

The Benefice of Silsoe, Pulloxhill and Flitton
Growing as beacons of Christ's Light in our communities



Tantur, Jerusalem - Gillian Kern

MORNING PRAYER
8th Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 2 August 2020

**Led by Reader Gillian Kern &
Lay Leader of Worship Maggie Jeeves**

Greeting

May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts and triumph over the shade of night.

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
Let us pray together with one heart and mind.

**All: Blessed are you, creator of all,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As your dawn renews the face of the earth
bring light and life to creation,
may we rejoice in this day you have made;
as we wake refreshed from the depths of sleep,
open our eyes to behold your presence
and strengthen our hands to do your will,
that the world may rejoice and give you praise.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.**

**As we rejoice in the gift of a new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and forever.**

Hymn: How Great Thou art

1. O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain:

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:

3. And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die – I scarce can take it in
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin:

4. When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation
and take me home – what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, 'my God, how great thou art!'

The prayers of penitence

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life:

Let us, therefore, confess our sins in penitence and faith firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all:

**All: Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done what is wrong in your sight;
we are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love,
cleanse us from our sin;
renew a right spirit within us,
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

May the father of all mercies
cleanse us from our sins
and restore us in his image,
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

All: Amen

Blessed is the Lord,

All: For he has heard our prayer.

Therefore, shall our hearts dance with joy

All: and in our songs we will praise our God.

Amen

The Collect for the eighth Sunday after Trinity

Lord God,

your son left the riches of heaven

and became poor for our sake;

when we prosper save us from pride,

when we are needy save us from despair,

that we may trust in you alone;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The Word of God

Psalm 17

17¹⁻² Listen while I build my case, GOD,
the most honest prayer you'll ever hear.

Show the world I'm innocent—
in your heart you know I am.

³ Go ahead, examine me from inside out,
surprise me in the middle of the night—

You'll find I'm just what I say I am.

My words don't run loose.

⁴⁻⁵ I'm not trying to get my way
in the world's way.

I'm trying to get *your* way,
your Word's way.

I'm staying on your trail;

I'm putting one foot

In front of the other.

I'm not giving up.

⁶⁻⁷ I call to you, God, because I'm sure of an answer.

So—answer! bend your ear! listen sharp!

Paint grace-graffiti on the fences;

take in your frightened children who

Are running from the neighborhood bullies

straight to you.

The Epistle Reading

Read by Elizabeth Coulson

Romans 9:1-5

9¹⁻⁵ At the same time, you need to know that I carry with me at all times a huge sorrow. It's an enormous pain deep within me, and I'm never free of it. I'm not exaggerating—Christ and the Holy Spirit are my witnesses. It's the Israelites . . . If there were any way I could be cursed by the Messiah so they could be blessed by him, I'd do it in a minute. They're my family. I grew up with them. They had everything going for them—family, glory, covenants, revelation, worship, promises, to say nothing of being the race that produced the Messiah, the Christ, who is God over everything, always. Oh, yes!

The Venite

¹⁻² Come, let's shout praises to GOD,
raise the roof for the Rock who saved us!
Let's march into his presence singing praises,
lifting the rafters with our hymns!

³⁻⁵ And why? Because GOD is the best,
High King over all the gods.
In one hand he holds deep caves and caverns,
in the other hand grasps the high mountains.
He made Ocean—he owns it!
His hands sculpted Earth!

⁶⁻⁷ So come, let us worship: bow before him,
on your knees before GOD, who made us!
Oh yes, he's our God,
and we're the people he pastures, the flock he feeds.

⁷⁻¹¹ Drop everything and listen, listen as he speaks:
"Don't turn a deaf ear as in the Bitter Uprising,
As on the day of the Wilderness Test,
when your ancestors turned and put *me* to the test.
For forty years they watched me at work among them,
as over and over they tried my patience.
And I was provoked—oh, was I provoked!
'Can't they keep their minds on God for five minutes?
Do they simply refuse to walk down my road?'
Exasperated, I exploded,
'They'll never get where they're headed,
never be able to sit down and rest.'"

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 14:13-21

¹³⁻¹⁴ When Jesus got the news, he slipped away by boat to an out-of-the-way place by himself. But unsuccessfully—someone saw him and the word got around. Soon a lot of people from the nearby villages walked around the lake to where he was. When he saw them coming, he was overcome with pity and healed their sick.

¹⁵ Toward evening the disciples approached him. “We’re out in the country and it’s getting late. Dismiss the people so they can go to the villages and get some supper.”

¹⁶ But Jesus said, “There is no need to dismiss them. You give them supper.”

¹⁷ “All we have are five loaves of bread and two fish,” they said.

¹⁸⁻²¹ Jesus said, “Bring them here.” Then he had the people sit on the grass. He took the five loaves and two fish, lifted his face to heaven in prayer, blessed, broke, and gave the bread to the disciples. The disciples then gave the food to the congregation. They all ate their fill. They gathered twelve baskets of leftovers. About five thousand were fed.

Sermon

The Creed

**All: 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 to heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.
Amen**

Prayers of intercession

Bidding: Lord you are the bread of life
All: Feed us now and ever more

Gathering our prayers into one, let us pray as Jesus taught us

**All: 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.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil:
for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen**

Hymn: Now thank we all our God

1 Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
to keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
of this world in the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son and Spirit blest,
who reign in highest heaven
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Closing prayers

**All: Almighty God,
we thank you for the gift of your holy word.
may it be a lantern at our feet,
a light upon our paths
and a strength to our lives.
take us and use us
to love and serve all people
in the power of the Holy Spirit
and in the name of your Son
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

May the Lord watch over us all today
may he smile upon us and be gracious unto us
always.

All: Amen

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

All: in the name of Christ. Amen

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Psalm, Venite and readings are taken from the Message translation of the Bible.