

**ORDINARY TIME  
(14.07.20)**

**GREETING**

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

Here God dwells among the people.  
God will make a home among us  
and we shall be God's people.  
God is the beginning and the end  
and is making the whole creation new.  
**Let us worship together!**

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION**

In penitence and faith, we come before you, Holy God,  
and say: 'This is who we are.'

We are the people  
who long for the new heaven and the new earth,  
but can't always take the first step towards it.  
**Forgive us, gracious God.**

We are those who love creation  
but who participate in destructive patterns of life  
and fail to lift up its beauty and creativity.  
**Forgive us, gracious God.**

We are the people who commit ourselves  
to build the community of the Gospel,  
but we so often betray that hope  
and fail each other.

**Forgive us, gracious God.**

We are those who sometimes see the vision  
for our own lives,  
but we are weak and fall far short  
of the dream.

**Forgive us, gracious God.**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

In our brokenness  
and in our humanness,  
the Christ is one with us.

In Christ we are set free.

In Christ we are enough to be the Church.

**Amen.** (All from Liturgies for the Journey of Life)

## **COLLECT**

God of truth,  
help us to keep your law of love  
and to walk in ways of wisdom  
that we may find true life  
in Jesus Christ your Son.

**Amen.**

## **READINGS**

*A reading from Exodus (19.2-8a)*

They had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.

Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites:

You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.'

So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. The people all answered as one: 'Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do.' Moses reported the words of the people to the Lord.

*A reading from the Gospel of Matthew (9.35-10.23)*

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.'

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near." Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for labourers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more

tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgement than for that town.

‘See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

## **REFLECTION**

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us affirm our faith together:

**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 hearts 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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

### **THE PEACE**

Let love be genuine. Never pay back evil for evil.  
As far as it lies with you, live at peace with everyone.

*Romans 12.9,17,18*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Saviour taught his disciples, so we pray:

**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.**

## **BLESSING**

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,  
wherever he may send you.

May he guide you through the wilderness,  
and protect you through the storm.

May he bring you home rejoicing  
at the wonders he has shown you.

May he bring you home rejoicing  
once again into our doors.

**Amen.**

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

**Amen.**

## **NOTICES**

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*Opening responses, Confession, and Assurance of Pardon adapted from Dorothy McRae McMahon, 'Liturgies for the Journey of Life', (SPCK, London, 2000)*

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*Blessing from the Northumbria Community's Celtic Daily Prayer (Collins, 2005)*