

Order of Service for Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Gathering

God in Christ has revealed his glory.

Come let us worship.

From the rising of the sun to its setting,

The Lord's name is greatly to be praised.

Give him praise, you servants of the Lord.

O praise the name of the Lord!

Collect

God of glory,

The end of our searching,

Help us lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,

And to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price;

Through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Confession

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden, to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

God our father,

we are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly;

And acted ungratefully.

Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:

Forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest,

But sometimes forget that you have given them to us.

Father, in your mercy:

Forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied;

But ignore the cry of the hungry.

Father, in your mercy:

Forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless,

And do not care enough for the world you have made.

Father, in your mercy:

Forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone,

As if there were no God and no heaven.

Father, in your mercy:

Forgive us and help us.

The Lord enrich us with his grace,

And nourish us with his blessing;

The Lord defend us in trouble and keep us from all evil;

The Lord accept our prayers,

And absolve us from our offences,

For the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Amen.

Readings

Romans 12: 1-8

Matthew 16: 13-20

Reflection

Affirmation of faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Though he was divine,

he did not cling to equality with God,

But made himself nothing.

**Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself and was obedient to death,
Even death on the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high,
And given him the name above every name:
That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
And every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
To the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

Intercessions

Brothers and sisters in Christ, God invites us to hold the needs of friends and loved ones before him. And so, loving our neighbour as ourselves, we offer our thanksgivings and our petitions on behalf of the church and the world.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, we pray today O Lord for your blessing to be upon our congregations, our churches and this Benefice, and for your presence to be seen vividly in what we do and say each day. We pray that your joy and your love will flow freely in and through us and that we might never be a temptation to those around us.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Creator God, we pray for all in authority that they may never be tempted to abuse or misuse their power. We continue to pray for persecuted Christian believers and for minority Christian communities where that are under pressure and for all who suffer for their faith.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Father God, we pray for the times when our blinkered vision prevents us from taking care of our immediate family and household or when through our busyness, we take no part in the life of our neighbourhood or wider community.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, friend of those in need, your Son Jesus can free us from our burdens and heal our bodies and spirits. We pray for those still burdened, those seeking healing, those in need within the church and the world. We pray too for those suffering from addiction of any kind and ask that you help them to put the temptation of Satan and the world behind them. And we continue to pray for those affected by the Pandemic in any way, especially for those who will not recover.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, we commend into your hands those who have departed this life. You gave them breath and loved them through their journey of life. Receive them now at the end of that journey into eternal presence and may they rest in everlasting peace.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, as we go out into the world we pray that we may reflect your love in our families, our church and our communities; so that the world can witness that we are followers of Christ and draw others into his loving care.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

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

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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.

Blessing

May the blessing of God almighty,

The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,

Be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.