

**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY  
(19.07.20)**

**GREETING**

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

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Listen with ears of hope.  
Hear with ears of wisdom.  
Learn with hearts of faith,  
as we are moved by the word.  
**For God speaks to us now,  
Christ calls us down the years  
and the Spirit opens our minds and souls to the truth.  
Let us worship God.**

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION**

Dear God, who is imaged in Jesus Christ,  
when we are tempted to look at the lives of others  
as though they have the same opportunities as we do,  
ignoring the differences in beginnings and endings,  
in support and nurture,  
in circumstances and levels of struggle:  
**Forgive us and open our eyes to the truth, O God.**

If we fail to search our hearts about the things  
which distract us and seduce us in this life,  
things which take away our dependence on you  
and divert us from the real journey of faith:  
**Forgive us and open our eyes to the truth, O God.**

When we simply go on without thinking deeply at all,  
treating one day like any other,  
complacently choosing to avoid struggling  
with the big questions before us:

**Forgive us and open our eyes to the truth, O God,  
and bring us before you in a new way.**

**Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Even as we bring our confession before our God,  
the commitment of costly grace still stands.

There is indeed no condemnation  
for those who are in Christ Jesus.

We are forgiven!

**This is the gift of God to us.**

**Amen.**

## **COLLECT**

Creator God,  
you made us all in your image:  
may we discern you in all that we see,  
and serve you in all that we do;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **READINGS**

*Wisdom of Solomon 12: 13, 16-19*

For neither is there any god besides you, whose care is for all people,  
to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly;

For your strength is the source of righteousness,  
and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all.  
For you show your strength when people doubt the completeness of  
your power,  
and you rebuke any insolence among those who know it.

Although you are sovereign in strength, you judge with mildness,  
and with great forbearance you govern us;  
for you have power to act whenever you choose.

Through such works you have taught your people  
that the righteous must be kind,  
and you have filled your children with good hope,  
because you give repentance for sins.

*Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43*

Jesus put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

## **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.

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