

Church of St Leonard, Southminster
Church of St Lawrence and All Saints, Steeple
Sunday 14th August 2022
Nineth Sunday after Trinity

Reading 1: Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Gospel: Luke 12:49-56

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

And also with you.

Song: I will offer up my life
(Click link) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kQkzHwz2eLE>

Invitation to Confession:

God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit.
Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness,
all slander and malice and confess our sins to God our redeemer.

Confession:

Lord God, we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing
and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation;
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.
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: Hebrews 11:29-12:2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. ³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. ³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, without us, be made perfect. **12** Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of ^[d] the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Luke 12:49-56

⁴⁹ 'I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵² From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³ they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.' ⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, "It is going to rain"; and so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, "There will be scorching heat"; and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

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

Song: Knowing you Jesus
(Click link) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pTTISx6zXio>

The Creed:

Let us declare our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe.

Amen.

cf 1 Corinthians 15.3-7

Prayers of Intercession:

When we fix our eyes on Jesus our lives will reflect his nature.
God is close to us as we pray.
He is attentive to us now.
Let us pray.

Lord, whenever you weep over our harshness,
make your tears melt our hearts of stone.
Whenever you grieve over our double standards,
shock us into honesty again.
Make us receptive to your teaching,
willing to take your risks
and eager to run with our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Lead us, Lord:

To walk in your ways.

Whenever the news overwhelms us,
nudge us to fervent prayer.
Whenever leaders meet to negotiate peace,
be present at the conference table.
Breathe your values into our thinking,
tear down the divisive barriers
and renew us to lead the world into loving.

Lead us, Lord:

To walk in your ways.

Whenever tempers are frayed
and patience is wearing thin,
give us space to collect ourselves and try again.
Whenever the demands of family and friends
remind us of our limitations,
minister graciously through our weakness
and teach us the humility of apologising.

Lead us, Lord:

To walk in your ways.

Whenever people are enveloped by pain
or desolate grief or total exhaustion,
bring refreshment and peace, tranquillity and hope.
Wherever the grip of the past
prevents free movement into the future,
bring release and healing.

Lead us, Lord:

To walk in your ways.

Whenever the dying are fearful and distressed,
give comfort and reassurance on that last journey.
Bless those who care for them
and those who mourn their going.
In mercy receive the dead
into the life of your heaven,
and prepare us, through our lives now, for eternity.

Lead us, Lord:

To walk in your ways.

Holy God, we love the beauty and goodness of your nature,
and thank you for the gift of your spirit
to guide us to walk in your ways.

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

The Collect:

Gracious Father,
revive your Church in our day,
and make her holy, strong and faithful,
for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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.

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

Song:

Stand up, stand up for Jesus

(Click link)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xUII9PabHPE>

Blessing:

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen

*Post something on the Facebook page
to bless others and give thanks to God.*