



A Liturgy of the Word Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost



Ven. Moses Thabethe



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

Processional Hymn

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
Lay down, O weary one, lay down
Your head upon my breast."

I came to Jesus as I was,
So weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
And he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one,
Stoop down, and drink, and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light;
Look unto me, your morn shall rise,
And all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
In him my star, my sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk
Till trav'ling days are done.

Author: Horatius Bonar - 1846

Opening Prayer

Give thanks to God and tell of God's gifts.
We will sing praises for all that God has done.

Let your hearts be joyful!
We will seek God's presence continually.



Call to mind God's wonderful works.

We will always remember the blessings of God and glorify God forever!

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

**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.

The Collect for Purity

Let us pray

**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.**



The Kyrie

Morena, Morena, re hauhele
Morena, Morena, re hauhele

Kriste, Kriste, re hauhele
Kriste, Kriste, re hauhele

Morena, Morena, re hauhele
Morena, Morena, re hauhele

The Penitence

Let us confess our sins, for all the times when our shortcomings kept us from letting the light of Christ shine in our lives.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word, and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be.
That we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

The 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

Holy God, Immanent God,
you expect us to be vigilant:
in the night of sin and death,
wake us from our slumber
and call us forth to greet Christ
that we will follow him to eternal light;
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

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Psalm 78:1-7

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Speak O Lord your servant is listening

You have the words of everlasting life

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 25:1-13

The Sermon

Parables of Wisdom and Folly

by Rev Alison Thabethe



Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**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

Merciful God we raise our hearts and minds unto you as we pray for ourselves, our families and friends, all those whom you have given us to know and love.

Lord God we pray that you renew the Church in its members and its leaders. Bless and inspire our leaders and keep them committed to the truth as found in your divine word, that they may remain watchful and prepared to work for the coming of the kingdom.

Lord in Your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

For all students, learners, educators, parents, and family members who are entering this time of exams. Guide and direct those who teach and those who learn, that despite all that happened this year our students may have a positive experience of exams.

Lord in Your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

For the parish of St Michael's. We thank you Lord for the various ministries exercised by this church. We pray for all those who have been struggling to feel connected and included throughout this trying time. May our parishioners always find new ways to stay connected. Help us to grow in our fellowship and common witness.

Lord in Your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for political leaders all over the world, that they be reminded that leadership should not be about power but by being true to the mandate they get from their constituents. For our world at present, Lord may your kingdom come here on earth.

Lord in Your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the big and the small of this world, for countries and peoples faced with tough decisions in governance, in deciding on a way forward regarding the covid 19 cases that keep rising and resurging. Give wisdom and insight to world leaders and especially to our own government. That leaders everywhere may act on behalf of those who are struggling.

Lord in Your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, your son our Lord Jesus walked the road of suffering with so many in pain and grief. During this time, we pray for our departed brothers and sisters, Lord give unto them your eternal rest and peace in your kingdom. Bless us who pray for them so that while we miss them, we may afford them the peace that only you can give.

Lord in Your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We make these our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Blessing of Offering

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.

Day by day you shower us with blessings.

As you have raised us to new life in Christ,

give us glad and generous hearts,

ready to praise you

and to respond to those in need,

through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**



The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name,
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O Lord our God, how can we not sing your praise
with heart and soul and proclaim your name
throughout the world?
You Oh God is the source of creation,
Awesome in power, you are the source of all sustenance, provision, and salvation.
We give you thanks and praise.



Oh lord our God, there is none like you!
How can we not declare your glory through all that we are,
and proclaim your name throughout this world?
We have seen and experienced your tenderness and compassion.
We give you thanks and praise.

The Final Blessing

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

May the love of the Father,
the tenderness of the Son,
and the presence of the Spirit,
gladden your heart
and bring peace to your soul,
this day and all days, Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.



The Dismissal

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

Recessional Hymn

**Rejoice, the Lord is King:
Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**Jesus, the Saviour, reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When He has purged our stains,
He took his seat above;
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**His kingdom cannot fail,
He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus giv'n:
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**



**Rejoice in glorious hope!
Our Lord and judge shall come
And take His servants up
To their eternal home:
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

Author: Charles Wesley (1744)



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

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