**Holy Communion for Sunday 20 September 2020**

**15th Sunday after Trinity**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**The Greeting**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

**and also with you.**

**Preparation**

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration**

**of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly**

**love you, and worthily magnify**

**your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.   
Amen.**

**Prayers of Penitence**

The grace of God has dawned upon the   
world with healing for all.  
Let us come to him, in sorrow for our sins,  
seeking healing and salvation.

God our Father,  
we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

For turning away from you,  
and ignoring your will for our lives;  
Father, forgive us:  
**save us and help us.**

For behaving just as we wish,  
without thinking of you;  
Father, forgive us:  
**save us and help us.**

For failing you by what we do,  
and think and say;  
Father, forgive us:  
**save us and help us.**

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you  
by temptations in the world about us;  
Father, forgive us:  
**save us and help us.**

For living as if we were ashamed  
to belong to your Son;  
Father, forgive us:  
**save us and help us.**

*The president says*

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you

from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you

in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Gloria in Excelsis** *(please stand)*

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you,**

**we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,**

**only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away**

**the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the**

**right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone**

**are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of**

**God the Father. Amen.**

**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.**

**New Testament Reading**

Philippians 1.21–30

21For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. 22If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. 23I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; 24but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. 25Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, 26so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

27 Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, 28and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God’s doing. 29For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— 30since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel**

**Matthew 20:1-16**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

201 ‘For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. 2After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. 3When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; 4and he said to them, “You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.” So they went. 5When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. 6And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, “Why are you standing here idle all day?” 7They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.” 8When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, “Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.” 9When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage.10Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage.11And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, 12saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” 13But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?14Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. 15Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?”16So the last will be first, and the first will be last.’

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**The Creed**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?  
**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,      
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?  
**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?  
**We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith

of the Church.  
**This is our faith.  
We believe and trust**

**in one God,  
Father, Son**

**and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

(or)

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*And at the end*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.   
Amen.**

**The Peace**

Christ is our peace.

He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you.**

**Hymn:**

**Preparation of the Table**

**Yours, Lord,**

**is the greatness, the power,**

**the glory, the splendour,**

**and the majesty;**

**for everything in heaven**

**and on earth is yours.**

**All things come from you,**

**and of your own do we give you.**

*The table is prepared*

*The president takes the bread and wine.*

**Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord is here

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;

in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away you did not reject us,

but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children**

**and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life

that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross**

**and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,

at supper with his friends

he took bread, and gave you thanks;

he broke it and gave it to them, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:**

**his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,

he gave you thanks, and said:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,

which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;

do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:**

**his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,

send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine

may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts**

**make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world

we offer you this sacrifice of praise

and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us,

so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,   
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.   
Amen.**

**Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread   
to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

*The Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken*

**Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
grant us peace.**

**Giving of Communion**

God’s holy gifts

for God’s holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,**

**Jesus Christ is Lord,**

**to the glory of God the Father.**

*The president and people receive communion.*

*Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies*

**Amen.**

**Prayer after Communion**

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;  
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,  
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,  
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out  
in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work  
to your praise and glory. Amen.**

**Hymn:**

**Dismissal**

The peace of God,  
which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds   
in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

*A minister says*

Go in peace

to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**