

The Camel-Allen Churches

Worship at Home



Trinity Sunday 30th May 2021

Opening Reading – a call to worship

Psalm 29

- ¹ Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- ² Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the splendour of holiness.
- ³ The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,

- the LORD, over many waters.
- ⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.
- ⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
- ⁶ He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
- ⁷ The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
- ⁸ The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- ⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth
and strips the forests bare,
and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"
- ¹⁰ The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
- ¹¹ May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Hymn:

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.

3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!



Confession

Let us bring to mind our sin, our failure to value the love of others
and our failure to love as Christ has loved us.

Your love gives us life:
we fail to live as your children.
Lord have mercy

All Lord, have mercy.

You call us to do good:
we seek our own good.
Christ, have mercy

All Christ, have mercy.

You hear us when we cry for help:
we ignore the cries of others.
Lord have mercy

All Lord, have mercy.

Receiving God's forgiveness...

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

Amen

The Collect *We spend a moment In silent prayer and say the special
prayer for this day...*

Holy God,
faithful and unchanging:
enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth,
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love,
that we may truly worship you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen



LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Reading Romans 8.12-17

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to
live according to the flesh— ¹³for if you live according to the flesh,
you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the

body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.



Hymn (*St Patrick's Breastplate – sing or read as a prayer/poem*)

1 I bind unto myself today
the strong name of the Trinity
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One and One in Three.

2 I bind this day to me forever,
by power of faith, Christ's incarnation,
his baptism in the Jordan river,
his death on cross for my salvation;
his bursting from the spiced tomb,

his riding up the heavenly way,
his coming at the day of doom,
I bind unto myself today.

3 I bind unto myself the pow'r
of the great love of the cherubim;
the sweet 'Well done' in judgement hour,
the service of the seraphim,
confessors' faith, apostles' word,
the patriarchs' prayers, the prophets' scrolls,
all good deeds done unto the Lord,
and purity of faithful souls.

4 Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

5 I bind unto myself the name,
the strong name of the Trinity
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One and One in Three,
of whom all nature has creation,
eternal Father, Spirit, Word.
Praise to the Lord of my salvation;
salvation is of Christ the Lord! Amen

Gospel Reading John 3. 1-17

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” ³ Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again^[a] he cannot see the kingdom of God.” ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You^[a] must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

⁹ Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal

life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.



Reflection

Today we mark Trinity Sunday, hot on the heels of the Church’s birthday celebrations of last week’s Pentecost. Then celebration and joy as, with the empowering of the Holy Spirit, the Church was born and the Good News of Christ was shared in so many languages that everyone had chance to hear of Jesus’ life and hope and love. Today is a mystery; each year, preachers seek to plumb the depths of the Trinity, ‘Three in One and One in Three’; and each year we are wise to accept that this is God’s mystery, beyond human understanding and description. Let’s turn instead to today’s Gospel reading, described as ‘the most famous conversation in the Bible’.

He spends his days gathered with the other religious leaders, doing what religious leaders do: discussing God. Pharisees converse, debate, solve puzzles, resolve dilemmas; with their lives dedicated to the Law they discuss reaching God, pleasing God, appeasing God.

Nicodemus, however, having heard about and witnessed Jesus and his impact upon the crowds, is beginning to realise there is more to God than the Law and he wants to speak with Jesus himself; but he

can't possibly let his colleagues know, so he goes at night, in the dark.

Meeting Christ, he acknowledges Jesus is from God and God is with him. Jesus answers, 'Truly, truly I say to you...' or, 'You need to listen to this, this is really, really important...' Nicodemus, however, doesn't hear or understand when Jesus says, 'you must be born again.' - it is a whole new thing which seems confusing and difficult to get one's head around.

Contrary to Nicodemus' thoughts, Jesus is not talking about being born again as in starting all over, but being born of a different order, born from above. At first, this may sound as mysterious as the Trinity, but it doesn't need to.

Nicodemus meets Jesus in the dark – not only the physical night, but he is in darkness for, although he knows the Law inside out, living in God's light is not achieved through pleasing or appeasing him, nor anything else that we may try; our works don't work.

Being born again is not about putting life in reverse, having a second go at things [although many of might wish we could]. Being born again is a spiritual birth, a new-born heart is born of Heaven; not something we can wish, earn or create; rather a gift from God alone. When Nicodemus asks how can this be, Jesus lays before him the greatest diamond of hope ever...

**For God
so loved the world
that he gave his only Son
that whoever believes in him
should not perish but have
eternal life**

Twenty-four words; beginning with God, ending with life. Jesus urges us to do likewise. If we know nothing of the Bible, this is the place to begin. If we know everything in the Bible this is the place to return. Whoever we are, whatever we do, we all need this reminder; God's prescription for life in all its fullness is here:

**God Loves
God Gave
We believe
We live**

Amen

DECLARING OUR FAITH

Let us affirm our common faith in Jesus Christ.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our heart through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

If you are following the service from St Teath on-line the choir will sing the hymn on page 9 instead of this one.

Hymn

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but nought changeth Thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth Thee.

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.



Prayers of intercession

Let us pray to the Father through the Son in the power of the Holy Spirit. Please add your own specific prayers for people and situations you know in each section...

Lord God may the church reflect your community and unity; may there be Godly harmony, shared ministry, mutual support and encouragement in the faith.

Silence

May your will be done: **on earth as it is in heaven**

.Lord God, may the world's leaders seek not personal power but the public good; may conflict be faced honestly and needs recognised and met; may all our communities be built-up on what is good, true, just and right..

Silence

May your will be done: **on earth as it is in heaven**

Lord God, may there be love and respect for one another in every family; may there be mutual support and thoughtfulness, consideration and trust.

Silence

May your will be done: **on earth as it is in heaven**

Lord God may the hearts'cries for help be heard, and the fears quietened; may suffering be eased and guilt erased through your healing love.

Silence

May your will be done: **on earth as it is in heaven**

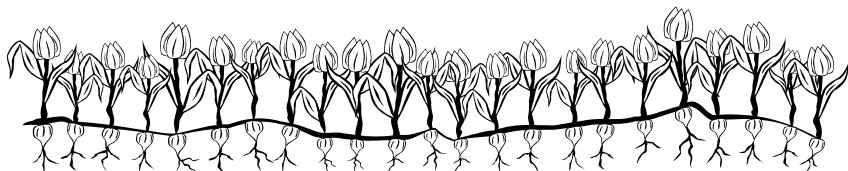
Lord God, may those who have died, rise to new and eternal life, restored and free for ever.

Silence

May your will be done: **on earth as it is in heaven**

Lord God, we pour out to you our praise and wonder at the hidden mysterious holiness of your being, so full of glory and love,

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



The Lord's Prayer

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

To God be the glory, great things he hath done:
so loved he the world that he gave us his son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord! let the earth hear his voice;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord! let the people rejoice;
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to ev'ry believer the promise of God.
The vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son,
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

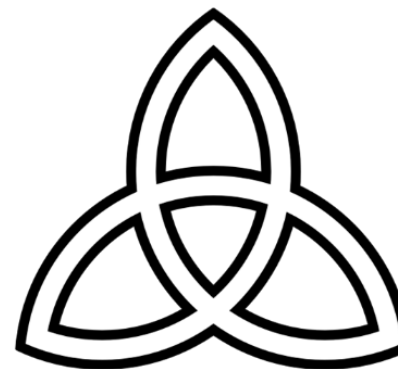
CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

May God the Father from whom every family
In earth and heaven receives its name
strengthen you with his Spirit in your inner being,
so that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith.

And the blessing of God Almighty:
the Father,
the Son,
and the Holy Spirit,
Be amongst you
and remain with you always. **Amen**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
All In the name of Christ. Amen.



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Prayers of Intercession adapted from Susan Sayers, Living Stones resource book Year B
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Reflection by Claire Salzmänn
Compiled by The Revd Angela Cooper

Alternative 3rd hymn which the choir will sing at St Teath

To the Father of creation,
The beginning and the end,
The preserver of the universe
On whom we all depend,
To the giver of all goodness
Who every blessing sends;
To the God of Heaven
Ever holding fast.

To Jesus Christ our Saviour
Who came down to us on earth
With a servant's heart and wonder
Springing from his humble birth;
As we learn from his great teaching,
His sacrificial path
To Christ our Saviour
Ever holding fast.

To God the Holy Spirit
Who fill our lives with light,
Who inspires us with his presence
And shows us wrong from right;
As we listen to his guidance
And live as his delight,
To God the Spirit
Ever holding fast.

Glory be to God the Father
From whom all blessings flow
Glory be to God the Saviour
Who served us here below,
Glory be to God the Spirit
Who truth and beauty shows;
To Father, Son and Spirit
Ever holding fast.

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