

## Morning Prayer for Sunday July 12, 2020

Prelude: *Three Interludes*; John Travers 1703-58, William Hine 1687-1730, and Henry Heron 1738-95

### GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

#### The Coventry Litany of Reconciliation

*All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.*

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class,

**FATHER FORGIVE**

The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own,

**FATHER FORGIVE**

The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth,

**FATHER FORGIVE**

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,

**FATHER FORGIVE**

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee,

**FATHER FORGIVE**

The lust which dishonours the bodies of men, women and children,

**FATHER FORGIVE**

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,

**FATHER FORGIVE**

*Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*

Opening Hymn:

Rise and hear! The Lord is speaking,  
as the gospel words unfold;  
we, in all our agelong seeking,  
find no firmer truth to hold.

2

Word of goodness, truth, and beauty,  
heard by simple folk and wise,  
word of freedom, word of duty,  
word of life beyond our eyes.

3

Word of God's forgiveness granted  
to the wild or guilty soul,  
word of love that works undaunted,  
changes, heals, and makes us whole.

Speak to us, O Lord, believing,  
as we hear, the sower sows;  
may our hearts, your word receiving,  
be the good ground where it grows.

*Sussex*

English Traditional Melody adapted by  
R. Vaughan Williams 1872-1958

H.C.A. Gaunt 1902-83

### Introductory Responses

**Officiant:** O Lord, open our lips  
**People:** **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**  
**Officiant:** In your resurrection, O Christ,  
**People:** **let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.6**

*The following may be said or sung.*

**Officiant:** Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:  
**People:** **as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

**Opening Canticle: Jubilate in B flat**

C.V. Stanford

*O Be joyful in the Lord | all ye lands:  
serve the Lord with gladness and come before his | presence with a song.  
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us and not |  
we ourselves;  
we are his people and the | sheep of his pasture.  
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his |  
courts with praise;  
be thankful unto him and | speak | good of his Name.  
For the Lord his gracious, his mercy is | everlasting;  
and his truth endureth from generation to | generation.*

*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.*

### THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Psalm 119: 105-112 PART 14. *Lucerna pedibus meis.*

*Chant: F.A.G. Ouseley*

105 THY word is a lantern unto my feet, /  
and a light unto my path.  
106 I have sworn, and am stedfastly purposed, /

to keep thy righteous judgements.  
107 I am troubled above measure: /  
quicken me, O LORD, according to thy word.  
108 Let the free-will offerings of my mouth please thee, O LORD, /  
and teach me thy judge- ments.  
109 My life is always in my hand; /  
yet do I not forget thy law.  
110 The ungodly have laid a snare for me; /  
but yet I swerved not from thy precepts.  
111 Thy testimonies have I claimed as mine heritage for ever; /  
and why? they are the very joy of my heart.  
112 I have applied my heart to fulfil thy statutes, /  
always, even unto the end.

*Officiant:* Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

**People:** as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.

*Lector:* A Reading from the Book of Genesis. (25:19-34)

<sup>19</sup> These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, <sup>20</sup> and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. <sup>21</sup> Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. <sup>22</sup> The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?"<sup>[a]</sup> So she went to inquire of the Lord. <sup>23</sup> And the Lord said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb,  
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;  
the one shall be stronger than the other,  
the elder shall serve the younger."

<sup>24</sup> When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. <sup>25</sup> The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. <sup>26</sup> Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob.<sup>[b]</sup> Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

<sup>27</sup> When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. <sup>28</sup> Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

<sup>29</sup> Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. <sup>30</sup> Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.<sup>[c]</sup>) <sup>31</sup> Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." <sup>32</sup> Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" <sup>33</sup> Jacob said, "Swear to me first."<sup>[d]</sup> So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. <sup>34</sup> Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### The Responsoy

*The Responsoy is said or sung.*

Officiant: Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead.

And Christ shall give you light.

People: **Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead. And Christ shall give you light.**

Officiant: You have died and your life is hid with Christ in God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on the earth.

People: **Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead. And Christ shall give you light.**

Officiant: When Christ our life appears  
you will appear with him in glory.

People: **Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead. And Christ shall give you light**

A reading from the letter to the Church at Rome. (8:1-11)

8 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

2 For the law of the Spirit[a] of life in Christ Jesus has set you[b] free from the law of sin and of death. 3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the

flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin,[c] he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 so that the just requirement

of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.[d] 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their

minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit[e] set their minds on the things of the Spirit.[f] 6 To set the mind on the flesh is

death, but to set the mind on the Spirit[g] is life and peace. 7 For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's

law—indeed it cannot, 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

9 But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit,[h] since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong

to him. 10 But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit[i] is life because of righteousness. 11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus

from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ[j] from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through[k] his Spirit that dwells in you.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*The Song of Zechariah (Luke 1.68-79)*

Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel, \* you  
have come to your people and set them free.  
You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour, \*  
born of the house of your servant David.  
Through your holy prophets, \*  
you promised of old to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all who hate us, \* to show  
mercy to our forebears, and to remember your  
holy covenant.

This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham: \* to set  
us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship you  
without fear, \* holy and righteous before you, all the days of  
our life. And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the  
Most High, \* for you will go before the Lord to prepare the  
way, to give God's people knowledge of salvation \* by the  
forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God \* the  
dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \* and  
to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Officiant:* Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

*People:* **as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

*Lay Reader:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And also with you.**

*Lay Reader:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. (13:1-9, 18-23)

*All:* **13** That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup> Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup> And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup> But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup> Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup> Let anyone with ears<sup>[a]</sup> listen!"

<sup>18</sup> "Hear then the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup> When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what

is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. <sup>20</sup> As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup> yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup> As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>23</sup> But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

Lay Reader: The Gospel of Christ.  
All: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Sermon  
*The Very Rev. Donald A. Davidson*

*The Anthem:*

If ye love me, keep my commandments.  
And I will pray the Father,  
and he shall give you another comforter,  
that he may 'bide with you forever;  
E'en the sp'rit of truth

*Thomas Tallis*

John 14: 15-17

*Hymn:*

God, whose farm is all creation,  
Take the gratitude we give.  
Take the finest of our harvest,  
Crops we grow that all may live.

2

Take our plowing, seeding, reaping,  
Hopes and fears of sun and rain,  
All our thinking, planning, waiting,  
Ripened in this fruit and grain.

3

All our labor, all our watching,  
all our calendar of care  
in these crops of your creation,  
take, O God: they are our prayer.

*Gott will's machen*  
J.L. Steiner 1688-1761

John Arlott 1914-1991

## Affirmation of Faith

### *The Apostles' Creed*

**All:** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 again 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.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

### The Litany

*The Litany is said or sung.*

*Intercessor:* God of Israel, may this day be one of fulfillment and peace.

**People:** Holy One, hear and have mercy.

*Intercessor:* Teach us to love others as you have loved us.

**People:** Holy One, hear and have mercy.

*Intercessor:* Fill the world with your peace and justice.

**People:** Holy One, hear and have mercy.

*Intercessor:* Strengthen and relieve those who are in need.

**People:** Holy One, hear and have mercy.

*Intercessor:* Renew the Church through the power of your life-giving Spirit.

**People:** Holy One, hear and have mercy.

*Additional intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings may be offered in silence or aloud. Among these concerns it is appropriate to remember*

- *the Church throughout the world;*
- *all who lead the church, ordained and lay;*
- *the leaders of the nations;*
- *the natural world and the resources of the earth;*
- *all who are in any kind of need.*

Officiant:

Divine Sower,  
you scatter your seed generously:  
may we be rich soil  
and receive your gift so freely given,  
so that we may revel  
in love's abundant, reckless growth;  
through Jesus Christ, the grain of life.

**Amen.**

Officiant: Source of light, yours is the morning and yours is the evening. May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine for ever in our hearts and draw us to that light where you live in radiant glory. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

Officiant: Gathering our prayers and praises into one,  
let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

All: **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. Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Dismissal

*Officiant:* Let us bless the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn:

Lord, thy word abideth,  
and our footsteps guideth;  
who its truth believeth  
light and joy receiveth.

2

When our foes are near us,  
then thy word doth cheer us,  
word of consolation,  
message of salvation.

3

When the storms are o'er us,  
and dark clouds before us,  
then its light directeth,  
and our way protecteth.

4

Who can tell the pleasure,  
who recount the treasure  
by thy word imparted  
to the simple-hearted?

5

Word of mercy, giving  
succour to the living;  
word of life, supplying  
comfort to the dying.

6

O that we discerning  
its most holy learning,  
Lord, may love and fear thee,  
evermore be near thee!

*Ravenshaw*

Adapted from a German Medieval Melody

W.H. Monk 1823-89

H.W. Baker 1821-77

Postlude: *The Prince of Denmark's March*, Jerimiah Clarke 1674-1707