

Service for the
Feast of St James

Give
Thanks
TO THE
Lord
FOR He IS
Good
1 CHRONICLES 16:34

St Laurence Church, Downton

25 July 2021

Preparation

Call to Worship

Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;
worship the Lord in holy splendour.

May the Lord give strength to his people!
May the Lord bless his people with peace!

Psalm 29

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Team Rector introduces the service

Hymn: Brother, sister, let me serve you
(St Martin's Voices)

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christlight for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant, too.

Richard Gillard (born 1953)

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Praise:

O God from whom every gift derives,
we gather to worship you this day.
You are an awesome God,
greater than our comprehension or our imagination.
You are beyond any word we could ever use to describe you.
And yet, through Jesus,
we know the intimacy of your vast love.

We have come to you in thanksgiving and praise,
to know that you are God
and to place our lives anew into your perspective.
Enlarge our vision this hour with your Word.
Instil in us, again,
your hope in place of our despair,
your peace where our hatred threatens,
your joy amidst our depression,
your love overwhelming our apathy.

May your Holy Spirit surround
and dwell in us now,
and forevermore.
In Jesus we pray. **Amen.**

My Redeemer Lives

Psalm 126:

**The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.**

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

**The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.**

Then it was said among the nations,
'The Lord has done great things for them.'

The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.

**The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.**

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.

May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.

**The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.**

Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

**The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings:

Acts 11:27 - 12:2

Matthew 20:20-28

After each reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Music: *Oculi omnium* - Charles Wood
(*St Martin's Voices*)

Prayers

We are led in a time of prayer

This response is used:

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer is said:

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.**

Conclusion

The Collect

Merciful God,
whose holy apostle Saint James,
leaving his father and all that he had,
was obedient to the calling of your Son Jesus Christ
and followed him even to death:
help us, forsaking the false attractions of the world,
to be ready at all times to answer your call without delay;
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.**

Blessing:

God give you grace
to follow his saints
in faith and hope and love;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

I chose you from the world,
to go and bear fruit that will last, says the Lord. **Amen**

cf. John 15:16

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.