

# Morning Prayer – 3rd Sunday after Trinity from The Book of Common Prayer

## *Hymn – Brother, sister, let me serve you*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G\\_ufwqwquqY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_ufwqwquqY)

Brother, sister, let me serve you,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,  
and companions on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.

## *Opening prayers*

God is love; and he that abideth in love abideth in God and God in him.

*1 John 4.16*

Beloved, we are come together in the presence of almighty God and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make confession of our sins; to pray, as well for others as for ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all men such things as their well-being doth require.

Wherefore let us kneel in silence, and remember God's presence with us now.

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.

### *Pause*

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.*

## *Venite, exultemus Domino*

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.

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.

## *Old Testament Lesson*

Isaiah 66.10-14

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,  
all you who love her;  
rejoice with her in joy,  
all you who mourn over her—  
that you may nurse and be satisfied  
from her consoling breast;  
that you may drink deeply with delight  
from her glorious bosom.

For thus says the LORD:  
I will extend prosperity to her like a river,  
and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream;  
and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm,  
and dandled on her knees.  
As a mother comforts her child,  
so I will comfort you;  
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice;  
your bodies shall flourish like the grass;  
and it shall be known that the hand of the LORD is with his servants,  
and his indignation is against his enemies.

## *Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18*

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, for ever;  
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

I declare that your steadfast love is established for ever;  
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

You said, 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one,  
I have sworn to my servant David:

"I will establish your descendants for ever,  
and build your throne for all generations." '

Happy are the people who know the festal shout,  
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your countenance;

they exult in your name all day long,  
and extol your righteousness.

For you are the glory of their strength;  
by your favour our horn is exalted.

For our shield belongs to the Lord,  
our king to the Holy One of Israel.

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.

## *New Testament Lesson*

Galatians 6.7-16

Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

### *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.

## *Gospel Reading*

Luke 10.1-11,16-20

The Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.

'Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this house!" And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you." But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, "Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near."

'Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.'

The seventy returned with joy, saying, 'Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!' He said to them, 'I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.'

## *Jubilate*

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 is 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 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 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 Collect of the Day*

Almighty God,  
who hast broken the tyranny of sin  
and hast sent the Spirit of thy Son into our hearts,  
whereby we call thee Father:  
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to thy service,  
that the whole world may be brought to the glorious liberty  
of the children of God;  
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,  
who liveth and reigneth with thee,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
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.

## *Hymn – Let there be love shared among us*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zEuS7Ut7kqI>

Let there be love shared among us  
let there love in our eyes.  
May now your love sweep this nation,  
cause us Oh Lord, to arise.

Give us a fresh understanding  
of brotherly love that is real.  
Let there be love shared among us  
let there love.

Let there be love shared among us  
let there love in our eyes.  
May now your love sweep this nation,  
cause us Oh Lord, to arise.

Give us a fresh understanding  
of brotherly love that is real.  
Let there be love shared among us  
let there love.

## *Sermon*

Isaiah is writing about the Jerusalem of two and a half thousand years ago – but it doesn't sound very different from the Jerusalem of today.

These days Jerusalem is a sadly divided city. Jews, Christians and Muslims have been living there in relative peace for many years, but more recently, religious differences and political manoeuvres are becoming more divisive, putting up barriers between them, often escalating into protests and violence.

At one level their faith is telling them to be loving and supportive of each other, at another level they feel threatened and afraid.

It's tragic that there are now such deep divisions between these groups of people who all essentially believe in the same God – the God who first became known to the peoples of the Middle East through Abraham and Isaac and their descendants.

But it's not the first time that Jerusalem has needed healing from violence and divisions - in the reading from Isaiah we hear that there is mourning in Jerusalem and a great need for comfort.

Isaiah's vision of the city is that of a mother consoling a child that has been hurt. In a flight of imagination, we are given a vision of Jerusalem, the city, suckling its inhabitants as a mother suckles her babies.

Just as a baby feels safe in its mother's arms, so a city, within an enclosing wall, can feel a really safe place – once it is no longer being attacked. Jerusalem had arrived at that moment of peace, and needed to rebuild its sense of community.

Isaiah imagines God pouring his love into Jerusalem:

'I will extend prosperity to her like a river,  
and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream;  
and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm,  
and dandled on her knees.  
As a mother comforts her child,  
so I will comfort you;  
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.'

We can almost see the stronger inhabitants waking up to the fact that they are safe, coming out of their cellars and bunkers, and looking out for the weak and ill to care for them and help them.

It would be a time of rebuilding relationships, caring for the vulnerable, helping the needy – of rediscovering how to comfort people in distress.

When we are feeling confident that God loves us, that's the springboard that enables us to then go on to love others. Like when Paul encourages the people in Galatia to 'not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all.'

God is wanting all people to bring the message of the possibility of fresh starts, fresh hope to those around them. To people who have lost hope, who are despairing.

But it's not just cities that have been under siege that cause people to lose hope. Sadly in every type of community, divisions and frictions can cause a loss of hope and a feeling of insecurity.

When Jesus sent out seventy of his disciples to the towns and village in the countryside around Galilee, he wanted them to take a message of love and care to everyone, to enable the healing of divisions, the caring for the

sick, the bringing of peace.

And these new disciples were welcomed with open arms into homes as they spread the news about Jesus and his gospel of forgiveness and reconciliation. They came back to Jesus full of joy that they had all been made so welcome. There is such a hunger and longing for peace to replace divisions and enmity that they were welcomed with open arms.

Of course it's not just in distant towns and cities where there are divisions, family feuds, hardship and hunger – these are to be found in every community, even here on Dartmoor. And it's not just violence that causes these ills – they can equally come about by financial hardship and soaring inflation, personal aggression, divided families..

Jesus wants us all to be peacemakers like the seventy, to be the yeast in our communities, even if our contribution feels so small. There will always be a need for people who bring comfort and healing, joy and peace. And everyone who does that is following Jesus' command to love their neighbour, and help to bring in his Kingdom.

May we be part of this – to God's greater glory.

Amen

## *Prayers*

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

Almighty and ever-living God, who by thy holy apostle hast taught us to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks, for all men: we humbly beseech thee most mercifully to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy divine majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity and concord; and grant that all they that do confess thy holy name may agree in the truth of thy holy word, and live in unity and godly love.

We beseech thee also to lead all nations in the way of righteousness and peace; and so to direct all kings and rulers, that under them thy people may be godly and quietly governed. And grant unto thy servant Elizabeth our Queen, and to all that are put in authority under her that they may truly and indifferently administer justice, to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops, priests and deacons, especially to thy servant Robert our bishop, that they may both by their life and doctrine set forth thy true and lively word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy sacraments.

Guide and prosper, we pray thee, those who are labouring for the spread of thy gospel among the nations, and enlighten with thy Spirit all places of education and learning; that the whole world may be filled with the knowledge of thy truth.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace; and specially to this congregation here present, that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all them who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we commend to thy gracious keeping, O Lord, all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee, according to thy promises, to grant them refreshment, light and peace.

And here we give thee most high praise and hearty thanks for all thy saints, who have been the chosen vessels of thy grace, and lights of the world in their several generations; and we pray that, rejoicing in their fellowship and following their good examples, we may be partakers with them of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only mediator and advocate. Amen.

### *A prayer for all those affected by Coronavirus*

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of thy mercy.  
Sustain and support the anxious,  
be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may find comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from thy love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Amen.

*You may like to add your own prayer(s) at this point, perhaps focusing on those you are most concerned about.*

## *Hymn – O Lord my God*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1mTb-cN6lvk>

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy power throughout the universe displayed;

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:

*Then sings my soul...*

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die – I scarce can take it in  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin:

*Then sings my soul...*

When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation  
and take me home – what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then shall I bow in humble adoration  
and there proclaim, 'my God, how great thou art!'

*Then sings my soul...*

## *Ending*

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.