

Order of Service for Thirteenth 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

Almighty God,

You search us and know us:

May we rely on you in strength

And rest on you in weakness,

Now and in all our days;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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

Exodus 20:1-21 KJV

Matthew 4:1-11 NRSV

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

Lord God heavenly Father, you have commanded us to have no other gods. Keep us faithful to you alone, dethrone the idols in our life, and give us the grace to honour, love and trust you above all things.

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

Gracious Father, your name is holy. Stop us from using it in unholy ways. Let the name of Christ keep us holy, and may we always trust in the holy name of Jesus and use his name in prayer and praise.

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

This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Almighty God and Father, you created six days in which to work and the seventh you made a day of rest. Grant that we may use the Lord's day for rest and hearing your word.

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

Gracious Father in heaven, in your goodness you have given us fathers and mothers whom you want us to honour. Grant that by the help of your Spirit all Christian parents may bring their children up to honour and love you, and that children may not provoke their parents to anger but love, respect, and obey them. Keep the

families of the church united, and strengthen them through your word.

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

Lord of life, you have created the world and you give life to all people. Grant that by your grace all may respect the sanctity of life, including the life of the unborn. Let us do nothing to hurt or harm our neighbour in any way, but rather to be of help, especially in times of need. We think particularly of those who work to save life at this time.

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

Merciful Father, you have established the state of marriage and continue to bless it. Give us grace to lead a chaste and pure life. Bless all who are married; enable them to remain faithful to their vows, and to be patient and forgiving.

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

Almighty God, you are the giver and preserver of all good things. Help us to value honest work as your gift and the means by which you bless our country. Give us joy as we serve others with unselfish hearts. Give work to the unemployed and help them to use their extra time constructively and for the good of their communities particularly at this time.

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

Lord God our heavenly Father, in Jesus Christ you have shown yourself to be for us and not against us. Help us to be loyal to our neighbours and do nothing to damage their reputation. Show us the log in our own eye when we find a speck in their eye. Make us more ready to forgive than to judge, and always view the actions of others in the most favourable light.

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

Gracious God and Father, you are the owner and giver of all things. Enable us to be good stewards of all your gifts, content with what you have given us, and eager to advance the cause of others even if

it is to our disadvantage. Give us a generous heart and joy in serving our neighbour. We think of those who are struggling in body, mind or spirit; may we be your hands and feet in the communities where we live.

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.