

A Liturgy of the Word Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Date: 20 August 2023

The full service or the sermon can be viewed on the website.

Processional Hymn

**Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the church in one,
holy Zion's help forever,
and her confidence alone.**

**To this temple, where we call You,
come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
with accustomed lovingkindness,
hear Your servants as they pray;
and Your fullest benediction
shed within its walls always.**

**Lord, here grant to all Your servants
what they ask of You to gain,
what they gain from You, forever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in Your glory
evermore with You to reign.**

Author: J. M. Neale (translator)

Call to Worship

How good it is when God's children dwell in unity!
It is like precious oil on the head, running down the beard of Aaron.

Go into the roads and lanes therefore,
and compel the people to come in, so that my house may be filled.
Blessed are those who dwell in your house, O Lord, ever singing your praise!

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Gathering Prayer

Almighty Father, you gather from east and west,
people of every creed and colour. As we meet today,
remind us that we are all deserving of a place at your table,
regardless of our status or background.
Fill us with your love and compassion that we would

extend your hospitality to others and bring them into your kingdom. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for Purity

**Almighty God
to whom all hearts are open
all desires known
and from whom no secrets are hid:
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**

The Penitence

Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

*Let us call to mind and confess
all the times we have failed to love:*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father
in penitence we confess
that we have sinned against you
through our own fault
in thought, word, and deed
and in what we have left undone.
For the sake of your Son, Christ our Lord
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name.**

Absolution

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw us to himself, and cleanse us from all our sins that we may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

God of the foreigner and the outcast, no one is excluded from your embrace: inspire us so to love the world

that all will live in the dignity and security
of belonging in God's family;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Word of God

Genesis 45:1-15
Psalm 133
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Gospel Reading

Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

The Sermon

The Revd Sharmain James

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in the words of the Apostles Creed

**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 of Intercession

In this month of compassion, we pray for a hurting world which often seems overtaken by cynicism and apathy. As people of faith, help us to communicate your love and care to those around us. We pray for those who minister to the weak and vulnerable. We pray for those who shelter the homeless, for those who fight for the rights of the disenfranchised, for those who care for victims of abuse, and for those who counsel the traumatised. Uphold and strengthen them in the work they carry out.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you did not turn the Syrophenician woman away but commended her for her faith and courage. Help us to seek your face in others, especially in those who feel excluded or alienated. May we be filled with your love and compassion that we would be able to share your salvation and healing with those around us. We pray especially for our Anglicare ministry as well as our outreach portfolio and all those who seek to extend your love and mercy to those in need.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

We pray for the worldwide Church, for all who are called to proclaim your Gospel and to be ministers of your healing and salvation. We pray for Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, for Pope Francis, as well as for the Orthodox Patriarchs. We pray for our own Archbishop, Thabo, and our Diocesan Bishop, Steve. In these trying times, strengthen and inspire the leaders of the Church, to be the shepherds you have called them to be.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

We pray for those displaced by war, natural disaster, or economic pressures. We pray for the ongoing conflict in Sudan and Ukraine, for the many who have been displaced there and for all affected by rising food prices. We pray for economic migrants and for the many thousands of refugees seeking better lives in Europe. We pray for those who perished in the Hawaii's wildfires as well as the many who were displaced there. Help us all to be mindful of our excesses and, in whatever way we can, to work towards a more just and equitable world.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, your lightest touch brought healing to the people you ministered to while on earth. May we too be instruments of your healing power and may your hand of healing, comfort and protection be upon all within our parish, or who are close to our hearts, who are experiencing illness or suffering of any kind. Especially we pray for... May they and their families know the comfort and consolation of your loving embrace.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

Lord Jesus, death and hell could not hold you in the grave. Remind us that death is but a gateway to new life in you. Be with all who are mourning the loss of loved ones. We pray for the repose of the souls of those we have known and lost along the way. Especially we pray for... May they continue to enjoy the warmth of your countenance and be at rest in your presence.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

Almighty Father whose love knows no bounds, hear our prayers and answer them as is best for us. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

Prayer for Offering

In ancient times you commanded that the poor and widowed be allowed to glean from the crops that which had not been harvested. Drive away from us all miserliness and acquisitiveness, and teach us that when we entrust ourselves and our possessions to you there will always be an abundance. Bless these offerings now and use them for the building of your kingdom. In the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Lord's prayer:

**Our Father in heaven
 hallowed be your Name
 your kingdom come
 your will be done
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial
 And deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
 now and forever. Amen**

Final Hymn

**God of grace and God of glory,
 on your people pour your pow'r;
 crown your ancient Church's story,
 bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
 for the facing of this hour,
 for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo, the hosts of evil round us
 scorn the Christ, assail his ways.
 From the fears that long have bound us
 free our hearts to faith and praise.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
 for the living of these days,
 for the living of these days.**

**Cure your children's warring madness;
 bend our pride to your control;
 shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
 rich in things and poor in soul.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
 lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
 lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.

Author: Harry Emerson Fosdick

Final Blessing

Remember beloved children of God that a life lived without love is a life wasted. In the coming week, eagerly seek therefore opportunities to love and you will be richly rewarded by our heavenly Father. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and those you love, now and always.

Amen

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Giving

Thank you for your continued financial contribution to the church at this time so as to enable St Michael's to meet its obligations in mission and ministry.

E.F.T

St Michael's Church Bank
Standard Bank (051001)
Account Number: 000 176 397
Account Name: Bryanston St Michael

SNAP SCAN



Follow us

Keep connected on our various social media platforms with daily prayers, motivations and much more.

Click icon to go to the relevant page.

Website



Facebook



YouTube

