### **Ashburton and Moorland Team**

## **TRINITY 20**

### 17th October 2021



#### ¶ The Gathering

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

# *Hymn* – *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CFpJ2u3hyNw

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear,
Now to His temple draw near;
Sing now in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth, Who, as on wings of an eagle, uplifteth, sustaineth.

Hast thou not seen
How thy desires all have been Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee, Who from the heavens the streams of His mercy doth send thee. Ponder anew What the Almighty can do, Who with His love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen
Sound from His people again;
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

Words: Joachim Neander

#### **Prayer of Preparation**

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**

The Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:
The first commandment is this:
'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'
There is no other commandment greater than these.
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

#### Confession

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.

We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

#### Gloria in Excelsis

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, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

#### .¶ The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 53:4-12

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.
But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

By a perversion of justice he was taken away.

Who could have imagined his future?

For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.

They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.

Out of his anguish he shall see light;

he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **New Testament Reading**

Hebrews 5:1-10

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not presume to take this honour, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.' In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

This is the word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

## **Hymn – God is love, let heaven adore him**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gyYWW P9MH4&t=55s

God is love, let heaven adore him; God is love, let earth rejoice; let creation sing before him, and exalt him with one voice. He who laid the earth's foundation, He who spread the heavens above, He who breathes through all creation, He is love, eternal love.

God is love and he enfoldeth all the world in one embrace; with unfailing grasp he holdeth every child of every race. And when human hearts are breaking under sorrow's iron rod, all the sorrow, all the aching wrings with pain the heart of God.

God is love, and though with blindness sin afflicts the souls of men,
God's eternal loving-kindness holds and guides them even then.
Sin and death and hell shall never o'er us final triumph gain;
God is love, so love for ever o'er the universe must reign.

Words: Timothy Rees © 1996 AR Mowbray & Co

#### Gospel Reading

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Jesus and said to him, 'Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.' And he said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' And they said to him, 'Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.' But Jesus said to them, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?' They replied, 'We are able.' Then Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.'

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, 'You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

#### The Sermon

(by Revd Paul Wimsett)

One of the most wearing things about being a parent is the number of questions that children ask. Someone has worked out how many questions the average child asks in the course of a day. It is very hard being faced with a lot of questions and big questions too, that even grown-ups are not sure of the answers to.....

One of the reasons why Jesus was not always the easiest person to have around was that he often asked questions and quite difficult questions, that people would rather not be asked of them.

# 'Who do you say that I am?' & 'Who do people say that I am?'

In today's Gospel reading we have another of Jesus' questions, in response to James and John approaching him, with something on their minds:

#### 'What do you want me to do for you?' Jesus said.

Now, I won't ask you to share this, because it might be deeply personal, but I'd like to imagine that Jesus is sitting down beside you and gently and kindly asking you, this question today, now. 'What do you want me to do for you?'

Saying nothing is not an option. What do you say?

Try to remember what you replied, for you to use again when you have time to sit quietly and carry on that conversation.....

Answering Jesus's question can open us up to a deep conversation and expose our anxieties....

It did for James and John in our Gospel reading. They were wanting the **best seats** in Jesus kingdom and were told that the way of Jesus was to be a **servant**. They had much to learn about following Jesus, as do we.

The world's way of thinking can often trap us in our own desires, wants and anxieties.

Jesus' way for all his disciples, in every age, which he reveals in this reading, is about first of all, knowing him and all he is and all he has done for us. Finding our deepest identity in him and then following his example.

James and John and we too have so much to learn here, for all of our lives, letting Jesus' way sink ever deeper in us.

James and John received their answer in being pointed to the Jesus who had come to serve others like no other. When we get trapped in our own thinking, so often he will give us a wider vision, call and invitation, as a servant like him.

Jesus also told James and John that he had come to give himself utterly for us and that this was immensely costly servant work. He would be 'a ransom for many'.

It is immensely humbling to be brought back time and again to Jesus, the example of his life, the costly sacrifice of his life, how much we and humanity needed and still need him and what he accomplished. Every time we break bread in our communion meal, we proclaim the wonder of this.

So, remembering all Jesus promised to be and to do for us, that we have heard in our Gospel reading, I invite you, later today and in the days to come, to continue that conversation when you pictured Jesus asking you:

#### 'What do you want me to do for you?'

Let the conversation go on and it will be a valuable growth in prayer for you, as well as helping you to grow as a disciple of Jesus. Remember that he will time and again draw us back to who he is and what he has done to serve us, as a key part of his answer for us, turning our hearts, minds and desires ever more deeply to him and to his wondrous purposes for us and for the world. Amen.

#### The Nicene Creed

I/We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

I/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.

I/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.

I/We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
I/We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
I/We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

#### The Peace

We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with us.

#### Hymn - The Servant King

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VHYFFQJNa\_I

From heaven you came, helpless babe,
Entered our world, your glory veiled;
Not to be served but to serve,
And give your life that we might live.
This is our God, the Servant King,
He calls us now to follow him,
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to the Servant King.

There in the garden of tears,
My heavy load he chose to bear;
His heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.

This is our God, the Servant King,

Come, see his hands and his feet,
The scars that speak of sacrifice,
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered.
This is our God, the Servant King,

So let us learn how to serve,
And in our lives enthrone him;
Each other's needs to prefer,
For it is Christ we're serving.

This is our God, the Servant King.

Words and music: Graham Kendrick © 1983 Kingsway Thankyou Music

#### Prayers of Intercession

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

We pray for the Church throughout the world, That we may bear faithful witness to Christ, Serving others as he has served us And by word and deed sharing the Good News of his life, death and resurrection.

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

Jesus, our servant King, we ask you to turn the nations to your just and gentle rule. We pray for the leaders of the nations in all their responsibilities at this challenging time, praying that they may be guided by you and inspired by the vision of your kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Jesus, our friend and brother, always ever near to us, we pray that you will guide our life and witness in our local community. Give us eyes to see, and ears to hear, who is particularly in need or hurting around us and the grace we need to respond in your name.

Lord in your mercy.

#### hear our prayer.

Jesus, you shared the life of an earthly home and experienced the joys and sorrows of family life. We pray for our homes and families, especially praying for situations of pain and challenge that we are aware of..

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

Jesus, you laid your hands upon the sick and made them whole. In a moment of quiet, we bring before you those we know who are unwell in body, mind or spirit......

May they know your touch and find your hope today.

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

Jesus, you died and rose again to give us hope, even in death.

Teach us to use our days on earth to your glory, always living our lives in anticipation of the joys of your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.

#### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who 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.

(For those in church, the Eucharistic prayer comes here)

#### Hymn – To God be the glory

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-15v9iworAU

To God be the glory, great things he hath done: so loved he the world that he gave us his son, who yielded his life in atonement for sin, and opened the life gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he hath done.

O, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, to every believer the promise of God. The vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice ...

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son, but purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice...

Words: Frances Jane van Alstyne

#### ¶ Ending

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Amen

#### The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our 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.** 

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