

Morning Prayer
at home with your
Parish Church
in the Diocese of Birmingham



Trinity Sunday

Sunday 4th June 2023



Andrei Rublev C15th

Preparation

You may wish to mark your time of worship by arranging a table with a cloth, a candle and your Bible, or anything, such as flowers, that makes it a special reflective space.

Music: click on the links to hear and join in the music. Click stop at the end of each.

HYMN [Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty](#)

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shall be.
3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy, there is none beside thee,
perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.
4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

(words: Reginald Heber; music: John Bacchus Dykes)

At home, we pause to remember those gathered in Church who, in turn remember us.

We take this time, united in 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 find new ways to serve God.

Prayers of Penitence

We confess our sins to God, who created, redeems and sustains us.
When we take creation for granted and forget the long view,
God the Father, forgive us.

When we hope you won't notice us, and forget you entered our daily life,
God the Son, forgive us.

When we do not show love, one for another, when we ridicule joy and dampen hope:
God the Holy Spirit, forgive us.

Silence

Prayer of forgiveness:

God the Father of all mercies, has reconciled the world to himself through the death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ, not counting our trespasses against us but sending his Holy Spirit to shed abroad his love among us. By the ministry of reconciliation entrusted by God to his church, *[may we]* receive his pardon and peace to stand before him in his strength alone, this day and evermore. **Amen.**

The Word of God

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 40:13-17; 27-end

Who has directed the spirit of the LORD,
or as his counsellor has instructed him?
Whom did he consult for his enlightenment,
and who taught him the path of justice?
Who taught him knowledge,
and showed him the way of understanding?
Even the nations are like a drop from a bucket,
and are accounted as dust on the scales;
see, he takes up the isles like fine dust.
Lebanon would not provide fuel enough,
nor are its animals enough for a burnt-offering.
All the nations are as nothing before him;
they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.

Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
'My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God'?
Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

PSALM 8

O LORD, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.
Out of the mouths of babes and infants
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,
to silence the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;
what are human beings that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God,
and crowned them with glory and honour.
You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet,
all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O LORD, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

GOSPEL READING Matthew 28:16-end

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

THE APOSTLES' CREED

We stand and at home, if able, we turn to look in the direction of Church, to affirm our faith in God, revealed to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers

We pray THE COLLECT for Trinity Sunday

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

We pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All: Our Father in heaven...

REFLECTION

Psalm 8 is a wonderful placing of humanity in the universe. We imagine ourselves standing solitary beneath the stars, aware of the complex creation around us, making us feel so tiny. Just as we start to feel insignificant, the thought that God give us the consciousness to apprehend that smallness makes us laugh with absurd delight. We realise the smaller we are the more beautiful, the more significant our existence, not the less. Then a certain sobriety sets in as we realise the responsibility towards creation that our consciousness bestows. Finally, as the poem began, we end with an impulsive expression of praise.

Humans like that poet had long felt the presence of God, God being the word we need for the One who was and is and is to come; the One who created and takes the long, long view. The one who is everywhere. Centuries after that poem was written, God came in Jesus of Nazareth to live

a detailed little life among us, proving once and for all the significance of each and every human being, however tiny among the spinning spheres of the universe.

Last week we remembered how, after he had returned to heaven, the Spirit who had been present, dancing at creation, and had inspired such poetry as Psalm 8 and blessed Jesus at his baptism, came for the Church in a new enlivening way. St Paul says it is the Spirit that breathes prayer through us, our spirit mingling with Her.

God the Father, the long view, the one who makes us feel small;
God the Son, the detail, the intimate, the one who makes us feel special;
God the Holy Spirit, the breath, the life, the one who makes us feel alive.

We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. So did the Psalmist by the looks of things.

We turn our reflection into PRAYERS:

Pray for a while for those situations and conflicts that show humanity thinking too much of ourselves.

Pray for people or circumstances where people think too little of themselves.

Consider the little group of disciples, "some doubt[ing]" gathered round Jesus on a hill in rural Galilee, hearing his grand command to go to "all nations" with the good news he had embodied in teaching, death and resurrection, and the simple, peaceable gesture of baptism they were to offer. How unlikely a group to reach out across the world....but here we are. If the Church is despondent and worried about resources today, we might be emboldened by this story to pray a bit more ambitiously for our service and ministry to the world.

We pray for young people returning after half term to exams.

Among those unwell, we remember Wendy Turner, Rachel Prince, Roger Tyrrell, and Tricia Howard.

Among those who have died we remember Margaret Watson, Wendy Pendleton and Tevin Gasa.

HYMN [O Jesus, I have promised](#)

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
be thou for ever near me, my Master and my friend:
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.
2. O let me feel thee near me: the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.
3. O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;

O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
O speak and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

4. O let me see thy foot-marks, and in them plant mine own;
my hope to follow duly is in thy strength alone:
O guide me, call me, draw me, uphold me to the end;
and then in heav'n receive me, my Saviour and my friend.

(John Ernest Bode)

Imagining all whom we miss, we pray for each other:

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen.

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England

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