



A Liturgy of the Word Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

22 August 2021



Ven. Moses Thabethe



Rev. Matthew Wright



Rev. Margaret Place



Rev. Alison Thabethe

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

Being the fourth Sunday in the month of Compassion, our focus turns towards the loved ones we have lost, whether recently or in the distant past. These we remember before God, as we give thanks for their lives.

Processional Hymn

1 God moves in a mysterious way
his wonders to perform;
he plants his footsteps in the sea,
and rides upon the storm.

2 Deep in unfathomable mines
of never-failing skill
he treasures up his bright designs,
and works his sovereign will.

3 Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;
the clouds ye so much dread
are big with mercy, and shall break
in blessings on your head.

4 Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
but trust him for his grace;
behind a frowning providence
he hides a smiling face.

5 His purposes will ripen fast,
unfolding ev'ry hour;
the bud may have a bitter taste,
but sweet will be the flow'r.

6 Blind unbelief is sure to err,
and scan his work in vain;
God is his own interpreter,
and he will make it plain.

Author: William Cowper (1774)

Call to Worship

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses
Let us lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely

Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us
Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith

Eternal God and Father
whose love is stronger than death
we rejoice that the dead as well as the living
are in your love and care;
and as we remember with thanksgiving
all those who have gone before us
in the way of Christ
we pray that we may be counted worthy
to share with them the life of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Introductory Rite

The Lord be with you
And also with you



Month of Compassion
Special remembrance of
departed loved ones



Praise the Lord:

Praise God, you servants of the Lord.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Blessed be God's Name, now and forever

The Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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.**

Collect for Purity

Let us pray.

**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 Kyrie

**Nkosi yiba nenceba x3
Kristu yiba nenceba x3
Nkosi yiba nenceba x3**

The Penitence

This is the covenant that I will make with my people after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother or sister, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.



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We confess together:

**Loving God, we have sinned against you;
in what we have thought, said and done.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and turn away from what is wrong.
Forgive us for the sake of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins
to all those who with heartfelt repentance
and true faith turn to him: have mercy on you;
pardon and deliver you from all your sins;
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness;
and bring you to everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

**Lord Jesus Christ,
you have the words of eternal life:
set your living bread before us that,
feasting around your table,
we may be strengthened
to continue the work to which you call us;
for you live and reign with the Father
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen**

The Word of God

1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43
Psalm 84
Ephesians 6:10-20

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Let your heart rejoice in the Lord
Let your words proclaim his deeds
Let your voice sing out to the world
That our God has come to save

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia



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Gospel Reading

John 6:56-69

The Sermon

by Revd Matthew Wright

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in the words of the creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
And born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
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

Merciful Father, today, as we remember our loved ones who have passed on, particularly those who have gone to their rest in the recent past, we commend them to you, praying for their joyful reunion with you, their loving creator.

We pray that all who have passed from this world, to whom the promise of eternal life was given at baptism, may be brought to the fulfilment of that promise in the company of the angels and saints.

Lord, hear us.

We pray that our departed sisters and brothers in our families and in our communities may know the consolation of your everlasting peace and rest.

Lord, hear us.

We pray that those who have died through acts of violence and war may find a place of justice and peace in God's kingdom.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who bear the burden of poverty and homelessness, of loss of work, for the sick and all who are distressed in any way.

Lord, hear us.

We pray that those who have died alone, unwanted and perhaps unmourned may be welcomed by the heavenly community.

Lord, hear us.



We pray that all who have suffered the loss of loved ones and for all who mourn, may be sustained by God's grace and receive the consolation of those who surround them.

Lord, hear us.

We pray that we may continue in a spirit of solidarity and courage to face together the dangers of these times and as we remember all who suffer because of the pandemic and the social tumult around us.

Lord, hear us.

We pray finally for ourselves knowing how easily our hearts are hardened, towards our brother and sister, and towards God. In this time of loss, let us not flee from the pain we are faced with, but face it together, in solidarity with and in compassion for one another.

Lord, hear us.

We make these prayers in the name of our ever-loving Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Prayer for Offering

Most holy and merciful Father, we thank you once more for your provision in our lives. We recognize how fortunate we are in relation to so many people around us. Out of the relative abundance with which you have blessed us, we thank you that we can give back to you a small measure of our appreciation and gratitude. We pray therefore, Lord, that you would bless these offerings, that they may bring life to those less fortunate and so extend the work of your Kingdom. For the sake of him who died, is risen, and is now seated at your right hand, Christ our Lord.

Amen

Lord's Prayer

(sung by: St Michael's Choir)

Litany of remembrance

We look to you with praise

For the blessing of the lives of our departed loved ones,

In praise

For opening your arms to receive our kin,

In praise

For the home of peace and love in which they now reside,

In praise

For the welcome you give to all your cherished children.

We look to you in hope

For healing amidst our sorrow for your loss,

With hope

For an abating of our mourning with the knowledge that our loved ones rest in you,

With hope

For the promise of tomorrows without grief and heartache,

With hope

For serenity that will return to our hearts in your time.

We look to you in remembrance

Of the life of our loved ones,

n remembrance,

Of their patience and strength,

In remembrance,

Of their love and support,



In remembrance,
Of their humour and companionship.

We look to you in thanksgiving
For our fond memories,

In thanksgiving
For the sharing of gifts,

In thanksgiving
For your everlasting love,

In thanksgiving
For the comfort you offer us.

God of comfort, we look to you with praise, hope,
remembrance and thanksgiving. May our souls be open vessels
into which you can pour your wisdom. **Amen.**

Final Blessing

Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy.
He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.
Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.
And so may the God of all comfort and consolation continue
to uphold you by his mighty hand. And may the blessing of God,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain
with you, now and forever. **Amen**

Dismissal

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

Recessional Hymn

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible, hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might,
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

4 Great God of all glory, great God of all light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

Author: Walter Chalmer Smith (1867)



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E.F.T

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There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you" - Maya Angelou



Sharing our challenges with another diminishes their power to harm us, our loved ones and the world in which we live.

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