**A Service of the Word, 2 August 2020**

**Opening Music** Mendelssohn: *Andante Religioso*

**PREPARATION**

**Introduction and Welcome**

**Opening Hymn** *Be still, my soul*

**+** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Welcome in the name of Christ.

May God’s grace, mercy and peace be with you

**and also with you**

**Prayers of Penitence**

The grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all. Let us come to him, in sorrow for our sins, seeking healing and salvation.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,**

**we have sinned against you**

**and against our neighbour,**

**in thought and word and deed,**

**through negligence, through weakness,**

**through our own deliberate fault.**

**We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

**who died for us,**

**forgive us all that is past,**

**and grant that we may serve you in newness of life,**

**to the glory of your name.**

**Amen.**

*The Celebrant says:*

May almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,

have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,

and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Gloria in Excelsis**

*With music ‘Glory to God in the Highest’ by the Taizé Community*

**Glory to God in the highest,**

**and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,**

**Almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,**

**we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**you take away the sins of the world:**

**have mercy upon us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:**

**receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One;**

**you are alone are the Lord;**

**you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,**

**with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**The Collect**

Almighty and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern

both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws
   and the works of your commandments
that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading** (Victoria Ajoku)

*Psalm 139: 1-18*

**Second Reading** (Peter Kinnison)

*Philippians 3: 7-11*

**Sermon/Reflection** (David McEvoy)

**The Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 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.**

**PRAYERS**

**Prayers of Intercession** (John Stevens)

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,

let us pray to the Father.

*Taizé response:*

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,

When I call, answer me;

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,

Come and listen to me.

**The Peace**

God is love and those who live in love live in God

and God lives in them.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and with thy spirit.**

**Music**

Taizé virtual choir: *Veni, Sancte Spiritus (Come, Holy Spirit)*

**Responses**

The love of God has been poured into our hearts

Through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

**We dwell in him and he in us.**

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name,

**make known his deeds among his peoples.**

Sing to him, sing praises to him,

**and speak of his marvellous works.**

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty,

**Who was and is to come.**

**A Prayer by Brother Roger of Taizé**

Living God,

through your continuous presence in us,

you draw us out of ourselves and our doubts.

And you come to give our lives

a kind of shock of meaning.

You have confided to us, God’s poor,

a mystery of hope.

It sets within us an inner light.

In you we find peace of heart and unclouded joy

that touches the depth of the soul.

**Amen**

**The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

**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.**

**CONCLUSION**

**Notices**

**Final Hymn**

*Dear Lord and Father of mankind*

**Blessing and Dismissal**

May the Lord bless you and watch over you,

may the Lord make his face shine upon you

and be gracious to you,

may the Lord look kindly on you

and give you peace

and may the blessing of God almighty,

**+** the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ.**

**Amen.**

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