

Service for the Tenth Sunday after Trinity



St Laurence Church, Downton

16 August 2020

Preparation

Call to Worship

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.

Psalm 67:5-6

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: *There's a wideness in God's mercy*
(St Mark's Church Maida Vale)

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in his justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader
than the measure of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
But we make his love too narrow
by false limits of our own;
and we magnify his strictness
with a zeal he will not own.

There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the head.
There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that upper home of bliss.

If our love were but more simple,
we should take him at his word;
and our lives would be all gladness
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

Frederick W. Faber (1814–1863)

Gathering:

Christ has broken down all barriers;
we are all as one in Christ Jesus.

**How good it is and how lovely it feels
when sisters and brothers can live together in unity.**

God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself
and has committed to us the ministry of reconciliation.

**How good it is, and how lovely it feels,
when we come before God as one people**

A Time to Consider:

Let us bring ourselves before the Lord of all mercy.

With you, loving God, is the beauty
that shows up the defects in us,
with you is the goodness which shames the evil in us.
Yet also with you is the love that embraces us,
that Christ-love that welcomes common sinners
and eats with them.

Many are the times we have turned our back on you,
but never has there been a time when you have turned your
back on us.

Today we come again, some of us feeling guilty,
some feeling frustrated with ourselves,
some feeling despondent, and maybe some feeling apathetic.

Enfold us all, we pray, within your saving love.
Please deal with us in the way we most need;
speak comfortable words or rebuke us,
tend our wounds or lance our infections,
awaken our conscience or calm our nagging anxiety.

Holy Friend, give to the timid the courage to accept your mercy,
and give the proud the humility to seek your forgiveness.

Touch every person with the redeeming love of Christ Jesus.
In whose name we pray. Amen!

Silence is kept

God knows our need before we ask for help. There is enough
mercy to cover all our sins, and not ours only, but those of the
whole world.

Therefore put the past and its errors behind you.
Live as forgiven people, for in Christ, such you truly are!

Thanks be to God!

Bruce Prewer

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings:

Romans 11:1-2a,29-32

Matthew 15:21-28

After each reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Music: A Clare Benediction

(John Rutter - The Cambridge Singers)

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

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please you;

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:

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is the source of all goodness and growth,
pour his blessing 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.
Amen.

May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

Psalm 67:7

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.