*Eucharist for 15th Sunday after Trinity, Proper 20, Year A, 20.09.2020*

*The Gathering*

*Hymn* Christ whose glory fills the skies

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only light,

Sun of Righteousness, arise, triumph o’er the shades of night;

Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee;

joyless is the day’s return, till thy mercy’s beams I see,

till they inward light impart, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;

fill me, radiancy divine, scatter all my unbelief;

more and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*The Greeting*

The Lord be with you

**and also with you.**

*Prayers of Penitence*

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.**

**In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy,**

**and walk humbly with you, our God. 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.**

*The Gloria*

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.**

To God be glory forever. **To God be glory forever.**

Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen.**

Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father.

**Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father.**

To God be glory forever. **To God be glory forever.**

Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen.**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.**

To God be glory forever. **To God be glory forever.**

Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen.**

*The Collect*

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit  
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:  
grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel  
that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The Liturgy of the Word*

*First Reading* Jonah 3: 10- 4: end

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, ‘O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.’ And the LORD said, ‘Is it right for you to be angry?’ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, ‘It is better for me to die than to live.’ But God said to Jonah, ‘Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?’ And he said, ‘Yes, angry enough to die.’ Then the LORD said, ‘You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?’

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

*Second Reading* Philippians 1: 21-end

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God’s doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well – since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

*The Gospel*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *St Matthew*.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 20: 1-16

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, “You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.” So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, “Why are you standing here idle all day?” They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.” When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, “Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.” When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” So the last will be first, and the first will be last.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sermon*

*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*

*In the Diocesan Calendar we pray for Emmanuel, Sidlow Bridge; Susan Weakley (PiC); Mary Gooding (Reader)*

*In the Anglican Communion Calendar, we pray for Pray for the Bishops, priests and people of the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and the Most Revd Justin Badi Arama: Archbishop of the Province and Bishop of Juba*

*In the Christ Church calendar, we pray for Shooters Hill College*

*We also pray for all whose year’s mind falls at this time.*

Loving God,

whenever we start to get offended by your generosity or open-mindedness,

give us the grace to repent and join your rejoicing.

Guard the Church against self-righteousness and all rules and limits which you would not own,

but keep always before us the rule of love.

Not our will,

but your will be done.

Loving God, increase in us love not only for the victims but for the perpetrators

of evil and violence in our world;

for all governments which run on corruption and fear.

We pray for a change of heart and attitude, an awakening to a better way of living,

and the courage to reject wrong principles.

Not our will,

but your will be done.

Loving God,

may our closeness to family and friends make us never exclusive, shutting others out,

but always inclusive, welcoming others in.

Keep us from becoming possessive with those we love.

Not our will,

but your will be done.

Loving God,

we pray for all who are vulnerable and unable to cope with the demands of life,

for those with addictions and those who have mental health issues.

We pray for proper, compassionate help for them.

Not our will,

but your will be done.

Loving God, we pray for those who have died recently.

We commend them to your love.

Not our will,

but your will be done.

Loving God, thank you for helping us to pray; deepen our loving

so that as we pray through this week we may do it with your heart of compassion.

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

*The Peace*

We are the body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you.**

*Hymn Father, hear the prayer we offer*

Father, hear the prayer we offer: not for ease that prayer shall be,   
but for strength, that we may ever live our lives courageously.  
  
Not for ever in green pastures do we ask our way to be ;   
but the steep and rugged pathway may we tread rejoicingly.  
  
Not forever by still waters would we idly rest and stay;   
but would smite the living fountains from the rocks along our way.  
  
Be our strength in hours of weakness, in our wanderings be our guide;   
through endeavour, failure, danger, Father, be thou at our side.

*Preparation of the Altar*

*Prayer at the preparation of the altar.*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:

through your goodness we have this bread to set before you,

which earth has given and human hands have made.

It will become for us the bread of life.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:

through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,

fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

It will become for us the cup of salvation.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer*

The Lord be with you

**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,

at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise,

holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God,

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

*For he is your living Word; through him you have created all things from the beginning,*

*and formed us in your own image. Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,*

*giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;*

*you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right hand on high.*

*Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit,*

*and made us a people for your own possession.*

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven,

we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,

and as we follow his example and obey his command,

grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine

may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks;

he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;

he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,

which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself

made once for all upon the cross;

we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;

we look for the coming of your kingdom,

and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,

and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty,

renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love

and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,

we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power**

**be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer*

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;**

**thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,**

**because we all share in one bread.**

*Agnus Dei*

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

*Giving of Communion*

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,**

**but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*Quiet Music: Be still for the presence of the Lord*

*Prayer after Communion*

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;  
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,  
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,  
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**.

*Then we pray together:*

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,**

**that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,**

**so we and all your children shall be free,**

**and the whole earth live to praise your name;**

**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Dismissal*

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.**

*Hymn Sing of the Lord’s goodness*

1 Sing of the Lord's goodness, Father of all wisdom, come to him and bless his name.  
Mercy he has shown us, his love is for ever, faithful to the end of days.

*Come, then, all you nations, sing of your Lord's goodness, melodies of praise and thanks to God.  
Ring out the Lord's glory, praise him with your music, worship him and bless his name*.

2 Power he has wielded, honour is his garment, risen from the snares of death.  
His word he has spoken, one bread he has broken, new life he now gives to all.

3 Courage in our darkness, comfort in our sorrow, Spirit of our God most high;  
solace for the weary, pardon for the sinner, splendour of the living God.

4 Praise him with your singing, praise him with the trumpet, praise God with the lute and harp;  
praise him with the cymbals, praise him with your dancing, praise God till the end of days.

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