

Service for the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity



St Laurence Church, Downton

20 September 2020

Preparation

Call to Worship

To me, living is Christ
and dying is gain.

Live your life in a manner
worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Philippians 1

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: Teach me, my God and King
(Cardiff Festival Choir)

Teach me, my God and King,
in all things thee to see,
and what I do in anything
to do it as for thee.

A man that looks on glass,
on it may stay his eye;
or if he pleaseth, through it pass,
and then the heaven espy.

All may of thee partake;
nothing can be so mean,
which with this tincture, "for thy sake,"
will not grow bright and clean.

A servant with this clause
makes drudgery divine:
who sweeps a room, as for thy laws,
makes that and the action fine.

This is the famous stone
that turneth all to gold;
for that which God doth touch and own
cannot for less be told.

George Herbert (1593-1633)

Prayer:

Holy Lord, you have promised to be with us,
and long ago sent your Spirit to abide among us
and guide us to a future of goodness and hope.
We come seeking your truth, your justice, your kindness.

O God, you are with us this morning.
Let us feel your presence and
welcome you into our lives.
Come and fill these desires of our hearts.

from Hold on to Faith

The first shall be last.
We come to worship as we are.
The last shall be first.
We come with confidence.

The first shall be last.
We come with questions.
The last shall be first.
We come burdened by failure.

The first shall be last.
We come celebrating success.
The last shall be first.
We come fearful of the future.

The first shall be last
and the last shall be first
and a little child shall lead them.

Katherine Hawker

Psalm 145:

I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name for ever and ever.

Every day I will bless you,
and praise your name for ever and ever.
Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.
One generation shall laud your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.
On the glorious splendour of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.
The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,
and I will declare your greatness.
They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.
The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
The Lord is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.
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:

Philippians 1:21-end

Matthew 20:1-16

After each reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Music: A Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester
(Alan Bullard and The Oxford Choir)

Prayers

We are led in a time of prayer

This response is used:

Lord in your mercy,
Here our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer is said:

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
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

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:
grant that your people may be fervent
in the fellowship of the gospel

that, always abiding in you,
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;
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:

You are called and loved by God the Father
and kept safe by Jesus Christ.
Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Son of Man came
to seek out and to save the lost.

Luke 19:10

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.