

Sunday 29th October 2023
Last Sunday after Trinity

Reading 1: 1 Thessalonians 2: 1 - 8

Gospel: **Matthew 22: 34 - end**

Grace mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.

Psalm: 90: 1 – 6

¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling-place^[a]
in all generations.

² Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

³ You turn us back to dust,
and say, 'Turn back, you mortals.'

⁴ For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past,
or like a watch in the night.

⁵ You sweep them away; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning;

⁶ in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.

Hymn: *(Click Link)* **Tell Out My Soul** <https://youtu.be/jcFsxk1EbY4>

Invitation to Confession:

We have come together as God's family
to pray for the recovery of the unity of Christ's Church
and for the renewal of our common life.
The Lord is full of gentleness and compassion.
In penitence and faith let us ask His forgiveness of our sins

Confession:

Most Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you and against one another,
in thought and word and deed.
We are truly sorry for our pride,
and for our lack of faith,
of understanding and of love.
We repent of our narrow mindedness,
of our bitterness and our prejudices.

Pardon and forgive us,
save us and renew us,
that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways:
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution:

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by His Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessed be the Lord
for he has heard the voice of our prayer;
Therefore shall our hearts dance for joy
and in our song will we praise our God.

Reading 1: 1 Thessalonians 2: 1 – 8

² You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, ² but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. ³ For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, ⁴ but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. ⁵ As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; ⁶ nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, ⁷ though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. ⁸ So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

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

Gospel: Matthew 22 : 34 - 46 The Greatest Commandment

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' ³⁷ He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

The Question about David's Son

⁴¹ Now

while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴² 'What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'The son of David.' ⁴³ He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴ "The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet'"?

⁴⁵ If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' ⁴⁶ No one was able to give him an answer,

nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

Talk: (click link) https://youtu.be/GMjJ_1W31I4

Let us declare our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Though He was divine,
He did not cling to equality with God,
But made Himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave,
He was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself
And was obedient to death,
Even the death of a cross.
Therefore God has raised Him on high,
And given Him the name above every name:
That at the name of Jesus
Every knee should bow,
And every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord,
To the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

⁸Who is like you, LORD God Almighty?

You, LORD, are mighty, and your faithfulness surrounds you. *Ps. 89: 8*

Heavenly Father, we want to thank you for the world that you have created. Help us to be aware of our responsibility to look after that which you have made.

Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer.

As we pray for our world, so we pray for those that make decisions on our behalf; we pray for the world leaders to make right choices; help them to make joint decisions for the wellbeing of all people.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

In our own country we pray for our King and for his government, we ask, Lord, for your wisdom to reign in the hearts of our politicians, that they may heed advice and work towards peace, collaboration and genuine working partnerships.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The church is looking forward to a time of meeting together again in General Synod. So we pray for the church leaders, our Archbishops and Bishops, as they meet to discuss the ways that the Anglican churches can be united yet maintaining diversity. Give them, our church leaders and all church leaders, discernment gifts to bring the church together to worship you. Unite us Lord in praise of who you are.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for our local area; all those churches on the Dengie peninsula. Draw people we pray, to worship you our living God, we ask that your Holy Spirit moves the hearts of the residents of this deanery and that we will see many lives changed for your glory. Thank you for those to be Confirmed this afternoon; Claire, Charley; Sonya and Matthew, bless them, Lord, with you Holy Spirit power.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We bring before you today, those who are on our hearts for prayer, and those that we do not know, yet you know. Bring your healing, both physically and spiritually, that they may know the goodness of our God.

We pray especially for

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

And we pray for each other, that we will grow in knowledge and love of you, our heavenly father.

Merciful Father, accept the prayers of your people
for the sake of your Son
our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silence is kept.

Collect:

Merciful God, teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty, that trusting in your word and obeying your will we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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
and 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.

*Let us pause for a moment to bring ourselves
and all that we offer to God
and give Him thanks.*

Hymn: *(click link)* To God Be The Glory https://youtu.be/TD_9P9DB4pw

Blessing:

The Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of the living God, teach you to walk in His way more trustfully,
to accept His truth more faithfully,
and to share His life more lovingly;
that by the power of His Holy Spirit
you may come as one family to the kingdom of the Father.....

.....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: *(click link)*

Post something on the Facebook page to bless others.