

KSAT Worship Service on Trinity Sunday – 7th June 2020

THEME – ‘I AM with you’

Welcome to worship on Trinity Sunday. Thanks to John and Cath Thwaites for hymns, Heather for the intercessions and to all of you for sharing in worship with us. Stephen.

Call to Worship – The word of the eternal father created us. The love of the gracious Son redeemed us.

The presence of the Holy Spirit unites and empowers us.

Come and worship the glorious Trinity, our God of power, love and peace.

Prayer – All authority has been given to You, Son of God, **Loving Lord**.
You call us, welcome us & we gather in Your name, Son of God, **Loving Lord**.
Teach us, heal us and inspire us, Son of God, **Loving Lord. Amen**

Hymn MP 428 – Lord for the years <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkTrFQLy6js>

Lord, for the years Your love has kept and guided, urged & inspired us, cheered us on our way, Sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided: Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us, speaks to our hearts & sets our souls ablaze, Teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us: Lord of the word, receive Your people's praise.

Lord, for our land in this our generation, spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care: For young & old, for commonwealth and nation, Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world when we disown and doubt Him, loveless in strength, & comfortless in pain, Hungry and helpless, lost indeed without Him: Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us, self on the cross and Christ upon the throne, Past put behind us, for the future take us: Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

(Timothy Dudley-Smith)

Prayer of Adoration

To the Lord our God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be praise and glory and honour. Majestic God, worthy of all our worship, we lift our hearts and voices in praise of Your Holy Name.

To You, Father, Creator, may our hearts rejoice in the splendour and the gentleness of Your love.

To You, Jesus Christ, Saviour, Redeemer, Friend, be glory, honour and praise. You are seated in Heaven on the throne of grace and truth; we approach You in humility, but also with boldness and we join our hearts with all of creation to exalt Your name.

To Jesus, who died, is risen, ascended and glorified, belongs praise for ever!

To You, Holy Spirit, fire of life, wisdom, comforter and ever-present help and guide, belongs praise and we worship You.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit – full of grace and truth – You alone are worthy of praise and today we worship You. **Amen**

Prayer of Confession

Hungry I come to You, for I know You satisfy; I am empty but I know Your love does not run dry

*So I wait for You, so I wait for You. I've fallen on my knees offering all my needs
Jesus You're all this heart is living for.*

Broken I run to You for Your arms are open wide; I am weary but I know Your touch restores my life
So I wait ...

The prayers are based on the above song – entitled 'Hungry' by Kathryn Sarah Scott

Psalm 130v5 – 'I wait for the Lord; my soul waits and in His word, I hope'

Lord, for the years, we have been able to come to You – to offer ourselves and to seek Your forgiveness.

Lord, we are hungry and in need, we feel empty. Refresh us with Your love that never runs dry. Lord, we are broken and run to You. Lord Jesus, as we fall on our knees, in Your loving, gracious presence, touch us again with Your love.

The majesty of Your holiness stands before us, so we ask You to forgive us all our sins and cleanse our hearts. Our needs are many and we come, offering them to You – and, like the Father in the parable of the prodigal son, Your arms are open wide and we find ourselves held in Your embrace, forgiven, loved and renewed – enclosed in the richness of the Trinity of love. And as we ask Your forgiveness, we hear the words of Jesus, 'Your sins are forgiven in My Name'.

Gracious God, we thank you; fill us afresh to love and serve You now and always.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Hymn MP 678 – There's a quiet understanding

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqJ-JY3-nfU>

There's a quiet understanding when we're gathered in the Spirit
It's a promise that He gives us when we gather in His name
There's a love we feel in Jesus, there's a manna that He feeds us
It's a promise that He gives us when we gather in His name
And we know when we're together, sharing love and understanding
That our brothers and our sisters feel the oneness that He brings
Thank You, thank You, thank You, Jesus, for the way You love and feed us
For the many ways You lead us, thank You, thank You, Lord

(Tedd Smith-Wilson)

Reading

Matthew 28 v 16-20.

'Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Reflection

On Tuesday morning, the briar rose which adorns the fence at the front of our garden was resplendent – covered with bright yellow roses with a spectacular scent! However, a sharp rain shower or a day or two of bright sunshine can return the bush to its green and prickly state for another year. The spectacular beauty suddenly gone!

I wonder if, sometimes, we in the church can be like that – celebrating Ascension or Pentecost (or the other festivals) – having a party perhaps (though this year is different!) and then returning to our 'normal' state (though hopefully not green and prickly!!)

The Biblical truths about the Cross, Resurrection, Ascension and Pentecost is that they are all part of God's completed plan of salvation. Jesus has won the victory over sin and death – and through faith in Jesus, we share in that victory. Hebrews tells us that when Jesus ascended, He passed through the heavens and is now seated at the right hand of God – His work completed for all time and we can come before God's throne of grace and truth with boldness. What a promise! Jesus now awaits the appointed time for His return to claim His Bride – the Church – you and me!

When Jesus ascended, He said, *'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing ... and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you'* (Matt 28v19-20). They, and we, are under Christ's authority to share His gospel with all. In this week, when we have seen violence following the death of George Floyd in America, we remember that Jesus died for every colour, tribe or creed, the message of grace, wisdom, justice and equality is for everyone. Every life matters to Jesus and we can be reassured and encouraged to know that Christ has authority over all situations – however things may sometimes appear – God is still in control!

Jesus calls us to go – whether to our next-door-neighbour or to another country to make disciples. In this Covid lockdown, this may feel almost impossible – but we see the acts of selflessness and kindness – signs of mission in a broken and hurting world. The disciples, in their 'lockdown, after Jesus had left them, responded by waiting and praying for God to pour out His blessing! We may feel inadequate, but we can pray and we have God's promise that *'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness'* (2 Cor 12v9). Each one of us receives gifts from God to enable us to fulfil the Great Commission wherever we find ourselves and Jesus encourages us as He promises, *'I am with you always – to the end of the age'*.

On this Trinity Sunday, Jesus words in *John 14v26*, *'When the Counsellor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me'* affirm the reality of the Trinity'. In the Great Commission, Jesus says, *'... baptizing them in the name'* (not names) *of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit'*. God is one God in three persons – a 'Trinitarian' relationship of love and power. Peter in his Pentecost sermon also affirms this truth – *'God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.'* (Acts 2v32-33).

We can have full confidence in God – in the Father's love, the finished work of Jesus, the Son and the constant presence of the Holy Spirit – as we respond to His Commission.

To ponder:

How will we 'bloom' as God's people, His church, as we live in and emerge from lockdown?

Will we show the vibrant beauty of the rose and spread the fragrance of Jesus to all around us?

Will we persevere with passion through these times of difficulty, and not let that beauty and fragrance diminish?

We can, as we let Christ work His purpose in us and through us, transforming us as individuals and our communities for His glory.

We wait, in hope and expectation, for the return of our Lord. In the meantime *'Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us'* (Heb 12v1); let us display the beauty and the fragrance of God to those around – because in the words of 'The Blessing', which is ringing around the on-line world at this time (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUtll3mNj5U>), 'He is for you! He is for you! Hallelujah!

Hymn –MP1003 – My Jesus, my Saviour https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gn5CMSSAx_c

My Jesus, my Saviour, Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love
My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am, never cease to worship You

Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing; power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands, forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

(Darlene Joyce Zschech)

Reading – 2 Corinthians 13 v 11-13.

'Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss(!) All God's people here send their greetings.'

Prayers of Intercession

Loving Heavenly Father – bless us

God, the Creator, we pray for the world, brought to birth by Your love, but where those You created –

- fight and kill(think of areas where wars rage, & there is unrest & violence esp USA
- die of hunger and disease(all those affected by Covid esp. in countries where there is already little or no food and very little healthcare
- oppress and exploit one another(esp. modern day slavery & human trafficking of refugees

Pray for all those working for peace and justice and caring for those in need.

Jesus Christ – Son of God – protect us

God the Saviour, we pray for men and women, boys and girls, whose joys and sorrows You came in love to share and who are still in need –

- of salvation and forgiveness(pray for someone you know who doesn't know Jesus
- of healing and comfort(pray for those who are ill, lonely or bereaved at this time
- of encouragement, faith and hope(pray for those who are struggling in these times

Pray for those who share the love of Jesus with others in their words and actions – for our NHS and caring services. Pray for our leaders as they endeavour to find ways forward for our nation in a complex situation.

Holy Spirit of God – guide us

God among us, we pray for Your church, which You created and called to follow in Your ways, asking that You will give us –

- vision and courage(as we seek Your way forward for our fellowships and Circuit
- unity with one another(pray for the work of the Mission Communities and Churches Together
- the strength to serve You in the world(pray for yourself in your service for God

Pray for each of us that we may love as Christ loved and play our part in bringing glory to Him.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit hear our prayers in Jesus' Name. **Amen.**

Hymn –MP 424 – Lo! He comes <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0cHmPHCljY8>

Lo, He comes with clouds descending, once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand, thousand, saints attending swell the triumph of His train:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold Him robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold Him, pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of His passion still His dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation to His ransomed worshippers:

With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture, gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen, let all adore Thee, high on Thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory, claim the kingdom for Thine own:
O come quickly, O come quickly, O come quickly, Alleluia, Lord .

(Charles Wesley)

Prayer

Go out into the world. Go where God leads you. Go that you may serve Him.

And wherever you go, know that God is with you. **Amen**

Grace