

**fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
**13th September 2020**

**The Greeting**

O Lord, open our lips

**All and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Give us the joy of your saving help

**All and sustain us with your life-giving Spirit.**

*The minister may say*

We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

*Opening Prayer*

**All We praise you, O God,  
we acclaim you as Lord;  
all creation worships you,  
the Father everlasting.  
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Amen.**

**Hymn** – Come thou fount of every blessing (406) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NjfToqk5w5g>

Come thou fount of every blessing,  
turn my heart to sing thy grace  
streams of mercy never ceasing  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet  
sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it  
mount of thy redeeming love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer:  
here by thy great help I've come;  
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God;  
He to rescue me from danger,  
Interposed his precious blood.

O that day when freed from sinning,  
I shall see thy lovely face  
Clothed then in blood washed line  
How I'll sing thy sovereign grace  
Come my lord no longer tell me  
Take my ransomed soul away  
Send thine angels now to carry me  
To realms of endless days.

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,  
Bind my wandering heart to thee,  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it from for thy courts above!

*Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it from the courts above!*

*Robert Robinson 1735 – 1790  
& Chris Rice*

### **Prayers of Penitence**

God's whole creation groans,  
The land produces thorns and thistles and longs to be set free. Our sin affects all around us.  
We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**All Lord God,**  
we have sinned against you;  
we have done evil in your sight.  
We are sorry and repent.  
Have mercy on us according to your love.  
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.  
Renew a right spirit within us  
and restore us to the joy of your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins, and restore you in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

### **The Collect**

*Silence is kept*  
Merciful God,  
your son has come to save us  
and bore our sins on the cross;  
may we trust in your mercy  
and know your love,  
rejoicing in the righteousness  
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

**Reading** A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (14: 1-12) – Deborah Barff

### *After the reading*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn** – ‘As water to the thirsty (CP 252) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DwTrgFUSFZI>

**As water to the thirsty,  
as beauty to the eyes,  
as strength that follows weakness,  
as truth instead of lies,  
as song time and springtime  
and summertime to be,  
so is my Lord,  
my living Lord,  
so is my Lord to me.**

**Like calm in place of clamour,  
Like peace that follows pain,  
Like meeting after parting,  
Like sunshine after rain,  
Like moonlight and starlight**

**And sunlight on the sea,  
so is my Lord,  
my living Lord,  
so is my Lord to me.**

**As sheep that follows fever,  
As gold instead of grey  
As freedom after bondage,  
As sunrise to the day,  
As home to the traveller  
And all we long to see,  
so is my Lord,  
my living Lord,  
so is my Lord to me.**

Timothy Dudley-Smith (b1926)

**Gospel** Matthew 18; 21-35 – Rev Diana Hammond

Alleluia, alleluia.

God spoke to us through his Son,  
Through whom he created the worlds.

**Alleluia**

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

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** – Rev Robin Hungerford

**Affirmation of Faith**

Let us declare our faith in God

**All We believe in God above us,  
maker and sustainer of all life,  
of sun and moon,  
of water and earth  
of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us,  
Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,  
born of a woman, servant of the poor,  
tortured and nailed to a tree.  
A man of compassion, he died forsaken;  
he descended into the earth  
to the place of death.**

On the third day he rose from the tomb;  
he ascended into heaven  
to be everywhere present;  
and his kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us,  
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,  
Life giving breath of the church,  
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,  
source of resurrection and eternal life. Amen

(The Iona Community – Iona worship book 2016)

### **Prayers of Intercession – Roger Hammond**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

Jesus taught us to call God our Father, so in faith and trust we pray ...

**All 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.**

**Hymn** – ‘How deep the Father’s love for us <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dLDGVI8D5UU>

**How deep the Father’s love for us,  
how vast beyond all measure,  
that he should give his only son  
and make a wretch his treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss,  
the Father turns his face away,  
as wounds which mar the chosen one  
bring many sons to glory.**

**Behold the man upon his cross,  
my sin upon his shoulders.  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held him there**

**until it was accomplished.  
His dying breath has brought me life –  
I know that it is finished.**

**I will not boast in anything,  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
his death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from his reward?  
I cannot give an answer.  
But this know with all my heart,  
His wounds have paid my ransom.**

By Stuart Townsend.

*You shall go out with joy and be led back in peace;  
The mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,  
And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.*

*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 the common life.**

*The Peace of the Lord be always with you.*

**The peace of the Lord be with us all**

## **Blessing**

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who is the source of all goodness and growth,  
Pour his blessings upon all things created and upon you his children,  
That you may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

**Hymn** – And can it be (CP 376) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sQelGbKqiw8>

**1 And can it be that I should gain  
an interest in the Saviour's blood?  
Died he for me, who caused his pain?  
For me, who him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?**

**2 'Tis mystery all: the Immortal dies!  
Who can explore his strange design?  
In vain the first-born seraph tries  
to sound the depths of love divine.  
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,  
let angel minds enquire no more.  
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,  
let angel minds enquire no more.**

**3 He left his Father's throne above —  
so free, so infinite his grace —  
emptied himself of all but love,  
and bled for Adam's helpless race.  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;  
for, O my God, it found out me!  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;  
for, O my God, it found out me!**

**4 Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
thine eye diffused a quickening ray;  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
my chains fell off, my heart was free,  
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.  
my chains fell off, my heart was free,  
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.**

**5 No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!  
Alive in him, my living Head,  
and clothed in righteousness divine,  
bold I approach the eternal throne,  
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own  
bold I approach the eternal throne,  
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own**

*Written by Charles Wesley*

## **Dismissal**

**We go into the world to walk in God's light,  
to rejoice in God's love and to reflect God's glory.**

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