**Holy Communion for The Last Sunday After Trinity. 25 October 2020**

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**

God the Father forgives us in Christ

and heals us by the Holy Spirit.

Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness,

all slander and malice,

and confess our sins to God our redeemer.

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,**

**we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,**

**in what we have thought,**

**in what we have said and done,**

**through ignorance, through weakness,**

**through our own deliberate fault.**

**We have wounded your love**

**and marred your image in us.**

**We are sorry and ashamed**

**and repent of all our sins.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

**who died for us,**

**forgive us all that is past**

**and lead us out from darkness**

**to walk as children of light. Amen.**

*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**

Blessed Lord,

who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:

help us so to hear them,

to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them

that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,

we may embrace and for ever hold fast

the hope of everlasting life,

which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**New Testament Reading**

**1 Thessalonians 2:1-8**

21 You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, 2but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. 3For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, 4but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. 5As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; 6nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, 7though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. 8So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel**

**Matthew 22:1-14**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

2234 When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, 35and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 36‘Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’ 37He said to him, ‘ “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” 38This is the greatest and first commandment. 39And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” 40On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’

41 Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: 42‘What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?’ They said to him, ‘The son of David.’ 43He said to them, ‘How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,  
44 “The Lord said to my Lord,  
‘Sit at my right hand,  
   until I put your enemies under your feet’ ”?  
45If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?’ 46No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

*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 or Lord, hear us

**hear our prayer. 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**

We are fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God,

through Christ our Lord, who came and preached peace

to those who were far off and those who were near.

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 president takes the bread and wine.*

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.**

Blessed are you, Lord God,  
our light and our salvation;  
to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things

and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.  
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,  
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels   
and all the powers of heaven  
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.  
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,  
you embraced a people as your own.  
When they turned away and rebelled  
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,  
to be the living bread,  
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,   
and with a love stronger than death  
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,  
he came to supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he 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.

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 and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

Father, we plead with confidence  
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;  
we remember his dying and rising in glory,  
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you  
these gifts of your creation;  
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,  
form us in the likeness of Christ,  
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.  
Reveal her unity, guard her faith,  
and preserve her in peace …

Bring us at the last with Nicholas and all the saints  
to the vision of that eternal splendour  
for which you have created us;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
by whom, with whom, and in whom,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power**

**be yours for ever and ever.  
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.**

**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.**

**Prayer after Communion**

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast:

for here we receive you,

here the memory of your passion is renewed,

here our minds are filled with grace,

and here a pledge of future glory is given,

when we shall feast at that table where you reign

with all your saints for ever. **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.**

**Notices**

**Hymn:**

**Blessing and 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.**

Go in peace

to love and serve the Lord.

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