

Douglas Union with Frankfield

2nd Sunday after Trinity

21 June 2020

A SHORT SERVICE TO BE USED AT HOME

Prepared by Archdeacon Adrian Wilkinson

*(Where two or more people are gathered for worship the sentences in **bold type** are read by all)*

Organ improvisation on Hymn 231 - *My song is love unknown*

The Greeting

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

And also with you.

Today's collect speaks of love as 'that most excellent gift' from God. It was revealed supremely in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is experienced today through the Holy Spirit who guides and gifts Christ's followers. It is shown in those who love and serve their neighbour. It will be fully known when, at the end of our journey, we enter the eternal and perfect love of the Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is this gift of love that we celebrate in our worship.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

We love because he first loved us. *(1 John 4:16,19)*

PRAYER

Lord, you are living flame, burning ceaselessly with love for mankind. Enter into us and inflame us with your love so that we might be like you. Amen. *(J.H.Newman)*

HYMN 58 - *Morning has broken*

Penitence

Let us examine our lives in the light of St Paul's teaching about the nature of love:

'Love is patient... love is kind...it is not envious...or boastful...or arrogant...or rude...does not insist on its own way...is not irritable...or resentful and does not rejoice in wrongdoing...'

(1 Cor. 13:4-6)

Acknowledging that our attitudes and behaviour often fall short of these standards, we confess our sins to God.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour 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 almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are worth nothing:

Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you.

Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen.**

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-13

O LORD, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him." But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonour will never be forgotten. O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

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

Psalm 69:8-11, 18-20

- 8 For your sake have I suffered reproach;
shame has covered my face.
- 9 I have become a stranger to my kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.
- 10 Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.
- 11 I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.
- 18 Answer me, Lord, for your loving-kindness is good;
turn to me in the multitude of your mercies.
- 19 Hide not your face from your servant;
be swift to answer me, for I am in trouble.
- 20 Draw near to my soul and redeem me;
deliver me because of my enemies.

The Gospel: Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus summoned the twelve and sent them out with the following instruction:

“A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

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

HYMN – *When love is found*

The Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 again 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 THE PEOPLE

Friends and followers of Jesus, we are here because of his love for us and our faith in him. Let us now pray for all who need the strength and guidance of God's Spirit in meeting the challenges that life brings.

For Paul our bishop and for all Church ministers, clergy and lay, that they will serve in humility and holiness. For our President, those working to form a new government and the leaders of the nations, that they will combat racism and promote peace, justice, freedom and opportunity for all. Jesus, Lord and Saviour, **(R:) send the Holy Spirit upon us.**

For all places in the world where food is scarce, jobs are few or life is dangerous, that the strong will help the weak in their struggle for a better life. For the vulnerable, particularly those deeply affected by the current pandemic, that we may respond to their plight with compassion and practical care. Jesus, Lord and Saviour, **(R:) send the Holy Spirit upon us.**

For our families and all who are close to us, that in times of trial they will be protected from harm and make the right choices. For all employers and business owners who have lost income and for those who have lost jobs in recent months, that they may have support in coping with their difficulties. Jesus, Lord and Saviour, **(R:) send the Holy Spirit upon us.**

For those who are ill, in pain, or undergoing treatment, that they will be healed and restored to a better quality of life. For those in darkness and grief because they are parted from someone they love, that they will be comforted, and lifted by hope.

For ourselves, we add our own particular prayers to the Lord

Jesus, Lord and Saviour, **answer all the prayers we offer according to your will. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CONCLUDING PRAYER *Preparing for the Reopening of Churches for Public Worship*

Creator God, not limited by time or space; your Son worshipped in synagogue and Temple, and your Spirit came in power on the disciples as they met in the Upper Room. By that same Spirit, guide us as we prepare to reopen the churches in this parish/diocese. May they be places of safety, where all feel your welcome, experience your love and are equipped in your service. We pray for those who through age or vulnerability will continue to worship at home, that together we may all rejoice in your goodness and know your blessing, until we can offer unceasing praise in your heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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HYMN 643 - *Be thou my vision*

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

or Blessing.