**11 October 2020 - Trinity 18**

HYMN 372

Through all the changing scenes of life,

In trouble and in joy,

The praises of my God shall still

My heart and tongue employ.

O taste his goodness, prove his love

Experience will decide,

How blest are thee and only they

Who in his truth confide.

*Page 201*

**THE GREETING**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**and also with you.**

**SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE**

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness, let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

**THE COLLECT FOR PURITY**

[Let us pray]

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF PENITENCE**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:  
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it. You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets. *Matthew 22: 37-39*

**Lord, have mercy on us, and write these your laws in our hearts.**

**CONFESSION**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins, to intercede for us in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God’s commandments and to live in love and peace:

*Silence*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought and word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may walk in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One: you alone are the Lord: you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the Glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**THE COLLECT of the 18th Sunday after Trinity**

**Almighty and everlasting God:**

**Increase in us your gift of faith**

**that, forsaking what lies behind,**

**we may run the way of your commandments**

**and win the crown of everlasting joy;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*Joyce*

**THE FIRST READING The Lesson: Isaiah 25: 1-9**

The lesson is from the Book of the prophet Isaiah, in the twenty-fifth chapter, beginning at the first verse.

O LORD, you are my God;  
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;  
for you have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.  
For you have made the city a heap,  
the fortified city a ruin;  
the palace of aliens is a city no more,  
it will never be rebuilt.  
Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;  
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.  
For you have been a refuge to the poor,  
a refuge to the needy in their distress,  
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.  
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,  
the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,  
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;  
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

*Richard*

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.  
And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;  
he will swallow up death for ever.  
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.  
It will be said on that day,  
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 23 *page 616*

1*J*  The Lord is my shepherd; ♦︎  
  *R* therefore can I lack nothing.  
2  He makes me lie down in green pastures ♦︎  
   and leads me beside still waters.  
3  He shall refresh my soul ♦︎  
   and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.  
4  Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
      I will fear no evil; ♦︎  
   for you are with me;  
      your rod and your staff, they comfort me.  
5  You spread a table before me  
      in the presence of those who trouble me; ♦︎  
   you have anointed my head with oil  
      and my cup shall be full.  
6  Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me  
      all the days of my life, ♦︎  
   and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

**THE EPISTLE READING Philippians 4: 1-9**

J

The epistle is written in St Paul’s epistle to the Philippians, in the fourth chapter, beginning at the first verse.

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My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

*R*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL HYMN 593**

O Jesus, I have promised

To serve thee to the end

Be thounforevr near me

My Master and my Friend.

I shall not fear the battle

If thou art by my side

Nor wander from the pathway

If thou wilt be my guide.

**THE GOSPEL READING Matthew 22: 1-14**

*R*

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to St Matthew, in the 22nd chapter, beginning at the first verse.

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Once more Jesus spoke to the chief priests and the elders of the people in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

*J*

'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**SERMON**

eryone. Amen.

**THE NICENE CREED** *Stand*

*Richard*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** PROPER 23 YEAR A

*R*

Let us pray for a gracious response to the love of God in the Church and in the world.

May the Church ever give glory to God for his grace and the great benefits of his love. Let all people hear his call and respond gladly and without reservation.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

*J*

We pray for a world where many reject the true wealth of faithful obedience for the false wealth of material things. Grant that hose who control the world’s resources shall be gracious to the needs of all people.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

*R*

Bless in this community all who care for the poor and the helpless, find shelter for the homeless and minister to the sick. Make us more grateful for all that we have received and more willing to share it with others.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

*J*

Have mercy on all who suffer: those who suffer for speaking the words of truth; those whose daily existence is made more difficult because of the words and attitudes of those they love; those whose daily life is lived in sorrow, or pain or guilt.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

*R*

We give thanks for those who have gone from this world to be guests at the great marriage feast of heaven and we pray that we may share with them the joys of your eternal kingdom.

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

*R*

**PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

**We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.**

**THE PEACE**

*J*

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you.**

**HYMN**

**AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE**

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ our risen high priest; make yourself known in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

**THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE**

*Stand. The Presiding Minister takes the bread and wine and may say*

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us

**therefore let us celebrate the feast.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 2**

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour, thanks and praise be given to you at all times and in all places, Lord, Holy Father, true and living God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For he is your eternal Word through whom you have created all things from the beginning and formed us in your own image.

In your great love you gave him to be made man for us and to share our common life.

In obedience to your will you Son our Saviour offered himself a perfect sacrifice, and died on the cross for our redemption. Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin and reconciled us to yourself, our God and Father.

He is our great high priest whom you raised from death and exalted to your right hand on high where he ever lives to intercede for us.

He passed beyond our sight, not to abandon us but to be our hope, that where he is we might also be and reign with him in glory.

Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit and made us a royal priesthood called to serve you for ever.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Merciful Father, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, and we pray that we who eat and drink them, in the fellowship of the holy Spirit, in obedience to our Saviour Christ, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his body and his blood, who on the night he was betrayed took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

\* Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

After supper \* he took the cup; and again giving you thanks, he gave it to his disciples, saying, Drink from this, all of you \* This is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. Father, with this bread and this cup we do as our Saviour has commanded:

We celebrate the redemption he has won for us; we proclaim his perfect sacrifice, made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and we look for his coming to fulfil all things according to you will.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of you Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom and in whom, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, so we pray

**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.**

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

**AGNUS DEI**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

**THE COMMUNION**

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Remember that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

HYMN 433 during Communion:

My God, your table here is spread,

Your cup with love still overflows;

May we your loved, ones now be fed

As Christ his peace and mercy shows.

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

**THE GREAT SILENCE**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

All praise and thanks, O Christ,  
for this sacred banquet,  
in which by faith we receive you,  
the memory of your passion is renewed,  
our lives are filled with grace,  
and a pledge of future glory given,  
to feast at that table where you reign  
with all your saints for ever. Amen

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

**THE BLESSING**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**.

**HYMN 80**

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;

There is no shadow of turning with thee;

Thou changest not thy compassions they fail not,

As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness ,*

*Morning by morning new mercies I see;*

*All I have needed thy hand has provided,*

*Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

**DISMISSAL**

*Richard*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**in the name of Christ. Amen.**

372 Through all the changing   
593 O Jesus I have promised  
433 My God, your table here is spread

80 Great is thy faithfulness