

A Liturgy of the Word Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Date: 27 August 2023

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

Processional Hymn

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
let angels prostrate fall.
bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, ye morning stars of light
who fixed this floating ball;
now hail the Strength of Israel's might
and crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, ye martyrs of your God,
who from his altar call;
extol the Stem-of-Jesse's Rod
and crown him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race
ye ransomed of the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
the wormwood and the gall,
go spread your trophies at his feet,
and crown him Lord of all.

Let every tribe and every tongue
before him prostrate fall
and shout in universal song
the crownèd Lord of all.

Author: E. Perroner (1726-92)

Call to Worship

The Lord be with you.
And also, with you.

In the presence of God, we lift up our hearts in praise using
the words of an African worshipper of past times. .

**O praise God in his Holy Place,
Praise him for his mighty works,
Praise him for his marvellous power.
Praise him with the beating of great drums,
Praise him with the horn and rattle;
Praise him in the rhythm of the dance,
Praise him in the clapping of the hands;
Praise him in the stamping of the feet,
Praise him in the singing of the chant.**

Praise him with the rushing of great rivers,
 Praise him with the music of the wind;
 Praise him with the swaying of tall trees,
 Praise him with the singing of the sea.
 Praise him, the one on whom we lean and do not fall;
 Let everything that has breath, praise the Lord.

Gathering Prayer

Loving God,
 today we proclaim that because you are with us,
 nothing can be against us. So just as you are with us,
 we are with you, ready to give you our praise and
 thanksgiving for your abiding presence with us.
 Receive this worship as our expression of gratitude. **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

The Apostle Paul writes,
 "Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought,
 but think of yourself with sober judgement,
 each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned."
 In sober judgment and humility, let us confess our sins
 before God and one another:

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

As we have confessed our sins, we will know God's forgiveness.
 In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
 we have been forgiven, we can claim the cleansing of our sins,
 and we stand before God, made whole and pure,
 in the name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The Collect

God of our holy and righteous ancestors:
accept us as a living sacrifice;
and transform us by your Spirit,
that, being members of one body,
we will offer our gifts in Christ's service;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Word of God

Exodus 1:8 – 2:10
Psalm 124
Romans 12:1-8

Gospel Reading

Gospel: Matthew 16: 13-20

The Sermon

Sermon: The Revd Dave Edwards

Affirmation of Faith

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

We believe and trust in God the Father
Who made the world.
We believe and trust in His Son Jesus Christ
Who redeemed humankind.
We believe and trust in his Holy Spirit
Who gives life to the people of God.
We believe and trust in one God
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **AMEN**

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray for our world, our community, our church and our neighbours.

We thank you, Lord, for our beautiful world. Thank for nature, for the magnificence of our land, and the diversity of its fauna and flora. Make all people in all the world, feel privileges to protect the beauty where they live, and to interact responsibly with nature and the environment so we may be saved from the destruction of our environment, and the suffering caused by climate change.

Lord in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

We pray for worldwide institutions.

Lord we bring before you those institutions which strive to bring peace, good governance and better living conditions to all those people created and loved by you. Bless the work of the United Nations Organisation, UNESCO, the WHO the World Wild Life Fund, Doctors without Borders, the Red Cross, the many organisations formed to facilitate trade, protection and goodwill for all. Save them from corruption, from inefficiency, and may your guiding hand be upon them all as they strive to do their good work.

Lord in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

We ask your blessing on our land and its peoples. You know our current struggles, and you know how much so many of us want what is best for everyone. Save us from inter-community strife, make us willing to do more than is required of us to bring harmonious living to all, and make us courageous to see evil for what it is, to be open in support of those who would reform what is wrong, and we ask you to intervene in everything that looks so impossibly broken that it is beyond human effort. Save us from despair, and help us remember, we are your people, and this is your land.

Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

We ask your blessing upon our church. Thank you for the love it shows to the least and the lowliest. Give it strength to look sin, its own and that of our respective communities, square in the face, and may your body be not only prepared to face crucifixion at the hands of present evil, but may it also know that in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We have the hope that Christ will prevail, evil will be abolished, and we can, if we follow the way of our Lord, stand at the right hand of God, rejoicing in a new, restored world under the rule of our Saviour.

Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Be with all members of our community who especially need your prayers at this moment. Be with the sick. Bring them comfort and healing. Be with those facing challenges, exams, job interviews, and other things that will shape their destinies. Give them calm minds, and a knowledge that you are in all things. Bless those who are different, those who are struggling with self-identity, those who are neuro-divergent, and those whose physical and mental difficulties make normal living so much harder. Keep us safe on our roads, and protected in our homes, and give us a huge measure of your love so we may be compassionate to all your people.

Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

As we mourn the death of those whom we love and knew, and we remember those who have gone before us, Lord, we ask you mercy upon their souls. We thank for their lives, for all they did for us and their witness to you, and we ask that you bring us all to the end of our lives in the knowledge of the love of Christ, and the assurance that death is not the end for those who trust in the love of God.

Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Merciful Father: Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Prayer for Offering

Let us thank God for the gifts given to us by those who would support our church.

Thank you, O lord for these gifts,
given in love and meant for the building up of this church.
May they be used to continue to bless this worshipping space,
may they be helpful to those who need them,
and may their generosity bless the givers as they consciously give
to the glory of God and for the welfare of God's people. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray as our Saviour taught us:

**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**

The Final Hymn

1 O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever 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;
and, Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my Friend

Author: John Ernest Bode (1816-74)

Final Blessing

May God our creator
lead us as we live the lives to which we have been called,
may our redeemer, Jesus Christ,
continue to save us from our sins, and to love us
as we try to spread his love to others in our lives,
and may the Holy Spirit
give us the power to work wherever we have been placed,
as we commit ourselves to our calling
as Christians, today and always.
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit, be with you 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



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