

St. John's Morning Liturgy
19th September - Who is the greatest?

Opening responses

- Leader Loving God, open our hearts,
All **So that we may feel your presence here among us**
- Leader Unclench our hands
All **So that we may reach out and touch others**
- Leader Open our lips
All **that we might sing your praise and announce your truth**
- Leader Unclog our ears
All **to hear your agony in our inhumanity**
- Leader Open our eyes
All **That we might see Christ in friend and foe alike**
- Leader Breathe your spirit on us this morning
All **that we may know Christ among us, Amen.**
- Song: God is good!**
- Prayer Confession**
- Leader For turning away from you,
 and ignoring your will for our lives;
 Father, forgive us:
All **save us and help us.**
- For behaving just as we wish,
 without thinking of you;
 Father, forgive us:
All **save us and help us.**
- For failing you by what we do
 and think and say;
 Father, forgive us:
All **save us and help us.**

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you
by temptations in the world about us;
Father, forgive us:
All **save us and help us.**

For living as if we were ashamed to belong to your Son;
Father, forgive us:
All **save us and help us.**

The absolution

Leader God forgives us
 Forgive ourselves
 Forgive others

Collect - prayer for the day

Leader God, who draws near,
 who comes to our level,
 whose nature is revealed
 in lordship laid aside:
 give us grace to welcome you
 in the one who tests the bounds
 of our community:
 in the child,
 the outcast,
 the one who comes with no power
 save that of remaking our heart;
 through Jesus Christ, the one who will be betrayed.
 Amen.

Reading 1: Proverbs 31:10-31

Reading 2: James 3:13-4:3

Song: Lord, I come to you

Word of God

Leader Listen for the Word which God has spoken;
All **Speak, Lord, to our speaking,**
 Speak, Lord, to our listening,
 Speak, Lord, to our souls' deep understanding.

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:30-37

Reflection - Third Sunday Team

Affirmation

Leader Let us declare our faith in God:

All 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.

Song: Seek ye first

Prayers for our times

Prayers are said for our community and our world.

The sung response is:

All Through our lives and by our prayers Your kingdom come!

Leader We say together the Lord's prayer:

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.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now
and for ever. Amen.

We share the Peace

Leader You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace;

the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you. **Amen.**

Song: Jubilate, everybody!

Notices

Closing Responses

Leader In the face of poverty and injustice

All we will not give in

Leader With communities around the world

All we will not give in

Leader Empowered by the Spirit

All we will not give in

Leader And so may the blessing of God, Life-giver, Change-maker,
Love-creator be with us now and always

All Amen.

As the service draws to a close we sing 'Go Peaceful'.

Words and materials from:

Opening and closing responses from *Creation Sings Your Praise: A Christian Aid Worship book* by Annabel Shilson-Thomas (2010) Canterbury Press.

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