

Service for the Fifth Sunday after Trinity



St Laurence Church, Downton

12 July 2020

Preparation

Call to Worship

The one who hears the word and understands it,
bears fruit with patient endurance.

The seed is the word of God.

Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.

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: O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness
(*Carlisle Cathedral*)

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his Name!

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine;
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
he will accept for the Name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his Name!

John S. B. Monsell (1811-1875)

Prayer:

O God,
We gather together in your presence with expectation,
hungry for an encounter with you,
eager to hear your Word.

Open our eyes and ears to the presence of your Holy Spirit.
May the seeds of your Word scattered among us this morning
fall on fertile soil.

May they take root in our hearts and lives,
and produce an abundant harvest
of good words and deeds.

We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ,
our teacher and our Lord. **Amen.**

Christine Longhurst, based on Matthew 13:1-9

A Time to Consider:

As we offer ourselves in this moment,
may we become imitators of you, Gracious God,
who holds nothing back from us,
but is generous and gracious with all that is yours.
In Jesus' name.

Silence is kept

O Lord, save us from hardness of heart,
where your word cannot take root.

**O Lord, save us from shallowness of mind,
where your word withers away.**

O Lord, save us from the deceitfulness of riches,
where your word is choked by everyday cares.

**But Lord, grant that our hearts may be fertile soil,
where your word flourishes and yields a harvest,
bringing salvation to ourselves and those about us.**

Amen.

Arthur Rank Centre

May almighty God,
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings:

Isaiah 55:10-13

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

After each reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Music: Our Father

(Alexander Grechaninov - Russian Sacred Music for Choirs)

Prayers

We are led in a time of prayer

This response is used:

May your love be like a seed,
taking root and growing strong.

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

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Blessing:

Hear the teaching of Jesus:

'Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it.'

Go now to do God's will;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

You shall go out in joy,

and be led back in peace.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.