

Sunday 6th October 2024

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Reading 1: Hebrews 1: 1 – 4, 2: 5 - 12

Gospel: Mark 10: 2 - 16

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

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

This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Prayer:

Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray.
Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Psalms: 26

Vindicate me, LORD,
for I have led a blameless life;
I have trusted in the LORD
and have not faltered.

Test me, LORD, and try me,
examine my heart and my mind;
for I have always been mindful
of your unfailing love
and have lived in reliance on your faithfulness.
My feet stand on level ground;
in the great congregation I will praise the LORD.

Invitation to Confession:

God shows his love for us
in that, while we were still sinners,
Christ died for us.
Let us then show our love for him
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Confession:

Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,

in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed
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 lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light.
Amen.

Absolution:

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus 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.

Song: (*click link*)

Reading 1: Hebrews 1: 1 – 4, 2: 5 – 12

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways,² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.³ The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.⁴ So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

⁵ It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. ⁶ But there is a place where someone has testified:

“What is mankind that you are mindful of them,
a son of man that you care for him?

⁷ You made them a little lower than the angels;
you crowned them with glory and honour

⁸ and put everything under their feet.”

In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them. ⁹ But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. ¹¹ Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. ¹² He says,

“I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the assembly I will sing your praises.”

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

Gospel: Mark 10: 2 - 16

² Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, ‘Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?’ ³ He answered them, ‘What did Moses command you?’ ⁴ They said, ‘Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.’ ⁵ But Jesus said to them, ‘Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶ But from the beginning of creation, “God made them male and female.” ⁷ “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife,^[b] ⁸ and the two shall become one flesh.” So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹ Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.’

¹⁰ Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹ He said to them, ‘Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹² and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.’

Jesus Blesses Little Children

¹³ People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, ‘Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.’ ¹⁶ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

This is the gospel of the Lord. Praise be to you, O Christ.

Talk: *(click link)*

Song:

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

The Creed

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 are witnesses today of the baptism of Aria. We know that baptism is a sign of our belonging. Through baptism we become one of your adopted children by the cleansing of Holy Water and we also receive the grace of your Holy spirit who enables us to live a new life with Christ. We bless you Father that as believers and through your Holy Spirit you live in us, guiding us to be who you intended us to be. We pray for Aria as she grows and for her parents Craig and Paige, and for her Godparents, family and friends who nurture and care for her to help her continued growth in the special person you created her to be.

Lord in your mercy.Hear our prayer

Father God we read in Your word that Jesus said "Let the little children come to me for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these" and He then placed his hands on them and blessed them. Father we know that Jesus wants us all to be fully dependent on Him just as little children are dependent on us. Thankyou that Jesus came to show us the way to live godly lives and we thank you Father God that Your Kingdom is a gift and entered only by those whose lives are given and guided in total dependence on You and our Lord Jesus. Open our hearts today to receive You, to put our faith and trust in You and to know the joy of everlasting life with You

Lord in your mercy..... Hear our prayer

Father God as we think today of Aria's new beginning with you and her growth with you. We thank you as we move toward celebrating the harvesting of crops grown here in the Dengie. Thank you for the many blessings and provision harvest time brings. While we celebrate our harvest remind us always to think of those who have so little in the world especially where changing weather patterns have brought so much heartache with floods and drought and pestilence and war which has disrupted so many lives. Help us to always be thankful and share where and when we can.

Lord in Your mercy.....Hear our prayer

Father God we lift to you those we know and those shown to us who are struggling with health issues at this time and for those who mourn the loss of a loved one, and we now ask for your healing touch on their lives. We also pray for any care givers known to us who tirelessly dedicate their lives for the well-being of others. Please Bless each one and strengthen them dear Lord.

Lord in Your mercy

Father God Just as we pray for Aria's growth in You, we pray also for all of us that we continue to mature and be a part of harvesting and gathering in more souls for Your heavenly kingdom.

Merciful father
Accept these prayers
For the sake of your son
Our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Collect:

Faithful Lord whose steadfast love never ceases and whose mercies never come to an end: grant us the grace to trust you and to receive the gifts of your love, new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silence is kept.

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.

Song: (*click link*)

Blessing:

May God the Father,
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen us to walk with Him in his risen life.....

.....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.

As we come to the end of this service we can fellowship with each other in Spirit, with tea, coffee and biscuits, and continuing to pray for each other.

Post something on the Facebook page to bless others.