

**Morning Prayer**  
**Sunday 12th September – 15th Sunday after Trinity**

**Preparation**

O Lord, open our lips  
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

**Have mercy on us O God, Father almighty:  
immeasurable God,  
patient God,  
incorruptible God,  
immortal God,  
eternal God,  
perfect God,  
merciful God,  
wonderful God;  
heavenly Father, who abides in heaven,  
Have mercy on us.**

*from A Celtic Primer*

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence may be kept.*

**As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

**The Word of God**

*First reading: James 3:1-12*

Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. <sup>2</sup>We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.

<sup>3</sup>When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. <sup>4</sup>Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. <sup>5</sup>Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. <sup>6</sup>The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

<sup>7</sup>All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, <sup>8</sup>but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

<sup>9</sup>With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. <sup>10</sup>Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. <sup>11</sup>Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? <sup>12</sup>My brothers and sisters, can a fig-tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Second reading: Mark 8:27-end

<sup>27</sup> Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, 'Who do people say I am?'

<sup>28</sup> They replied, 'Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.'

<sup>29</sup> 'But what about you?' he asked. 'Who do you say I am?'

Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah.'

<sup>30</sup> Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup> He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

<sup>33</sup> But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. 'Get behind me, Satan!' he said. 'You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.'

<sup>34</sup> Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. <sup>36</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? <sup>37</sup> Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? <sup>38</sup> If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Nicene Creed: a responsive form

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.  
**With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.**  
He 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.**

### Sermon

### Prayers

*our intercessions are led, and include the response:*

Come, Lord:

**Come, Lord, be known among us.**

**O gracious and holy Father,**  
**give us wisdom to perceive you,**  
**diligence to seek you,**  
**patience to wait for you,**  
**eyes to behold you,**  
**a heart to meditate on you,**  
**and a life to proclaim you,**  
**through the power of the Spirit**  
**of Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

*Benedict of Nursia*

### Collect

**God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit**  
**upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:**  
**grant that your people may be fervent**  
**in the fellowship of the gospel**  
**that, always abiding in you,**  
**they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;**  
**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.**

Trusting in the compassion of God,  
Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us  
**“Our Father, who art in heaven ...”**

### Hymn

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know, and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you, and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind, and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare,  
will you let me answer prayer in you, and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the pris'ners free, and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean in you, and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside, and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around  
through my sight and touch and sound in you, and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you, and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you, and you in me.

John L Bell and Graham Maule  
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## **The Conclusion**

The Blessing, *followed by*:

We believe that by his dying  
**Christ destroyed death for ever.**  
We have been crucified with Christ  
**and live by faith in the Son of God,**  
**who loved us and gave himself for us.**  
May he send us out to glory in his cross,  
**and live no longer for ourselves but for him,**  
**who died and was raised to life for us.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Today there are services at  
10.30 am Aldfield (Holy Communion);  
4.00 pm Grewelthorpe (Reflective Worship);  
and at 6 pm at Sawley (Harvest Service, followed by supper and sale of produce).  
Everyone from across the benefice (and beyond) is welcome at all services.*

*We believe the precautions we take to be adequate in keeping us safe.  
Face coverings are no longer compulsory in church services but we recommend  
bringing them, out of consideration for others in the congregation.*