Trinity 6, Proper 11, 19.07.2020, All Age

*On screen before the service:*

*Jesus tells a seed-related parable about the kingdom of God, and provides its explanation: that evil and its agents in the world will persist alongside the good, despite the coming of the kingdom of God that Jesus was proclaiming.*

**Prayer of Approach**

Lord, sometimes we are just so impatient, wanting to get on with our lives,  
wanting everything better.  
But we know, our ways are not your ways.  
We come to you [this morning] rejoicing in the knowledge that you can transform our lives  
and the lives of those around us – starting exactly where we are.  
Thank you, Lord. **Amen.**

**Hymn Father God, I wonder**

Father God, I wonder how I managed to exist

without the knowledge of your parenthood and your loving care.

But now that I am your child, I am adopted in your family,

And I can never be alone ‘cause, Father God, you’re there beside me.

*I will sing your praises, I will sing your praises, I will sing your praises, for evermore.*

**Prayer of Confession**

God of all creation:

**forgive us when we sow seeds of destruction**  
by our lack of concern for the world you have made;

**forgive us when we sow seeds of doubt,**by failing to see your likeness in the people we meet;

**forgive us when we sow seeds of despair,**when our lack of faith causes us to give up or we fail to act;

**forgive us when we sow seeds that would be better not sown,**by our thoughtless actions, words and thoughts.

In your mercy, forgive us   
and help us to change our ways.   
**Amen.**

**The Absolution**

Almighty God have mercy on you,

forgive you your sins

and bring you to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

**The****Collect***, the special prayer for today*

Creator God,  
you made us all in your image:  
may we discern you in all that we see,  
and serve you in all that we do;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Reading**

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, “Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?” He answered, “An enemy has done this.” The slaves said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” But he replied, “No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”’ Then Jesus left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, ‘Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.’ He answered, ‘The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!’

Address

**Hymn As the deer pants for the water**

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.

You alone are my heart’s desire and I long to worship you.

*You alone are my strength, my shield, to you alone may my spirit yield.*

*You alone are my heart’s desire and I long to worship you.*

I want you more than gold or silver, only you can satisfy.

You alone are the real joy-giver and the apple of my eye.

You’re my friend and you are my brother, even though you are a king.

I love you more than any other, so much more than anything.

**Bless the Gifts**

Lord Jesus, you gave everything for us.  
as we offer you our gifts, we offer you all that we have, and are, and will be,  
praying that our church, and our mission,  
may reach out so that others may come to share in your risen life.

**Amen.**

**Prayers**

**Intercessions**

Pray for the workers in the field  
who sow and tend and harvest the food we eat,  
and for those struggling to make a living from the land.

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer**  
  
Pray for the workers in the field  
who stand in solidarity with the poor,  
and who work with them to make the world a fairer place.

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer**  
  
Pray for the workers in the field  
who spread the good news of the gospel,  
where the hungry are fed,   
the homeless are given shelter,   
and the enslaved go free.

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer**  
  
Pray for the workers in the field  
who support the lives we lead,   
here and around the world,  
and for those who teach and heal and entertain us   
and serve our communities.

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer**

Merciful Father,

**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,**

**Our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*We sing the* ***Lord’s* Prayer**

**Our Father who art in heaven HBTN**

**Thy kingdom come thy will be done HBTN**

**On earth as it is in heaven HBTN**

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

**Forgive us all our trespasses HBTN**

**As we forgive those who trespass against us HBTN**

**And lead us not into temptation HBTN**

**But deliver us from all that is evil HBTN**

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

**For ever and for ever and ever HBTN**

Blessing

God of the harvest, send you to sow, support you as you tend, and bless you as you reap –  
and the blessing of God Almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

be amongst you and remain with you, now and forever. **Amen.**

**The Peace**

The Peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you**

**Hymn For I’m building a people of power**

For I’m building a people of power

And I’m making a people of praise

That will move through this land by my Spirit

And will glorify my precious name.

*Build your Church, Lord,*

*Make us strong, Lord,*

*Join our hearts , Lord, through your Son.*

*Make us one, Lord, in your body,*

*In the kingdom of your Son.*