



# A Liturgy of the Word Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

29 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 final Sunday in the month of Compassion, our focus turns towards immigrants and refugees.

## Processional Hymn

Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
and his righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you  
Allelu, alleluia

Man shall not live by bread alone  
but by every word  
that proceeds from the mouth of God  
Allelu, alleluia

Ask and it shall be given unto you;  
seek and ye shall find;  
knock and the door shall be opened unto you.  
Allelu, alleluia

Artist: Keswick

## Call to Worship

**Will abide in the shadow of the Almighty**

I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress"  
**"My God, in whom I trust"**

In the Lord I take refuge  
**In your house will I find shelter**

God, no one is stranger to you  
And no one is ever far from your loving care.  
In your kindness watch over migrants, refugees and asylum seekers,  
Those separated from their loved ones,  
Those who are lost  
And those who have been exiled from their homes.  
Bring them safely to the place where they long to be,  
And help us always to show your kindness to strangers  
And those in need.

We ask this through Christ our Lord,  
Who too was a refugee and migrant  
Who travelled to another land  
Searching for a home. **Amen**



Month of Compassion  
Immigrants & Refugees



*Introductory Rite*

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you**

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*

*Sung by Ven Moses Thabethe*

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father  
To God be glory forever  
Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen  
Alleluia Amen. Alleluia Amen

Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father  
To God be glory forever  
Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen  
Alleluia Amen. Alleluia Amen

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit  
To God be glory forever  
Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen  
Alleluia Amen. Alleluia Amen

*Collect for Purity*

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

*Sung by Ven Moses Thabethe*

Empty and broken here I stand, Kyrie eleison.  
Touch me with your healing hand, Kyrie eleison.  
Take my arrogance and pride, Kyrie eleison.  
Wash me in your mercy's tide, Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison.  
Christe eleison,  
Kyrie eleison.

When my faith has all but gone, Kyrie eleison,  
Give me strength to carry on, Kyrie eleison.  
When my dreams have turned to dust, Kyrie eleison.  
In you, O Lord, I put my trust, Kyrie eleison.



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Kyrie eleison,  
Christe eleison,  
Kyrie eleison.

When my heart is cold as ice, Kyrie eleison.  
Your love speaks of sacrifice, Kyrie eleison.  
Love that sets the captive free, Kyrie eleison.  
Oh pour compassion down on me. Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison,  
Christe eleison,  
Kyrie eleison.

You're the voice that calms my fears, Kyrie eleison.  
You're the laughter, dries my tears, Kyrie eleison.  
You're my music, my refrain, Kyrie eleison.  
Help me sing my song again. Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison,  
Christe eleison,  
Kyrie eleison.

Humble heart of holiness, Kyrie eleison.  
Kiss me with your tenderness, Kyrie eleison.  
Jesus, faithful friend and true, Kyrie eleison.  
All I am I give to you. Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie eleison,  
Christe eleison,  
Kyrie eleison.

### *The Penitence*

For the times we have not recognised Christ in the stranger;  
for the times we have not welcomed the foreigner in our midst;  
for the times we have spurned God's image in the widow and orphan;  
for these times we confess our guilt and ask for the conviction of God's Holy Spirit.  
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.**



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*The Collect*

**O God of eternal light,  
your word is truth:  
make us quick to listen and slow to speak  
that the word implanted in us will take root  
to nourish all we say and do;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God now and forever. Amen**

*The Word of God*

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9  
Psalm 15  
James 1:17-27

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia  
The seed is the word of God, Christ the Sower.  
Whoever finds his seeds will remain forever.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

*Gospel Reading*

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

*The Sermon*

by Revd Matthew Wright

*Affirmation of Faith*

*Immigrant Apostle's Creed by Rev Jose Luis Casal*

**I believe in Almighty God,  
who guided the people exile in Exodus.  
The God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon,  
the God of foreigners and immigrants.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean,  
who was born away from his people and his home,  
who fled his county with his parents  
when his life was in danger.  
When he returned to his own country  
he suffered under the oppression of Pontius Pilate,  
the servant of a foreign power.**

**Jesus was persecuted, beaten, tortured  
and unjustly condemned to death.  
But on the third day Jesus rose from the dead,  
not as a scorned foreigner  
but to offer us citizenship in God's kingdom.**



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**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us,  
who speaks all languages, lives in all countries,  
and reunites all races.**

**I believe that the Church is the secure home  
for foreigners and for all believers.**

**I believe that the communion of saints begins  
when we embrace all God's people in all their diversity. Amen**

### *Prayers of Intercession*

Lord God, the Holy Family fled the land of Jesus' birth for fear of persecution. Protect and comfort all refugees and guide them to places of safety.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

When famine struck Israel Jacob and his family travelled to Egypt to seek grain. Strengthen and encourage all economic migrants as they seek to better lives for themselves and their families.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

We pray for the victims of genocide and those displaced by conflict. Restore in humanity a renewed respect for the sanctity of human life and help us to recognise the folly of war

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

We pray for those seeking economic opportunity in our own country, for their integration and acceptance and an appreciation of their contribution to this country's work force

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

May we see in all people the face of your Son, particularly in the vulnerable, the lost, and the marginalised. May we be moved with compassion to extend to them your loving care

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

Save us Lord from xenophobia and ethnicism. Help us to love our neighbours as ourselves and where the migration of people is caused by deeper issues, help us to address these rather than victimise migrants

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

Our ancestors died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. As it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a holy city.

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

### *Prayer for Offering*

Almighty Father, both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name. For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. For we are strangers before you and sojourners, as all our fathers were. Our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no abiding. O Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own. We pray therefore that you would bless these offerings, that they would bear fruit for the work of your Kingdom. In the name of Christ our Lord. **Amen**



*Lord's Prayer*

Lindley Junior Choir : The Lord's prayer (Fanshawe African Sanctus)  
Composer: David Fanshawe

*Litany for refugees and exiles*

God of Exiles, Shelter of the Homeless:

**You welcome all into the arms of your love.**

To all who wander, with no place to call home,

**You offer shelter and rest.**

To all who thirst;

**You offer springs of living water.**

To all who hunger, in body or spirit;

**You offer bread, the fruit of the earth and the gift of human hands.**

Your table is long and wide;

**With room for all your children.**

Many have shared with us the gift of hospitality;

**Help us to go and do likewise.**

And, most of all, O God our Creator;

**We give you thanks that in You we find our home.**

God of grace and compassion, who will care for these if not us?

Give us hearts after your own, that we may also be your hands and feet. **Amen.**

*Final Blessing*

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the nations honorable, so that they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. Now towards that end, may the God of all comfort uphold you, the all-loving Son, guide you, and the ever-present Spirit, sustain you. In the name of the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen**

*Dismissal*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

*Recessional Hymn*

*Sung by Ven Moses Thabethe*

O breathe on me, O breath of God,  
Fill me with life anew  
That I may love the things you love,  
And do what thou wouldst do.

O breathe on me, O breath of God,  
Until my heart is pure;  
Until my will is one with thine,  
To do and to endure.





O breathe on me, O breath of God,  
My will to thine incline,  
Until this earthly part of me  
Glows with thine fire divine.

O breathe on me, O breath of God,  
So shall I never die,  
But live with thee the perfect life  
Of thine eternity.

Author: Edwin Hatch

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- 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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