

**Morning Worship – 12th Sunday after Trinity, 4 September
2022**

Welcome and Gathering

Come, let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

He it is who made us, not we ourselves. We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Let us come into his courts with gratitude.

Let us enter his presence with praise.

Song: Come, now is the time to worship

Prayer:

From before the world began and after the end of eternity:

You are God.

From the sea bursting out its womb to the wind ceasing from its chase:

You are God.

In the vastness of the universe and forgotten corner of our hearts:

You are God, and we bless You.

Because the world is beautiful, and beauty is a tender thing, and we are stewards of creation:

We need you, God.

Because human knowledge seems endless, the world is our oyster, and we do not know what we do not know:

We need you, God.

Because we can live without you, and are free to go against you, and could worship our wisdom alone:

We need you, God.

Because you came among us, and sat beside us, and heard us speak and saw us ignore you; and healed our pain and let us wound you, and loved us to the end, and triumphed over all our hatred:

We need you, God.

Because you, not we, are God, we need you.

In a moment of quiet we think of the many gifts of God: life, food, health, shelter, talents....the love we receive from others....the grace we receive from Christ....

As we celebrate the goodness of God, we also remember the shadows in our lives

(silence)

Father God, we confess that we often take the gifts of your creation for granted, and use them chiefly to further our own interests....Lord, have mercy.

Saviour Christ, we confess that we easily fall into temptation and forget to seek your forgiveness....Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit, we confess that we often close our minds to your influence, and fail to bear good fruit in our lives....Lord, have mercy.

Remaining seated we sing: Lead me, Lord

Listen, for the Lord who created you says, "Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name – you are mine. You are precious to me. I love you. I honour you. I am with you."

Remaining seated we sing: Oh, to see the dawn

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 139:1-18 & 23-24

Reflection

Song: O God, you search me and you know me

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, what joy it is to know that You know everything about me. Even the things that I do wrong can never separate me from Your unfailing love. Help me to live out this truth in my life and may I do only those things that are pleasing in Your sight. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

New Testament Reading:

Luke 14: 25-33 The cost of being a disciple

Ending with This is the Word of the Lord: Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Prayer:

Lord, you are all-knowing and full of wisdom. Help me as your disciple to follow you in every thought, word, and deed. Give me a heart of obedience and trust, that I would not get wrapped up in my doubt or what I think is the right choice. Help me to recognise that your good and perfect will does not always look the way I think it should, but that doesn't make it any less good or any less perfect.

Give me the strength to be your disciple and to follow you all the days of my life. Amen.

Song: Lord, I come to you

Our Belief:

We believe in God, the eternal Father; heaven and earth are full of his glory.

We believe in Jesus Christ, his true and only Son; he became man to set us free.

We believe in the Holy Spirit; he is our advocate and guide.

We believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.
(from Te Deum)

Prayers of Intercession

Including Today's Collect:

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of 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

The Lord's Prayer:

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

Notices

Hymn: Beauty for brokenness

Concluding Prayer

God of time and space, you call us to discern your presence in the world: grant us wisdom to perceive you, courage to work with you, power to proclaim you, and above all a heart to love you.

Blessing