

Sunday 29th September 2021

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Reading 1: **Song of Solomon 2: 8 – 13**

Reading 2: James 1: 17 - end

Gospel: **Mark 7: 1 – 8, 14 – 15, 21 – 23**

Psalm: 45: 1 – 2, 6 - 9

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

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

Psalm: 45: 1 – 2, 6 – 9

My heart overflows with a goodly theme;
I address my verses to the king;
my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.
² You are the most handsome of men;
grace is poured upon your lips;
therefore God has blessed you for ever.
Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever.
Your royal sceptre is a sceptre of equity;
⁷ you love righteousness and hate wickedness.
Therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;
⁸ your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.
From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;
⁹ daughters of kings are among your ladies of honour;
at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

Song: (*click link*) Sing to the Lord (Banner) <https://youtu.be/69OEHJOEvuA>

Invitation to Confession

In the presence of the God and Father of us all, we meet together to give thanks for the spiritual unity which is already ours as members of the body of Christ. Let us acknowledge our sin, that this unity may, by God's grace, become a visible unity, so that His Church in every place may demonstrate the healing power of the gospel, and be an instrument of His peace in the life of the world.

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:

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon us,
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen.

Reading 1: James 1: 17 – end

¹⁷ Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸ In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

Hearing and Doing the Word

¹⁹ You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹ Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²² But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³ For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴ for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵ But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶ If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

Gospel: Mark 7: 1 – 8, 14 – 15, 21 – 23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ² they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³ (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴ and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵ So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?' ⁶ He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honours me with their lips,

but their hearts are far from me;

⁷ in vain do they worship me,

teaching human precepts as doctrines."

⁸ You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.'

¹⁴ Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.'

²¹ For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²² adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'

Talk: (click link) <https://youtu.be/HI-LqV7tEbM>

Song: What a Faithful God have I <https://youtu.be/cVR6YB01nDk>

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

The Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession:

(Please add in names and circumstances known to you in the appropriate place)

United in the company of the faithful
and looking for the coming of the Kingdom
let us offer our prayers to God,
the source of all Holiness.

Merciful Lord,
strengthen all Christian people by your Holy Spirit,
that we may live as a royal priesthood and a Holy nation
to the praise of Jesus Christ our saviour.
Lord, have mercy.

Bless our bishops, priests and deacons
and all who minister in your church,
that by faithful proclamation of your word
we may be built on the foundation of the
apostles and prophets
into a Holy temple in the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Empower us by the gift of your Holy and life-giving Spirit,
that we may be transformed into the likeness of Christ
from glory to glory
Lord, have mercy

Give to the world and its peoples
the peace that comes from above,
that they may find Christ's way of freedom and life.
Lord, have mercy.

Hold in your embrace all who witness to your love in the service of the poor and needy;
all who minister to the sick and dying;
and all who bring light to those in darkness
Lord, have mercy.

Touch and heal all those whose lives are scarred by sin or disfigured by pain,
that, raised from death to life in Christ,
their sorrow may be turned to eternal joy.
We pray especially for.....
Lord, have mercy.

Remember in your mercy all those gone before us,
who have been well pleasing to you from eternity;
preserve in your faith your servants on earth,
guide us to your kingdom

and grant us peace at all times.
Lord, have mercy.

Hasten the day when many will come
from east and west, from north and south,
and sit at your table in your kingdom.
Lord, have mercy.

We give you thanks
for the whole company of saints,
with whom we fellowship.
We join our prayers and praises together;
by your grace may we all be made perfect in your love.

Merciful Father,
Accept these prayers for the sake of your only Son,
our saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Collect:

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. 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.

*Usually, at this point in the service, we take up our offering;
let us pause for a moment to bring ourselves and all that we offer to God
and give Him thanks.*

Blessing:

The Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,
teach us 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 the Holy Spirit

we 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 all those whom we love,
this day and always. Amen.

Song: *(click link)* Hymn of The Holy Spirit. <https://youtu.be/LgguVaGqHE8>

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.