

St John the Baptist, Winchester

Sunday, 3rd October 2021

The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 22)



*When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have ordained, what are mortals, that you should be mindful of them; mere human beings, that you should seek them out?
Verses from Psalm 8.*

Gathering music: Debussy – Clair de Lune

Preparation

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

Amen.

Welcome in the name of Christ.
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you
and also with you.

Hymn 558 Praise to the Lord, the almighty, the king of creation

Verses 2 and 3

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under his wings, yea; so gently sustaineth:
Hast thou not seen all that is needful hath been
Granted in what he ordaineth.

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
Ponder anew, all the almighty can do,
He who with love doth befriend thee.

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,
To whom all hearts are open,
All desires known,
And from whom no secrets are hidden:
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.**

Prayers of Penitence

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand'. So let us turn away from sin and turn to the Lord, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

We take a time to reflect on the past week, for the times we have separated ourselves from God, neighbour or have done ourselves disservice.

**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.**

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Gloria

**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**

The Collect

God, our judge and saviour,
teach us to be open to your truth
and to trust in your love,
that we may live each day
with confidence in the salvation which is given
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

First reading Genesis 2: 18-24

Then the LORD God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,
'This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken.'

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Psalm 8

- 1 *O Lord our governor,*
how glorious is your name in all the world!
- 2 Your majesty above the heavens is praised
out of the mouths of babes at the breast.
- 3 **You have founded a stronghold against your foes,**
that you might still the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have ordained,
- 5 **What are mortals, that you should be mindful of them;**
Mere human beings, that you should seek them out?
- 6 You have made them little lower than the angels
and crown them with glory and honour.
- 7 **You have given them dominion over the works of your hands**
and put all things under their feet,
- 8 All sheep and oxen,
even the wild beasts of the field,
- 9 **The birds of the air, the fish of the sea**
and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea.
- 10 *O Lord our governor,*
how glorious is your name in all the world!

Hymn 487 Jesus good above all other

Gospel Reading: Mark 10: 2-16

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
Glory to you, O Lord

Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?' He answered them, 'What did Moses command

you?’ They said, ‘Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.’ But Jesus said to them, ‘Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, “God made them male and female.” “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.’

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, ‘Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.’

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, ‘Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.’ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Reflection by Christine

The Nicene Creed

Let us declare our faith in God.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Prayers led by Judy

Offertory Hymn 505 Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord's Prayer

Trusting in the compassion of God, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn 437 Go forth and tell (Please omit verse 3)

The Blessing

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We end our time of worship together with more Debussy, this time his Arabesque no 1.

Readings for next week 10th October: Harvest Festival. Joel 2. 21-27, Psalm 126, Matthew 6.25-33.