

**Morning Prayer For Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September**  
**The 15th Sunday after Trinity**

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you**

**Welcome & Introduction**

We come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to seek the forgiveness of our sins, and to pray for the needs of the world, that by the power of the Holy Spirit, we may give ourselves to the service of God.

O Lord, open our lips,  
**and our mouth will proclaim your praise.**

Let us worship the Lord.  
**All praise to his name**

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, Creator of all, to you be glory and praise for ever. You founded the earth in the beginning and the heavens are the work of your hands. In the fulness of time, you made us in your image, and in these last days you have spoken to us in your Son Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. As we rejoice in the gift of your presence among us let the light of your love always shine in our hearts, your Spirit ever renew our lives and your praises ever be on our lips.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

***Hymn: 489 Tell Me The Old Old Story***

1 Tell me the old, old story,  
Of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus and His glory,  
Of Jesus and His love;  
Tell me the story simply,  
As to a little child,  
For I am weak and weary,  
And helpless and defiled.

*Tell me the old, old story,  
Tell me the old, old story,  
Tell me the old, old story,  
Of Jesus and His love.*

2 Tell me the story slowly,  
That I may take it in—  
That wonderful redemption,  
God's remedy for sin;  
Tell me the story often,  
For I forget so soon,  
The early dew of morning  
Has passed away at noon.

3 Tell me the story softly,  
With earnest tones and grave;  
Remember I'm the sinner  
Whom Jesus came to save;  
Tell me the story always,  
If you would really be,  
In any time of trouble,  
A comforter to me.

4 Tell me the same old story,  
When you have cause to fear  
That this world's empty glory  
Is costing me too dear;  
Yes, and when that world's glory  
Shall dawn upon my soul,  
Tell me the old, old story:  
"Christ Jesus makes you whole."

### ***Penitence***

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1: 8,9

Let us kneel or sit and confess our sins to God our Father.

**O God, our loving Father in heaven, we confess that we have sinned against you; we have broken your commandments; we have often been selfish, and we have not loved you as we should. For these, and all our sins, forgive us, we pray: through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Prayer for Pardon**

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Your word is a lantern to my feet  
**and a light upon our path.** *c.f. Psalm 119:105*

O Lord, your word is everlasting:  
**it stands firm for ever in the heavens.** *c.f. Psalm 119:89*

Let us then receive the word of the Lord.  
**so may the light of your presence shine into our hearts.**

***First Reading- Isaiah 35: 4-7a***

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

***Psalm 146***

1 Alleluia. Praise the Lord, O my soul: while I live will I praise the Lord; ♦

**as long as I have any being, I will sing praises to my God.**

- 2 Put not your trust in princes, nor in any human power, ♦  
**for there is no help in them.**
- 3 When their breath goes forth, they return to the earth; ♦  
**on that day all their thoughts perish.**
- 4 Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help, ♦  
**whose hope is in the Lord their God;**
- 5 Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them; ♦  
**who keeps his promise for ever;**
- 6 Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong ♦  
**and bread to those who hunger.**
- 7 The Lord looses those that are bound; ♦  
**the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;**
- 8 The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; ♦  
**the Lord loves the righteous;**
- 9 The Lord watches over the stranger in the land; he upholds the orphan and widow; ♦  
**but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.**
- 10 The Lord shall reign for ever, ♦  
**your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Alleluia.**
- Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit  
**As it was in the beginning is now and shall be forever. Amen**

***Second Reading: James 2: 1-10, 11-13, 14-17***

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For the one who said, 'You shall not commit adultery', also said, 'You shall not murder.' Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgement will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgement. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*Hymn: 44 Praise And Thanksgiving*

1 Praise and thanksgiving  
Father, we offer,  
For all things living  
You have made good  
Harvest of sown fields  
Fruits of the orchard  
Hay from the mown fields  
Blossom and wood

2 Lord bless the labour  
We bring to serve You  
That with our neighbour  
We may be fed  
Sowing or tilling  
We would work with You  
Harvesting, milling  
For daily bread

3 Father, providing  
Food for Your children  
Your wisdom guiding  
Teaches us share  
One with another  
So that, rejoicing,  
Sister and brother  
May know Your care

4 Then will Your blessing  
Reach every people  
Each one confessing  
Your gracious hand  
When You are reigning  
No one will hunger  
Your love sustaining  
Fruitful the land

***Holy Gospel: Mark 7: 24-37***

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Mark:

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis.

They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue.

Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, ‘Ephphatha’, that is, ‘Be opened.’ And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus\* ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, ‘He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

*Thought for the Day*

*Hymn: 517 Brother, Sister, Let Me Serve You*

1. Brother, sister, let me serve you;  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.
  
2. We are pilgrims on a journey,  
and companions on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.
  
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.
  
4. I will weep when you are weeping;  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow,  
till we've seen this journey through.
  
5. When we sing to God in heaven,  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.

6. Won't you let me be your servant  
let me be as Christ to you?  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **The Prayers of the People**

Almighty and ever living God, we ask you to hear the prayers we offer in faith.

For the peace that comes from God alone, for the unity of all peoples, and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church of Christ, for Michael our Archbishop, and for the whole people of God,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the nations of the world, for our government and all in authority,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**



For this city, this area, and for our neighbours and our friends,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and  
will to conserve it,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the  
sick and suffering: we take a few moments in silence to lift up those  
known to us in any need at this time...  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute,  
for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for  
them,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the dying, for those who mourn especially the Finnegan family,  
for the faithful whom we entrust to the Lord in hope, as we look  
forward to the day when we share the fulness of the resurrection,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, let us commend  
ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to God.  
For yours is the majesty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;  
**yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for  
ever. Amen.**

### **The Collect of the Day**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit  
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: Grant that your  
people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel; that, always  
abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in  
service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### *The Lord's Prayer*

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, we are bold to 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.**

### *Hymn: 361 Now Thank We All Our God*

1 Now thank we all our God  
with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things hath done,  
in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mothers' arms  
hath blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us,  
and keep us in his grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
of this world in the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son and him who reigns,  
with them in highest heaven  
the one eternal God,  
whom earth and heaven adore;  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

### *A Thanksgiving*

Let us give thanks to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

For the love of our Father, the maker of all, the giver of all good things,

let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

For Jesus Christ our Saviour, who lived and worked among us,

let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

For his suffering and death on the cross and his resurrection to new life,

let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

For his rule over all things and his presence in the world,

let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

For the Holy Spirit, the giver of life, who teaches us and guides us,

let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

For the grace of the Spirit in the work of the Church and the life of the world,

let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### *The Dismissal*

We go into the world

**to walk in God's light, to rejoice in God's love and to reflect God's glory. Amen.**

### *Prayer for Blessing*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless us and keep us. **Amen.**

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**