

Church of St Leonard, Southminster
Church of St Lawrence and All Saints, Steeple
Sunday 21st August 2022
Nineth Sunday after Trinity

Reading 1: Hebrews 12:18-end

Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

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

And also with you.

Song: In the beginning (Breathe on me breath of God)
(Click link) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MmkzSjs9eAw>

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 12:18-end

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰ (For they could not endure the order that was given, 'If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.' ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, 'I tremble with fear.') ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵ See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, 'Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.' ²⁷ This phrase 'Yet once more' indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; ²⁹ for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.' ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.' ¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, 'You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?' ¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Talk: (click link) <https://youtu.be/AW0QkB2eBZs>

Song:

(Click link)

Lord I come to you

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vazsKSuu90Y>

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:

Thankyou Father God that Yours is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory
for ever and ever, a kingdom that cannot be shaken.
We come before you today in a world that can be shaken, a world created by
You for Yours and our pleasure. A world under your control.
So let us pray to Father God for the Church and for the World and let us
thank God for his goodness to us even when we grieve Him when we fall so
short of his expectations.

Father God it is easy to say "Count your blessings" when the sun is shining
and everything is going well when we feel so joyful but it is a different story when
the cold winds blow, when relationships become fragile or seemingly broken and
circumstances break down.

Please be patient with us Father God in all the circumstances of life we find
ourselves in and help us to remember that your love is always there for us
even behind the darkest cloud.

Let us in a moment of quiet bring before God our feelings today,
perhaps relationship problems, health problems or life in general problems.

**Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.**

Father God Your world is in turmoil as in so many countries
there are power struggles, famine, drought, earthquakes, floods,
the list goes on. Father, we feel overwhelmed in how to pray for them all.
Impress on our hearts Lord by your Holy Spirit those situations we can pray
for individually or corporately and keep us faithful in our intercessions.

**Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.**

Father God your Word says that "There is a time for Everything," help us Lord to take time to seek your Power in our lives, to take time to read your Word to gain wisdom, to take time to be aware of others and to help them if needed, to take time to love and be loved, to take time to be friendly, to take time to dream for the future, to take time to be quiet to seek You. Father God, above all to take time to pray which unleashes Your greatest power on earth.

**Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.**

Father God, we take a few moments now to remember those who have lost loved ones recently, those struggling with ill health, those whose concerns over the cost of living and the coming winter with high fuel bills. Teach us Lord to share even more than we have already and to really look out for our neighbours and all those people you send us to. May we shine Your light in places of darkness and to handle with care those who are feeling exceptionally fragile at this time. Shake us Lord if we become complacent in any way.

**Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.**

We thank you Father God for the times of leisure we enjoy and we think especially today of the Historic Gathering at Steeple and the much-needed funds being raised to keep your church buildings to the standard they deserve. We thank you for the Toy Swap in Southminster that happened last Wednesday and for all the ways we can share and we pray for the future planning for the Christ Church URC building in Southminster that it will continue to be used for the local communities in ways that are pleasing to You.

**Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.**

We thank You Father for all your blessings and especially for the example of Jesus in whose strength we offer ourselves for your service

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

The Collect:

Lord of heaven and earth,
as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer,
give us patience and courage never to lose hope,
but always to bring our prayers before you;
through 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:

Thine be the glory

(Click link)

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

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.*