*Eucharist for 18th Sunday after Trinity, Proper 23, Year A, 11.10.2020*

*The Gathering*

*Hymn* Light’s Abode, Celestial Salem

Light’s abode, celestial Salem, vision whence true peace doth spring,  
brighter than the heart can fancy, mansion of the highest King;  
O how glorious are the praises which of thee the prophets sing!  
  
There for ever and for ever alleluia is outpoured;  
for unending, for unbroken is the feast-day of the Lord;  
all is pure and all is holy that within thy walls is stored.  
  
There no cloud or passing vapour dims the brightness of the air;  
endless noon-day, glorious noon-day, from the sun of suns is there;  
there no night brings rest from labour, for unknown are toil and care.  
  
O how glorious and resplendent, fragile body, shalt thou be,  
when endued with so much beauty, full of health and strong and free,  
full of vigour, full of pleasure that shall last eternally!  
  
Now with gladness, now with courage, bear the burden on thee laid,  
that hereafter these thy labours may with endless gifts be paid;  
and in everlasting glory thou with brightness be arrayed.  
  
Laud and honour to the Father, Laud and honour to the Son,  
Laud and honour to the Spirit, ever three and ever one,  
consubstantial, co-eternal, while unending ages run.

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*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
increase in us your gift of faith  
that, forsaking what lies behind  
and reaching out to that which is before,  
we may run the way of your commandments  
and win the crown of everlasting joy;  
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* **Isaiah 25: 1-9**

O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap,  
the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

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

## *Second Reading* Philippians 4: 1-9

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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 22: 1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to the chief priests and Pharisees in parables, saying: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, “Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.” But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.” Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?” And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

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 St John, Walworth: John Walker (V); Gary Askey (AsstP); Gillian Manock (SPA); St John’s Primary School (JM&I)*

*In the Anglican Communion Calendar, we pray for the Bishops, priests and people of the Province of Uganda*

*In the Christ Church calendar, we pray for The Leas and for The Chestnuts*

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

Invited by God, we have gathered here.

Let us now voice our prayers for the Church and for the world.

God, when either the traditional or the progressive blinds us to the truth of your will,

clear our vision and speak through our prejudices

until we are once again open to your changing.

May we be, before anything else, your people, sharing your concerns and desires.

As you have called us:

we hear and we come.

God, we recognise how powerful the influences are in our world

which distract many and lead away from your truth.

We pray for the quiet whisper of your wisdom to be noticed

and acknowledged in many lives;

we pray for widespread discipline of the heart, a new openness to generosity of spirit.

As you have called us:

we hear and we come.

God, may our homes and daily schedules be part of the territory of your kingdom,

where it is your will which guides and your love which rules.

As you have called us:

we hear and we come.

God, our hearts rail against the cruelty and unfairness of suffering and disease,

and we kneel alongside all in pain and weep with them, crying out to you

for comfort and the healing of your love.

For you are no bringer of evil to our lives,

but share our sorrow and give us the grace to bear it.

As you have called us:

we hear and we come.

God, as death takes from us those we love and we find it hard to live without them,

take from us all bitterness of heart and let us share with them the peace you give

over which death has no power at all.

As you have called us:

we hear and we come.

God, it is such an honour to be invited to your banquet:

make us worthy of our calling.

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 Jesu, lover of my soul*

Jesu, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly while the gathering waters roll, while the tempest still is high:  
hide me, O my Saviour, hide till the storm of life is past;  
safe into the haven guide, O receive my soul at last.  
  
Other refuge have I none, hangs my helpless soul on thee; leave, ah, leave me not alone, still support and comfort me.  
All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;  
cover my defenceless head with the shadow of thy wing.  
  
Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cleanse from every sin; let the healing streams abound,   
make and keep me pure within. Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of thee,  
spring thou up within my heart, rise to all eternity.

*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: In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful (Taize)*

*Prayer after Communion*

Almighty God,  
you have taught us through your Son  
that love is the fulfilling of the law:  
grant that we may love you with our whole heart  
and our neighbours as ourselves;  
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 Give thanks with a grateful heart*

Give thanks with a grateful heart  
Give thanks to the Holy One  
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son  
  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich  
Because of what the Lord has done for us"

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