

A Liturgy of the Word Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Date: 9 July 2023

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

Processional Hymn

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the scepter, His the throne.
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood;
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation
has redeemed us by His blood.

Alleluia! Not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now.
Alleluia! He is near us;
faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received Him
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget His promise,
"I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Bread of heaven,
here on earth our food, our stay.
Alleluia! Here the sinful
flee to You from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

Author: William Chatterton Dix

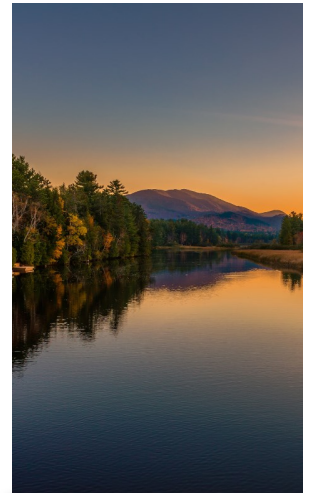
Call to Worship

In every age, in every place
You call Your people to worship

In every hour of every day
You invite us to rest in You

In this time and place, O God
We worship and rest in You

The Lord be with you
And also with you



Opening Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
 your promise rest to the weary and relief to the heavy laden:
 as we come to you today, may we find our rest in you,
 and may our spirits be restored and revived,
 so that we may enter a new week with new possibilities.
 We ask this in your name. **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

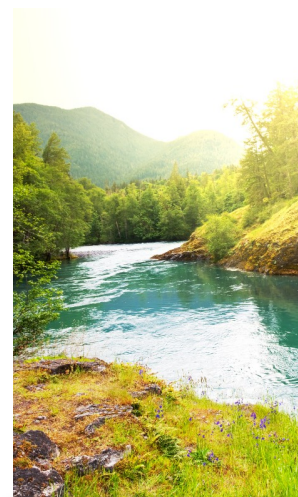
For I do not understand my own actions.
For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.
Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law,
that it is good. So now it is no longer I who do it,
but sin that dwells within me.

Trusting in God's grace and willingness
to forgive, let us confess together:

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

The almighty and merciful Lord
 grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins,
 time for amendment of life,
 and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.



The Collect

O God our Saviour,
 you reveal your salvation through Jesus Christ,
 our wisdom and strength:
 teach us to shoulder our burdens
 and give us the strength to carry each other
 as you have carried us;
 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

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Psalm 45:10-17

Romans 7:15-25a

Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

The Sermon

The Revd Dave Edwards

Affirmation of Faith

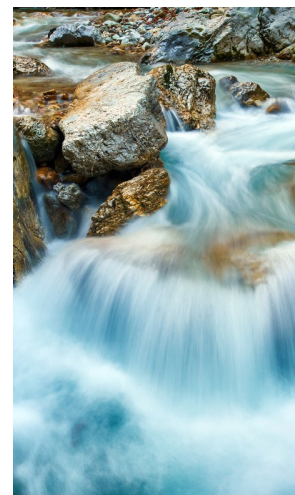
Let us declare our faith in the words of the Apostles Creed

**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

Mindful of God's attentiveness and God's eagerness to hear prayers:

We pray for the Church throughout the world, especially for the people you have called to be prophets and teachers in our generation. We pray that they will be strengthened and protected by the Holy Spirit and that through them your Church will reveal the good news of salvation. Strengthen the believers of our sister Churches, as well as those of other faiths, that we would all work together to establish your justice and mercy.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Everlasting God, we ask that your blessing of love and peace may be known to all people. Help us to bear abundant fruit from the seeds of potential that you have planted within us. We continue to commit into your hands all plans for our 70th anniversary, as well as the process of the appointment of a new rector. We also pray for our diocese, as it prepares for Synod in October. May your hand of guidance be upon Bishop Steve.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Creator God, we are your chosen stewards of this beautiful world; you provide us with seed and soil to sow it in, but sometimes we abuse this privilege and so we look to you for forgiveness for the damage we have done to our earth and pray that you would show us ways of healing the wounds that we have inflicted on the land, ourselves and on each other.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Father God, we pray that in our communities all will be welcome and accepted regardless of nationality, colour, gender or status, and that we would seek always to serve our Lord and Jesus Christ in one another. Help us to be welcoming of economic migrants and refugees, and to care for the vulnerable, weak and disenfranchised.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Gracious God, we raise before you all those who seek healing of body, mind or spirit, asking that they will sense the touch of your loving hands, and feel your peace and presence alongside them, each and every step of their journey towards healing and wholeness.

(Add names of in our pew leaflet)

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Loving God, we remember before you all those who have died: may they see your salvation and find their peace and final rest in you; we especially pray for those who were a formative part of our lives, who made us who we are and who we still miss. At this time we remember...

(add names of those whose year's mind occurs)

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Faithful God, we offer you these prayers, for ourselves and for others. We ask you to accept them and, as you grant them, use us to establish your will on earth that more of your kingdom revealed to those who seek you.

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

Prayer for Offering

You are the giver of all good things, and your Word makes clear that every good and perfect gift comes from you.

We ask that you accept these gifts and use them to your glory.

May they bring shelter to the homeless, comfort to the sick, rest to the weary, and hope to the hopeless.

Just as you multiplied the offering of fish and the loaves

that were freely given for others, we pray that you would multiply these, our offerings to you, and accomplish with them more than we could ask or imagine. We ask this in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Lord's Prayer

**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**

Recessional Hymn

**And can it be that I should gain
An int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me?**

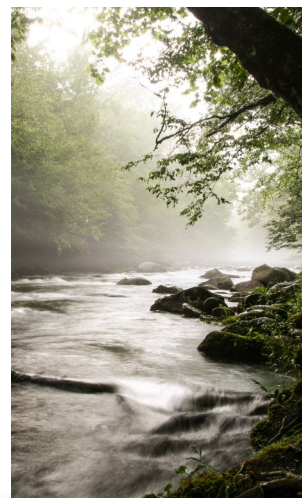
Refrain:

***Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me!***

**'Tis mystery all! Th'Immortal dies!
Who can explore His strange design?
In vain the firstborn seraph tries
To sound the depths of love divine!
'Tis mercy all! let earth adore,
Let angel minds inquire no more. [Refrain]**

**He left His Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite His grace;
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race;
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
For, O my God, it found out me. [Refrain]**

**Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth and followed Thee. [Refrain]**



No condemnation now I dread;
 Jesus, and all in Him is mine!
 Alive in Him, my living Head,
 And clothed in righteousness divine,
 Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
 And claim the crown, through Christ my own. [Refrain]

Author: Charles Wesley

Final Blessing

Now go in the strength which Christ offers you,
 even in the midst of weakness. May the Holy Spirit sustain you,
 and our heavenly Father continue to guide you
 and provide for your every need.

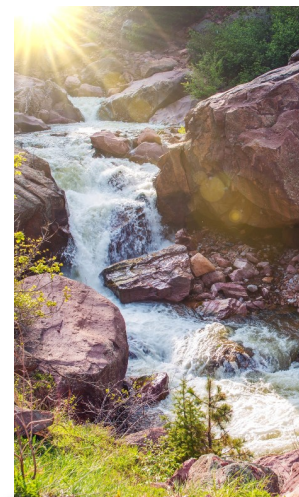
In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

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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