

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY 2021
ALL SAINTS WITLEY: LITURGY OF THE WORD



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

HYMN

Christ is the King! O friends rejoice;
brothers and sisters with one voice
tell all the world he is your choice.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

O magnify the Lord, and raise
anthems of joy and holy praise
for Christ's brave saints of ancient days.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

They with a faith for ever new
followed the King, and round him drew
thousands of faithful hearts and true.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Let love's unconquerable might
your scattered companies unite
in service to the Lord of light.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

So shall God's will on earth be done,
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun,
and the whole church at last be one.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

COLLECT

Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

CONFESSION

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love.

Fill us with your Spirit.

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith.

Fill us with your Spirit.

Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust.

Fill us with your Spirit.

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS

New Testament: Ephesians 4. 1 – 16

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, it is said,

'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people.'

(When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we

must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Gospel: John 6. 24 – 35

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." ' Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.'

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

ADDRESS Rev Ann Fraser

HYMN

God is working his purpose out, as year succeeds to year,
God is working his purpose out, and the time is drawing near;
nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

From utmost east to utmost west, wherever feet have trod,
by the mouth of many messengers goes forth the voice of God,
'Give ear to me ye continents, ye isles, give ear to me,
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.'

What can we do to work God's work, to prosper and increase
the love of God in all mankind, the reign of the Prince of peace?
What can we do to hasten the time, the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea?

All we can do is nothing worth unless God blesses the deed;
vainly we hope for the harvest-tide till God gives life to the seed;
yet nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

PRAYERS

Lord God, creator and redeemer, hear our prayers for your world and your people.

Jesus, the bread of life, we pray for those who are hungry, not only for food, but for justice, and release from poverty and disease. Guide us to see how we can help to achieve a fair distribution of resources and fair shares for all people.

Lord hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus, our teacher and leader, we pray for your Church throughout the world, giving thanks for all who lead your people in worship, teaching and prayer. Thank you for our Vicar, James; may he continue to be blessed, and to bless us, in his ministry in Witley. We pray for those whose faith is being tested, and for all who are seeking to find your will for them in their lives.

Lord hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus, the living bread, we pray for this community, giving thanks for all who serve us in our daily life. We pray for those who are housebound through depression, illness or infirmity and for those who are still fearful of venturing out after the isolation of the pandemic. May we be your eyes, ears, hands, and feet to serve those around us and to see them as you would do.

Lord hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus, our healer, you have compassion for all who come to you. We bring you now, all who are in any kind of need, emotional, spiritual or physical. Give them relief from their anguish, light where there is darkness, and release from suffering.

Lord hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus, bread of heaven, hear our prayers for all who have died recently; those in this community and in our families who have gone before to join you in eternal life. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE PEACE

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life.

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry.'

The Peace of the Lord be always with you

and also with you.

HYMN

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
he whose word cannot be broken
formed thee for his own abode.
On the Rock of ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove.

Who can faint while such a river
ever flows their thirst to assuage:
grace which, like the Lord the giver,
never fails from age to age?

Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering,
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus they march, the pillar leading,
light by night and shade by day;
daily on the manna feeding
which he gives them when they pray.

Saviour, if of Zion's city
I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy name.
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,
all his boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasure,
none but Zion's children know.

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

BLESSING

The glory of the Father,
the peace of the Saviour,
the power of the Spirit,
be within you and around you;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Piano Voluntary

