

Sunday 6th September 2020 13th after Trinity

> Extending God's Welcome to All. Committed to Grow – in Discipleship, Service and Numbers

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ. We are now able to hold services in Church at 9.30am on a Sunday. Whilst we encourage you all to come to Church we do also recognise that some need to 'shield' and stay at home.

This online service is a shortened form of the worship that will be offered in Church.

The virus has an effect on our finances. For one thing, in church we cannot take a collection though we do leave an offering plate at the exit door. We rely on the generous giving of all worshippers. Please contact Jeremy, myself or Michael Turner the treasurer to find out how you can give.

Our theme today is: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them".

O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for him, and he shall give thee thy heart's desire. Commit thy way unto him, and trust in him, and fret not thyself because of evil doers. O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for him. (Mendelssohn)

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

And also with you.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord; You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength'.

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself'. There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets **Amen. Lord, have mercy**

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.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbor in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry 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 grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen. May the Father forgive you by the death of his Son and strengthen you to live in the power of the Spirit all your days.

Amen

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

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. 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 for ever. Amen.

The 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.

Ezekiel 33:7-11

The Lord said to Ezekiel:

⁷ 'Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. ⁸ When I say to the wicked, "You wicked person, you will surely die," and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. ⁹ But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

¹⁰ 'Son of man, say to the Israelites, "This is what you are saying: 'Our offences and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?'' ¹¹ Say to them, "As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?"

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

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:15-20

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said:

¹⁵ 'If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶ But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that "every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses." ¹⁷ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸ 'Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon and Blessing

May the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

Be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

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