

A Service of Praise and Prayer for Sunday, October 24, 2021

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost



ANGLICAN
DIOCESE OF
NIAGARA

Prelude: Nimrod from Enigma Variations, E. Elgar

WELCOME & TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

GATHERING

Bishop: O Lord open our lips!
All: and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

Bishop: Reveal among us the light of your presence
All: that we may behold your power and glory. Amen.

THE COLLECT

Bishop: Almighty God,
in whose service lies perfect freedom:
teach us to obey you with loving hearts and steadfast wills;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.

We sing together... Word of God, Come Down on Earth (Common Praise #446)

1. Word of God, come down on earth,
living rain from heaven descending;
touch our hearts and bring to birth
faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere you;
Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
2. Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heaven to die,
crucified for our salvation,
saving Word, the world restoring,
speak to us, your love outpouring.
3. Word that caused blind eyes to see,
speak and heal our mortal blindness,
deaf we are: our healer be;
loose our tongues to tell your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken;
heal the world by our sin broken.
4. Word that speaks God's tender love,
one with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one bread feed us.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

A READING: Job 42.1-6, 10-17

Reader: Then Job answered the LORD: 'I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. "Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?" Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. "Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me." I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.'

CALLED TO LIFE
COMPELLED TO LOVE

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Reader And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his friends; and the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before. Then there came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before, and they ate bread with him in his house; they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the LORD had brought upon him; and each of them gave him a piece of money and a gold ring. The LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand donkeys. He also had seven sons and three daughters. He named the first Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch. In all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job's daughters; and their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers. After this Job lived for one hundred and forty years, and saw his children, and his children's children, four generations. And Job died, old and full of days

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word,

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A short silence meditating on the reading is kept.

THE GOSPEL: Mark 10:46-52

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Saint Mark

All: **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

One: They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

The Gospel of Christ.

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

We sing together... The King of Love My Shepherd Is (Common Praise #520)

1. The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine for ever.
2. Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.
3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.
4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

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5. Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction, grace bestoweth:
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!

6. And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house for ever.

THE HOMILY: Bishop Susan Bell

Music is played during a time of reflection.

INTERCESSIONS

One: Let us pray.

God of all creation, giver of life and beauty, merciful and mighty,
we make our prayer to you saying, Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: God of faith, whose light shines in the darkness,
bless all those who seek faith and all those who seek to deepen their understanding.
Guide all those who guide others;
spiritual directors, teachers, preachers, pastors, small group leaders and Bible study leaders.
Pour out your blessing upon the Niagara School for Missional Leadership,
inspiring all those who take part, with passion and prayer,
and equipping your church for the mission you entrust to us.

One: Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: God our great teacher, who welcomed the children and blessed them,
we pray for schools, for all their staff and students of every age.
In the continued challenges of this pandemic,
grant your protection and peace, give patience and wisdom,
and nurture in children and young people,
in the ways of justice, understanding and insight,
that they may dream the dreams of your future.

One: Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: God in whom all those in need find shelter,
we pray for those without a home, those without shelter,
and for those whose living is insecure or unsafe.
Bless the work of those agencies responding to those in need,
guide the work of governments in responding to this basic necessity,
and grant to us all compassion, empathy and generosity,
to extend the shelter of justice and love, to those near and far.

One: Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

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One: Healing Spirit, come to those who are sick,
to those who are suffering and those in distress.
Relieve pain, and ease anxiety,
bring wholeness to those who are ill,
and strength to those who work to bring healing.
In this silence we name before you, those we know to be in need...

Silence is kept

One: Lord in your mercy,
All: hear our prayer.

One: Creating Word, who has wonderfully ordered creation,
lighting the skies and filling the oceans.
We thank you for this beautiful planet,
and repent of the ways we abuse it and take its gifts for granted.
Teach us how to walk lightly upon the earth,
to touch soil, breath air and use water with respect and gratitude,
and to shape our living to protect the many species
that you have made to live along side us.

One: Lord in your mercy,
All: hear our prayer.

One: God of imagination,
thank you for the gift of technology upon which we have become so reliant.
Thank you for the ways it connects us, entertains us, challenges us and teaches us.
We pray against those who would use technology to divide,
to misinform, to bully or harass,
and for the ways we blindly buy-in to its simplifications,
echo chambers, and economic suffering.
Give us wisdom to use the gifts wisely,
and to engage our neighbour with love, kindness and seeking understanding.

One: Lord in your mercy,
All: hear our prayer.

One: God of our gathering,
we pray for your church as we seek to adapt to new ways of being together;
online and in-person.
Give us inspiration, grant us your protection,
guide us to new ways of being your life-giving, life-changing and life-affirming community,
rooted and grounded in you.

One: Lord in your mercy,
All: hear our prayer.

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Bishop: Trusting in the compassion of God, and in the language and version of our choice, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All: 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.

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.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

We Sing Together... God Whose Almighty Word (Common Praise #560)

1. God, whose almighty word,
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.
2. Saviour who came to bring
on your redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight with illusions blind:
now to all humankind
let there be light.
3. Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy dove,
speed forth your flight;
move o'er the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.
4. Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might,
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride
through the earth, far and wide,
let there be light.

Closing remarks and announcements.

THE BLESSING

POSTLUDE: Postlude in D Major, T. Price