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth,
and all humankind, peace and concord;
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting;
and the blessing of God almighty;
Father Son and Holy Spirit,

be with us, and remain with us
and all those whom we love,
now and forever.
Amen.

Song: The National Anthem
God save our gracious King,
Long live our noble King,
God save the King.
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save the King.

Thy choicest gifts in store
On him be pleased to pour,
Long may he reign.
May he defend our laws,
And give us ever cause,
To sing with heart and voice,
God save the King.

Not on this land alone,
but be God's mercies known
on ev'ry shore.
Lord, make the nations see
that all humanity
should form one family
the wide world o'er.

Post something on the Facebook page to bless others.