

The Book of Common Prayer

Sunday 5th July 2020 4th Sunday after Trinity

Dearly beloved brethren,
the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge
and confess our manifold sins and wickedness;
and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before
the face of almighty God our heavenly Father;
but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent and
obedient heart;
to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same
by his infinite goodness and mercy.
And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge
our sins before God;
yet ought we most chiefly so to do,
when we assemble and meet together
to render thanks for the great benefits that we have
received at his hands,
to set forth his most worthy praise,
to hear his most holy word,
and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary,
as well for the body as the soul.]

Wherefore I pray and beseech you,
as many as are here present,
to accompany me with a pure heart, and humble voice,
unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying [after me]:

**Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires
of our own hearts.
We have offended against thy holy laws.
We have left undone those things
which we ought to have done;
and we have done those things
which we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.
Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.
Restore thou them that are penitent;
according to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesu our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy name.
Amen.**

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord,
to thy faithful people pardon and peace,
that they may be cleansed from all their sins,
and serve thee with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
in 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.

O Lord, open thou our lips
and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

O come, let us sing unto the Lord :
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving :
and shew ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God :
and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are all the corners of the earth :
and the strength of the hills is his also.

The sea is his, and he made it :
and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship, and fall down :

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is the Lord our God :
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts :
as in the provocation,
and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness;

When your fathers tempted me :
proved me, and saw my works.

Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said :
It is a people that do err in their hearts,
for they have not known my ways.

Unto whom I swear in my wrath :
that they should not enter into my rest.]

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :

Psalm 45

***10 Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear;
forget also thine own people, and thy father's house;
11 So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him.
12 And the daughter of Tyre shall be there with a gift;
even the rich among the people shall intreat thy favour.
13 The king's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold.
14 She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needlework:
the virgins her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee.
15 With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought: they shall enter into the king's palace.
16 Instead of thy fathers shall be thy children, whom thou mayest make princes in all the earth.
17 I will make thy name to be remembered in all generations:
therefore shall the people praise thee for ever and ever.***

At the end of each psalm these words are said

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

For the Epistle Romans 8:18-23

Romans 8: 18

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creature was made subject to vanity (frustration), not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, ²¹ Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

Te Deum Laudamus

We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.
To thee all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers therein.
To thee cherubin and seraphin continually do cry,
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.
The glorious company of the apostles praise thee.
The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise thee.
The noble army of martyrs praise thee.
The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee:
the Father of an infinite majesty;
thine honourable, true and only Son;
also the Holy Ghost the Comforter.

Thou art the King of glory, O Christ.
Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man,
thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,
thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.
We believe that thou shalt come to be our judge.
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,
whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage.
Govern them and lift them up for ever.
Day by day we magnify thee;
and we worship thy name, ever world without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us, as our trust is in thee.
O Lord, in thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded.

The Gospel

Luke 6:36-42 - 13/7/03

36 Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.

37 Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: 38 Give, and it shall be given unto you;

good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

39 And he spake a parable unto them, Can the blind lead the blind?

shall they not both fall into the ditch? 40 The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is perfect shall be as his master.

41 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye,

but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye?

⁴² Either how canst thou say to thy brother, Brother, let me pull out the mote that is in thine eye, when thou thyself beholdest not the beam that is in thine own eye?

Thou hypocrite, cast out first the beam out of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to pull out the mote that is in thy brother's eye.

The Benedictus

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel :
for he hath visited, and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us :
in the house of his servant David;
As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets :
which have been since the world began;
That we should be saved from our enemies :
and from the hands of all that hate us;

To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers :
and to remember his holy covenant;
To perform the oath which he swore to our forefather Abraham :
that he would give us,
That we being delivered out of the hands of our enemies :
might serve him without fear,
In holiness and righteousness before him :
all the days of our life.
And thou, child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest :
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people :
for the remission of their sins;
Through the tender mercy of our God :
whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness,
and in the shadow of death :
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth:
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell;**

**the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen**

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done
in 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. Amen.**

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen.
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.
**Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us.
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collects are said.

The Collect of the Day

O God, the protector of all that trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is Holy:
increase and multiply upon us thy mercy, that, thou being our ruler and guide,
we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal:

Grant this of heavenly father, for Jesus Christ's Sake our Lord amen

The Collect in time of Pestilence, Sickness & Mortality

O ALMIGHTY God, the Lord of life and death, of health and sickness:

Have pity upon us miserable sinners, now visited with great sickness and mortality.

Withdraw from us this grievous affliction.

Sanctify to us, we beseech thee, this thy fatherly correction.

Enlarge our charity to relieve those who need our help.

Bless the remedies applied to assist them. Give us prudence to see, and vigour to use, those means which thy providence affords, for preventing and alleviating such calamities.

And, above all, teach us to know how frail and uncertain our condition is, and so to number our days, that we may seriously apply our hearts to that holy and heavenly wisdom, whilst we live here, which may in the end bring us to life everlasting;

through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, thine only Son our Lord.

Amen.

The Collect for Peace

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord,

in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life,

whose service is perfect freedom;

defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries;

through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Collect for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day;

defend us in the same with thy mighty power;

and grant that this day we fall into no sin,

neither run into any kind of danger,

but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance,

to do always that is righteous in thy sight;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sermon

Paul first alludes to the time when Adam disobeyed God, letting sin in the world and bringing sickness, sin, death and disorder into the created order. 20 For the creature was made subject to vanity (frustration), not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope,

This refers to God allowing this disorder which was a natural consequence of humankind's sin.

The sufferings of this present time, verse 18, refer to the sufferings that everyone experiences in this life as well as the sufferings associated with being a Christian.

This is contrasted with the glory that waits for every follower of Jesus.

Paul refers to the manifestation of the sons of God, verse 19.

The word refers to the removal of a covering, like the unveiling of a statue.

Previously it had been a rough, unattractive piece of stone which has been transformed to reveal a beautiful sculpture.

Believers experience some of the joys of a right relationship with God in this life.

Forgiveness of sins, unconditional love and acceptance, joy, peace, hope, answered prayer, the care and fellowship with fellow believers.

Yet there are still the difficulties of living in a world which is subject to sin and death, and of suffering for one's faith.

Paul uses the image of childbirth to describe this for the believer and the created order.

The pain of childbirth is replaced by the joy of new birth.

The pain of this world will be forgotten very quickly by believers when God gives them new, perfect resurrection bodies like Jesus.

Bodies that are not subject to wear and tear, sickness, injury, or death.

This 'glorious liberty' will free us to be the people we were intended to be.

To have fellowship with God for ever, praising, serving and worshipping him.

The created order will also be renewed, Revelation 21 refers to a new heaven and a new earth.

If you make a major purchase, for example buying a car, you may need to make a deposit to guarantee the final payment.

God has given a similar guarantee to believers by giving them the Holy Spirit. He, the Spirit, is described as "firstfruits".

This looks back to the Old Testament when the Israelites brought the first part of their harvest as an offering to God.

They were acknowledging that everything comes from God and showing confidence that God would provide the remainder of the harvest for them (Exod 23:19).

In giving His Spirit when someone comes to faith God is making a pledge that there is more to come. He will complete the process of salvation.

Paul refers to "the redemption of our body", verse 23. The word "redeemed" was from the market place.

It meant to buy back.

Christians have already been redeemed.

Jesus has paid the price for our sins on the cross, something we celebrate and proclaim in this service.

Although we have been redeemed and adopted as children of God there is more to come. We are to look forward eagerly to this certain hope and patiently endure the trials of this life.

*Perhaps I can illustrate our journey with Christ in this way.
Imagine a train in a long, dark tunnel. We were lost, in the dark when we were without Christ.*

*When we came to trust in Jesus some light dawned.
Someone put the carriage light on which brought us some security.*

We are waiting to emerge from the tunnel.

*When the light will temporarily blind us
and the darkness be replaced by myriad colours.*

Let us pray

*Lord Jesus, May the beauty of Your compassion, ever draw us towards the day when we finally
stand before our Maker and call upon His name. And may the anticipation of the glory inspire us
each and every day to live a life worthy of our highest call.
AMEN*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,
be with us all evermore. Amen