



## Service for the Sunday after Trinity, 14<sup>th</sup> June 2020

*A warm welcome to all who share in worship with us today.*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Loving God, your grace draws us to your presence,

Your peace unites us in love,

Your hope inspires us to praise your glory,

May our worship be worthy of you.

Amen

### HYMN: Lead us, heavenly Father

*If you would like to **sing** this hymn, click the icon on the webpage for organ accompaniment.*

1 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us  
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;  
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,  
for we have no help but thee;  
yet possessing every blessing,  
if our God our Father be.

2 Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us;  
all our weakness thou dost know;  
thou didst tread this earth before us;  
thou didst feel its keenest woe;  
lone and dreary, faint and weary,  
through the desert thou didst go.

3 Spirit of our God, descending,  
fill our hearts with heavenly joy;  
love with every passion blending  
pleasure that can never cloy;  
thus provided, pardoned, guided,  
nothing can our peace destroy.

James Edmeston

### PRAYERS

Let us pray. *A prayer of approach*

We come before you, gracious God, just as we are.

We come with our weaknesses and our vulnerabilities.

We come with our fears and apprehensions.

We come with faith and doubt.

We come to offer and receive.

We come to you, the King of love,

in the name of your Son and in the power of your Spirit.

Amen

*A prayer of praise*

We unite with the whole world in praising you, creator God.

We come before you with gladness and thanksgiving.

We praise your goodness.

We praise your faithfulness.

We praise your tenderness.

We are yours and we worship you.

We bless your name forever.

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SCRIPTURE READING: St Matthew 9: 18-26; 10: 1

<sup>18</sup> While Jesus was saying this, a Jewish official came to him, knelt down before him, and said, "My daughter has just died; but come and place your hands on her, and she will live."

<sup>19</sup> So Jesus got up and followed him, and his disciples went along with him.

<sup>20</sup> A woman who had suffered from severe bleeding for twelve years came up behind Jesus and touched the edge of his cloak. <sup>21</sup> She said to herself, "If only I touch his cloak, I will get well."

<sup>22</sup> Jesus turned around and saw her, and said, "Courage, my daughter! Your faith has made you well." At that very moment the woman became well.

<sup>23</sup> Then Jesus went into the official's house. When he saw the musicians for the funeral and the people all stirred up, <sup>24</sup> he said, "Get out, everybody! The little girl is not dead—she is only sleeping!" Then they all started making fun of him. <sup>25</sup> But as soon as the people had been put out, Jesus went into the girl's room and took hold of her hand, and she got up.

<sup>26</sup> The news about this spread all over that part of the country.

**10** <sup>1</sup> Jesus called his twelve disciples together and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and every sickness.

Thanks be to God.

COMMENT

Jesus called his disciples together and told them to go out and do his work. Can you imagine how this would have made them feel? Nervous, apprehensive, frightened, proud, excited? They had followed Jesus, watched him, supported him but he had done his work. Now he

was asking them to go out and do it themselves. As we have heard from Matthew, “Jesus called his twelve disciples together and gave them the authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and every sickness”.

The disciples must have been apprehensive. How would we feel if we were told to go out into Walsall and do Jesus’s work? Many years ago, I was a member of the charity Greenpeace and as a volunteer I was asked to knock on doors and talk to people, promoting the charity. I lasted half a day, I was out of my “comfort zone” and couldn’t do it. Did the disciples feel the same?

Of course, the disciples had seen Jesus in action. They had seen him heal people, bring people back to life. In the Bible reading from Matthew they had seen Jesus heal a woman who had been ill for twelve years and then hold a dead girl’s hand, whereupon she got up. In Jesus they had the perfect role model.

The phrase “role model” is often used in society. For example, we talk about pop stars and footballers being role models for our young people. I was often on the interview panel to appoint new teachers at the school where I worked and the Principal would always ask candidates, “Who is your role model? Who do you look up to? Who has made you the person you are?” Many people were thrown by the question and found it difficult not only to answer but also to explain their answer. It told me a great deal about them and the sort of person they were.

Jesus was the role model for the disciples. He had taught them over many years. By his actions he had set them a wonderful example of how to lead their lives. They had faith in him and in God: this gave them the confidence to go out and follow his instructions. Jesus had prepared them for their role.

We are all disciples of Jesus. To us, as Christians, Jesus is our role model. He taught us how to live our lives. He has given us the authority to do his work. This does not necessarily mean going into Walsall and preaching his word, but simply living your life how Jesus would want you to live it. By showing your faith, compassion and love for others, you are following Jesus.

Amen

HYMN: O Jesus, I have promised

*If you would like to **sing** this hymn, click the icon on the webpage for organ accompaniment.*

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 Jesus, thou hast promised,  
to all who follow thee,  
that where thou art in glory  
there shall thy servant be.  
O guide me, call me, draw me,  
uphold me to the end;  
O give me grace to follow,  
my Saviour and my Friend.

J E Bode

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

There is a response: ***Lord, graciously hear us.***

Loving Lord, at this difficult time, be with those who risk their own safety in order to care for those ill with Covid 19. We pray for the family and friends of those who have died. We ask you to give courage and wisdom to those with the power to make decisions affecting everyone.

***Lord, graciously hear us.***

Loving Lord, we pray for all those across the world who are suffering any form of discrimination. We pray for the family and friends of George Floyd. We know you will understand why people are so upset about what happened, but we ask you to give people the courage and wisdom to protest peacefully in the sure knowledge that this is the way to ensure change.

***Lord, graciously hear us.***

Loving Lord, we pray for all in our Church fellowship and the community in which we worship. We pray for all those who are ill, grieving and struggling to cope with the present situation. We pray for those who are worried about their finances and employment situations. We ask you to give strength and courage to those who are experiencing difficulties in their lives.

***Lord, graciously hear us.***

Loving Lord, you are the role model on which we live our lives. You empower us to live out our discipleship. Give us the wisdom, imagination and strength to do your bidding.

***Lord, graciously hear us.***

**Amen**

HYMN: Give me joy

*If you would like to sing this hymn, click the icon on the webpage for organ accompaniment*

1 Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,  
give me joy in my heart, I pray;  
give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,  
keep me praising till the break of day:

*Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!  
Sing hosanna to the King of kings!  
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!  
Sing hosanna to the King!*

2 Give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,  
Give me peace in my heart, I pray;  
Give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,  
Keep me loving till the break of day:

*Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!  
Sing hosanna to the King of kings!  
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!  
Sing hosanna to the King!*

3 Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,  
Give me love in my heart, I pray;  
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,  
Keep me serving till the break of day:

*Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!  
Sing hosanna to the King of kings!  
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!  
Sing hosanna to the King!*

Traditional

#### BLESSING

Go to serve, go to love.

Go to bring healing, go to bring peace.

Go in the strength of the Father.

Go in the power of Jesus.

Go united by the Spirit.

Go - and know his grace.

Amen