

**Morning Prayer for Stalham &  
Smallburgh Benefices**  
**16<sup>th</sup> May 2021**  
**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**Preparation**

O Lord, open our lips  
**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**  
Send your Holy Spirit upon us,  
**and clothe us with power from on high. Alleluia.**

Blessed are you, creator God, to you be praise and  
glory for ever.

As your Spirit moved over the face of the waters  
bringing light and life to your creation,  
pour out your Spirit on us today  
that we may walk as children of light  
and by your grace reveal your presence.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

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

*Pause for reflection as you offer the day to God.*

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.

**Hymn**

- 1 Rejoice, the Lord is King,  
your Lord and King adore;  
mortals, give thanks and sing,  
and triumph evermore:  
*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;  
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.*
- 2 Jesus the Saviour, reigns,  
the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains,  
he took his seat above:  
*Chorus*
- 3 His kingdom cannot fail;  
he rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus given:  
*Chorus*

- 4 He sits at God's right hand  
till all his foes submit,  
and bow to his command,  
and fall beneath his feet:  
*Chorus*

- 5 Rejoice in glorious hope;  
Jesus the judge shall come,  
and take his servants up  
to their eternal home.  
*We soon shall hear the archangel's voice  
the trump of God shall sound: rejoice!*

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788) and John Taylor (1750-1826)*

**Confession**

Loving Father, we confess that we have failed you in  
thought, word and deed.  
We ask for your mercy and your help.

**God of mercy,  
we acknowledge that we are all sinners.  
We turn from the wrong that we have thought and  
said and done,  
and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.  
For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,  
forgive us for all that is past,  
and help us to live each day  
in the light of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the God of love and power  
forgive us and free us from our sins,  
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,  
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Psalm: Psalm 1**

**Refrain: The Lord knows the way of the righteous.**

- 1 Blessed are they who have not walked in  
the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in  
the way of sinners, nor sat in the assembly  
of the scornful.
- 2 **Their delight is in the law of the Lord and  
they meditate on his law day and night.**
- 3 Like a tree planted by streams of water  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that  
do not wither, whatever they do, it shall  
prosper.

- 4 **As for the wicked, it is not so with them; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not be able to stand in the judgement, nor the sinner in the congregation of the righteous.
- 6 **For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall perish.**

**Refrain: The Lord knows the way of the righteous.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

### **Bible Readings**

*The full text of the readings can be found in Pews News.*

*At the end of the readings*

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Reading**

*When the Gospel is announced*  
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to...

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Responsory**

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people  
**and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

All who are led by the Spirit of God  
are children of God and fellow-heirs with Christ.  
**Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people.**

Renew the face of your creation, Lord,  
pouring on us the gifts of your Spirit,  
**and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

For the creation waits with eager longing  
for the glorious liberty of the children of God.  
**Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people  
and kindle in us the fire of your love.** *cf Romans 8*

### **Reflection**

*This week's reflection has been written by David  
Nichols. You can find the full text of the reflection in  
Pews News.*

### **The Creed**

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Almighty God,  
keep us faithful to you  
and so make us ready for that day  
when the whole creation shall be made perfect  
in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **Prayers**

*The response in our prayers is*

Lord, as we are loved  
**help us to love.**

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

*This week's prayers have been written by Hazel  
Furness and you can find the full text in Pews News.*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
we thank you that you have brought us safely to the  
beginning of this day.  
Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger;  
order us in all our doings and guide us to do always  
what is righteous in your sight;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **The Collect for Thy Kingdom Come**

Almighty God, your ascended Son has sent us into  
the world  
to preach the good news of your kingdom:  
inspire us with your Spirit and fill our hearts with the  
fire of your love,  
that all who hear your Word may be drawn to you,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **The Collect for the week**

Risen, ascended Lord,  
as we rejoice at your triumph,  
fill your Church on earth with power and compassion,  
that all who are estranged by sin  
may find forgiveness and know your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father..  
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. Amen.

### **Hymn**

- 1 Crown him with many crowns,  
the Lamb upon his throne;  
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns  
all music but its own:

Awake, my soul, and sing  
of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King  
through all eternity.

- 2 Crown him the Lord of Love!  
Behold his hands and side,  
those wounds yet visible above  
in beauty glorified:  
no angel in the sky  
can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends his burning eye  
at mysteries so bright.
- 3 Crown him the Lord of peace,  
whose power a sceptre sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,  
and all be prayer and praise:  
his reign shall know no end,  
and round his piercèd feet  
fair flowers of Paradise extend  
their fragrance ever sweet.
- 4 Crown him the Lord of years,  
the Potentate of time,  
Creator of the rolling spheres,  
ineffably sublime.  
all hail, Redeemer, hail!  
for thou hast died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail  
throughout eternity.

*Matthew Bridges (1800-94)*

### **The Conclusion**

May the Spirit kindle in us the fire of God's love.  
**Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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