

A Liturgy of the Word Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Date : 16 July 2023

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

Processional Hymn

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heav'n to earth come down,
fix in us Thy humble dwelling;
all Thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, Thou art all compassion;
pure, unbounded love Thou art;
visit us with Thy salvation;
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit;
let us find the promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning:
set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all Thy life receive;
suddenly return and never,
nevermore Thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing,
serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see Thy great salvation
perfectly restored in Thee.

Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before Thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Author: Charles Wesley

Call to Worship

The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death
There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus

Do not present your members then to sin as instruments for unrighteousness
But present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life



St Michael's Anglican Church, Bryanston

For sin will have no dominion over you
Since you are not under law but under grace

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Gathering to Pray

Lord Jesus Christ, you enter our lives as the living Word of God.
 Be in our hearts and minds throughout this service,
 that the seed of your Holy Word would bear plentiful fruit,
 now and in the weeks to come. We ask this in your precious 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

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
 and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins,
 God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins
 and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

Receive the Father's forgiveness
 through the death of Christ;
 be strengthened
 to live in the power of God's Spirit,
 in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.



The Collect

O God of mercy,
 by your Holy Spirit you nourish us with life:
 plant us now in good soil,
 that we may bear the fruit of justice and peace;
 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 25: 19-34
 Psalm 119: 105-112
 Romans 8: 1-11

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The Sermon

The Revd Matthew Wright

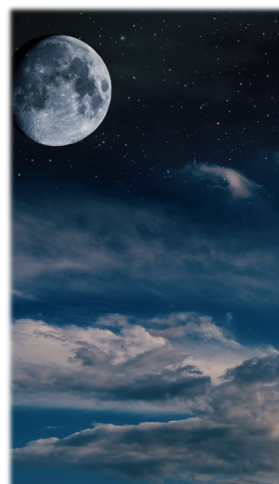
Affirmation of Faith

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

We come now to a time of prayer. Let us pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Word through whom the world was created. You continue to sustain and nourish your people. Inspire all who teach and preach in your Church, that they may faithfully proclaim your word. In our everyday lives, may we be mindful of the power of our own words, and may we use them to strengthen and encourage our sisters and brothers.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

We pray for warring nations: for the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, as well as the civil unrest and displacement in Sudan. We pray for elements of unrest in our own communities – those engaged in the running of illegal mines, or aspects of the so-called construction mafia. We pray for the greater well-being of our land, that those living in it may lead lives of peace and dignity.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

We pray for our president and as his cabinet. May they exercise good governance on behalf of all people. May they strengthen diplomatic relations which aid our political and economic progress. Finally, may you help those in public and private sectors to develop policies for the economic and social upliftment of all people living in our land.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

We commit into your hands those who suffer for the sake of conscience, as well as those who suffer persecution of any kind. Grant strength and resilience to those who work for the spread of peace, justice, and equity, as well as the upholding of the rights of those who are disenfranchised.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

We pray for our own parish, asking your blessing upon all our members. May they continue to be fed spiritually, inspired, and equipped to carry out the work of your Gospel. We pray for our Churchwardens and those at Diocesan level charged with overseeing the appointment of a new rector.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

Lord of love and healing, we pray for those within our parish, or those whom we know, who are suffering in body, mind, or spirit. We ask your hand of comfort to be upon them. As we pray for their physical and emotional healing through doctors, medical care and counsellors, we know that true spiritual healing lies in you, and to this end we place them in your care, Lord Jesus. We pray especially for...

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

We thank you, Lord, that we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses of those who have gone before us in the faith. We thank you for their example, teaching, and legacy, and we ask that this would continue to inspire and motivate us to run our own races with endurance and perseverance. We remember especially those whose year's mind occurs this week...

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

Accept our prayers, gracious Father, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lived, died, and was raised, that we might have eternal life. **Amen.**

Prayer for Offering

Sovereign Creator. You brought the world into being.
 All creation exists to honour your name.
 The cattle on a thousand hills belong to you.
 Nothing we give back to you can truly reflect the extent
 of our gratitude and awe. Help us to be mindful of the way
 we have squandered the earth's resources;
 help us to use aright the time that is left us on earth,
 and to use everything you have blessed us with for the benefit
 of our sisters and brothers and for your praise and glory.

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**

Final Hymn

**God of grace and God of glory,
 on your people pour your pow'r;
 crown your ancient Church's story,
 bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
 for the facing of this hour,
 for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo, the hosts of evil round us
 scorn the Christ, assail his ways.
 From the fears that long have bound us
 free our hearts to faith and praise.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
 for the living of these days,
 for the living of these days.**

**Cure your children's warring madness;
 bend our pride to your control;
 shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
 rich in things and poor in soul.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
 lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
 lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation
 to the evils we deplore;
 let the gift of your salvation
 be our glory evermore.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
 serving you whom we adore,
 serving you whom we adore.**

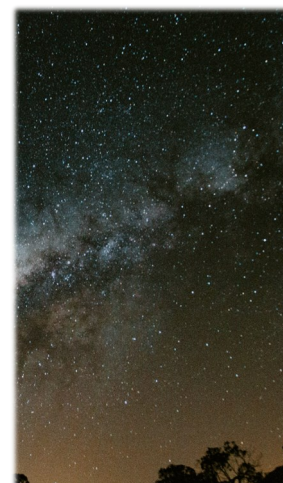


Final Blessing

As we go forward from this place of worship
 send us out as Your commissioned people
 to bring love and hope to all we meet.
 Be in our thoughts, words and actions
 for this we ask in Jesus name.
 And the blessing of God Almighty,
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
 be with you now and always.
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)
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 Account Name: Bryanston St Michael

SNAP SCAN

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