

A Liturgy of the Word Seventh Sunday of Easter

Date : 21 May 2023

The video of the service or the sermon can be viewed on the website, YouTube or Facebook

Hymn

Christ is the world's light, Christ and none other;
born in our darkness, he became our brother.
If we have seen him, we have seen the Father:
Glory to God on high!

Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none other;
no one can serve him and despise another.
Who else unites us, one with God the Father?
Glory to God on high!

Christ is the world's life, Christ and none other;
sold once for silver, murdered here, our brother.
He who redeemed us, reigns with God the Father:
Glory to God on high!

Give God the glory, God and none other;
give God the glory, Spirit, Son and Father;
give God the glory, God with us, our brother:
Glory to God on high!

Author: Fred Pratt Green (1968)

Call to Worship

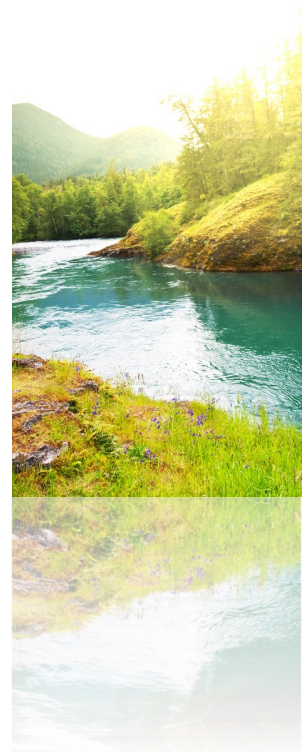
Alleluia! Christ is risen
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Sing to God, sing praises to his name:
O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens:
Listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.

Ascribe power to God:
Who gives power and strength to his people.

Gathering prayer:
Risen and ascended Christ, you are seated at God's right hand in glory.
Before you left this earth you promised to send your Holy Spirit
to be our Comforter and Guide. We pray for your Church throughout
the world, that in the bonds of the Holy Spirit, it may be lead into all truth.
In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
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 Penitence

And when the Holy Spirit comes,
he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness
and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in me;
concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father,
and you will see me no longer; concerning judgment,
because the ruler of this world is judged.

In a time of quite let us call to mind and confess our sins:

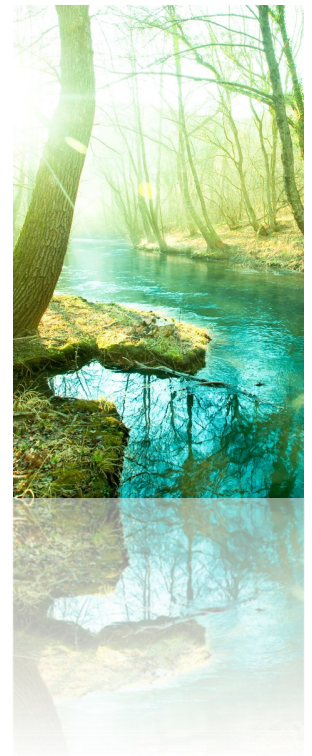
Almighty God, our heavenly Father
in penitence we confess
that we have sinned against you
through our own fault
in thought, word, and deed
and in what we have left undone.
For the sake of your Son, Christ our Lord
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name.

Absolution

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon
and forgiveness of all your sins, time for amendment
of your life where needed, and the grace and strength
to achieve this through the Holy Spirit.
In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Collect

Triune God,
Jesus prayed that we might be one:
help us to transcend our differences
and find our unity in Jesus Christ our Lord;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen**



Gospel Reading

John 17:1-11

The Sermon

The Revd Dave Edwards

Prayers of Intercession

Holy and blessed Trinity, you exist in perfect communion and harmony based on mutual and infinite love. May we enjoy such unity and fellowship that we would understand the full extent of your love. Strengthen the bonds of fellowship in our parish, in our diocese and in our province. We pray for the Anglican Communion, and for the universal Church, that we all may be united in our proclamation and mission.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

We pray for governments and rulers, especially for our own government and our president. As we look around and see so many of the people of our country living without basic necessities, facing unemployment, rising cost of living, and the limitations of loadshedding, we ask you to raise up leaders in both public and private sectors with a vision and passion to create a more just and prosperous nation for all who live in it.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

We pray for our own parish, the parish of St Michael's, Bryanston. In this, the 70th year of our existence, we give you thanks, Lord, for the many years of faithful service offered by our parishioners, parish ministers, Junior Church teachers, pastoral care workers, and all others who have exercised ministries great and small in this place. May you continue to equip and empower individuals to serve you faithfully such that the Body of Christ would be built up in this place.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

We pray for warring nations and for countries with civil unrest and armed conflict. We continue to pray for the nation of Sudan, that military and opposition forces would broker a lasting peace; we pray for the gang-ridden island of Haiti and its residence who live in daily fear of their lives; we pray for the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, asking for a lasting peace for that region. We know that you are a God of peace and justice, and that until your kingdom comes on earth, we will be faced with the tragedy of human suffering through war. Be with all effected, Lord, especially the innocent and those most vulnerable.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you ascended to heaven still bearing the scars inflicted on you while on earth. We commit into your hands all who are ill or in pain at this time. Healing, through the fullness of salvation, can only be found through you, Lord Jesus; and so we ask your healing hand to be upon all in need. We pray especially for...

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

Heavenly Father, at his ascension, your Son was reunited with you for all eternity. We pray for the repose of the souls of those who have passed on recently, as well as for their grieving families. We remember especially the Kunene and Duma families who this weekend laid their loved ones to rest. May the hope of that heavenly vision, and the promise of company with our loved ones once more, inspire us and motivate us to continue to live our lives in faithful service of you.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

Accept these our prayers, heavenly Father, in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen

Prayer for Offering

Father, truly, we are your servants. In you, we live and move and have our being. We offer you our thanksgiving and call on your name. We love you, Lord, for you hear us and respond in graciousness and compassion and righteousness. You deliver our souls from death, our feet from stumbling, and our eyes from tears. Now receive our tithes and offerings, we pray. Multiply them so that your work and word can go forth.
Amen

The Lord's Prayer

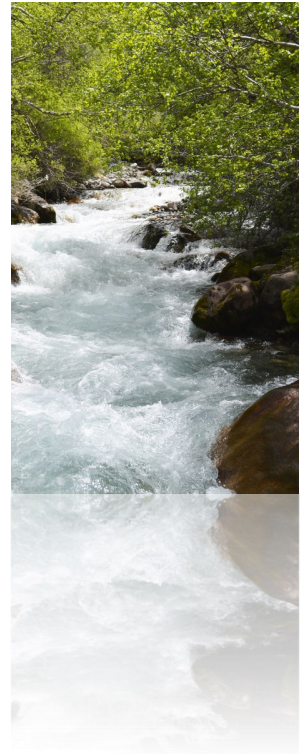
**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your Name
your kingdom come
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen**

Final Hymn

**Father, Lord of all creation,
ground of being, life and love;
Height and depth beyond description,
only life in you can prove:
You are mortal life's dependence:
thought, speech, sight are ours by grace;
Yours is every hour's existence,
sovereign Lord of time and space.**

**Jesus Christ, the one for others
we, your people, make our prayer
help us love, as sisters, brothers
all whose burdens we can share
where your name binds us together
you, Lord Christ, will surely be
where no selfishness can sever
there you love the world may see.**

**Holy Spirit, rushing, bringing
wind and flame of Pentecost
fire our hearts afresh with yearning
to regain what we have lost.
May your love unite our action,**



never more to speak alone:
God, in us, abolish faction,
God, through us, your love make known.

Author: Stewart Cross

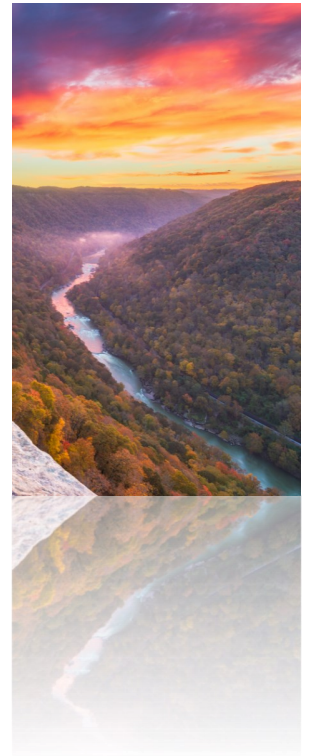
Final Blessing

May the Father from whom every family
in earth and heaven receives its name
strengthen you with his Spirit in your inner being
so that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father,
and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you this day and always.

Amen

Dismissal

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



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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