



A Liturgy of the Word 15th Sunday after Pentecost

5 September 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.

Processional Hymn

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
re clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm!

Author: John Greenleaf Whittier (1872) - Organist: Louis Maritz - Sung by: Ven Moses Thabethe



Call to Worship

The whole creation groans together as in the pains of childbirth
Not only creation, but we ourselves, the firstfruits of the Spirit

I am doing a new thing, says the Lord
Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert
The wild beasts will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches

For I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert,
To give drink to my chosen people

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 St Michael's Choir

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to His 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

You delight in creation, its colour and diversity. Yet we have misused
the earth and plundered its resources for our own selfish ends.

Lord, have mercy
Lord have mercy

You have showered us with blessings, but we have been grudging
towards others and lacking in generosity in word and deed.

Christ, have mercy
Christ, have mercy

We have taken for granted the fruitfulness of the earth: we think of species
that have become extinct over the past year and of the burning of forests
around the continent.

Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy





The Penitence

O Gracious God, Creator Spirit, Source of life, you have given order, light and life to the world around us and you have expressed delight in your creation. You commanded us to till and care for the garden of life. And yet, we have trampled on the beauty of your creation and neglected to keep your Word.

And so we confess together:

**God of all Creation,
we come to you in a moment of personal and corporate confession.
We participate in a system which is exploitative and violent
and which separates humanity from the rest of Creation.
By acts of omission and commission we cause harm to others.
At times we are guilty of complicity, passivity and denial,
at other times of abuses of power.
We hear the cries of both our fellow humans,
who are already living in the midst of extreme poverty and hunger,
and the cries of all Creation.
We know we bear responsibility for the pain of both,
and we know the impact one has on the other.
We confess our complicity in the plight of all of your Creation,
and beg your forgiveness and mercy,
that we may do better to follow the way of you who creates.
Amen**

Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you: pardon your sins and set you free from them; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

**God, Creator of our common home,
your boundless love includes everyone.
Open our hearts and minds to your generous will
that we may proclaim Christ's love and justice
through words and actions.
May we serve the needs of our neighbours
within the Community of all Creation
and may justice flow down like rivers. Amen**

The Word of God

Proverbs 22;1-2; 8-9, 22-23
Psalm 125
James 2:1-10; (11-13),14-17





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 7:24-37

The Sermon

by Revd Moses Thabethe

Affirmation of Faith

**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.**

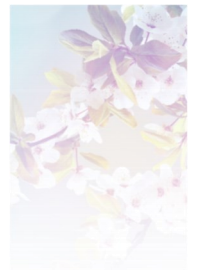
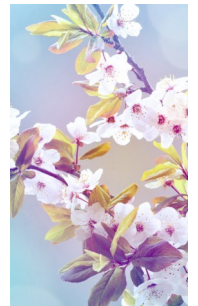
**I believe in the Holy Spirit
the Holy Catholic Church
the Communion of Saints
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

God of all hopefulness, we bring before You our concerns for the world and her people.
Gracious God, we turn to You,
For You are the source of our hope and the creator of the Kingdom.

We pray for parents around the world who reach out in hope for their children. We pray for justice: when they struggle to provide food for their families; when they cannot find a place to make a home for their children.
Gracious God, we turn to You,
For You are the source of our hope and the creator of the Kingdom.

We pray for those who find themselves on the margins of their societies. We pray for justice: that they might confront centres of power with the experience of life on the margins; that they might be allowed to contribute to the welfare of society; that we may all be enriched by the insights and wisdom they bring to our communities.
Gracious God, we turn to You,
For You are the source of our hope and the creator of the Kingdom.





We pray for our common home and all who seek to ensure its wellbeing.
We pray for justice: that all nations of the world will work together for the common good of each person and our planet; that conservation will enable habitats to flourish while meeting the needs of local communities; that we each understand the impact we have upon the earth and adjust our lifestyle accordingly.

Gracious God, we turn to You,

For You are the source of our hope and the creator of the Kingdom.

We pray for ourselves: Disturb us and disquiet us with a passion for justice. Challenge us to grasp a vision of Your new world and motivate us to act to birth it into being. Enable us to pass on the gift of hope, so others are empowered to continue the journey of faith.

Gracious God, we turn to You,

For You are the source of our hope and the creator of the Kingdom.

Prayer for Offering

Although we have fallen short of your commandment to be faithful stewards of your creation and its bounteous resources, we ask heavenly Father, that you would help us to mend our ways. We ask for a new vision of your creation, one in which we are able to see the true value and potential of creation and cherish it accordingly. We ask now, that you bless these our gifts as tokens and signs of our commitment to serve you and your creation faithfully.

Amen

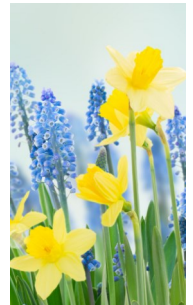
Lord's Prayer

Sung by the Angel City Chorale.

Commissioning & Blessing

When you are set free, you will celebrate and travel home in peace.
Mountains and hills will sing as you pass by, and trees will clap.
Cypress and myrtle trees will grow in fields once covered by thorns.
And then those trees will stand as a lasting witness to the glory of the Lord.

God the Creator has blessed you with all that you need in this life:
Go into the world with courage that you might be the channels through which the Lord can bring relief to others; And the blessing of God Almighty, 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

**Thou whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard
and took their flight,
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray
Let There Be Light!**

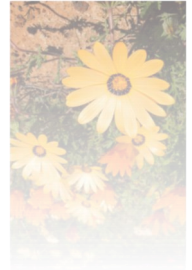
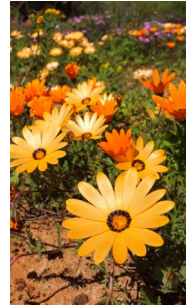


Saviour who came to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
now to all humankind
Let There Be Light!

Spirit of truth and love,
lifegiving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move o'er the waters' face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
Let There Be Light!

Blessed and holy Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might,
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the world, far and wide,
Let There Be Light!


Author: John Marriott (1813)



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

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Acknowledgements:

CONFESSION

Earth Day confession & repentance prayers — Justice Ministries, USA <https://worshipwords.co.uk/earth-day-prayers-justice-ministries-usa/>

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Scottish Eco-congregation 2018 adapted, (Season of Creation B: 'Oikos' – A Home for All)

COMMISSIONING & BLESSING

Isaiah 55:12-13, CEV & Season of Creation B: 'Oikos' – A Home for All