



THE ABBEY CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS PERSHORE

SUNDAY 9th AUGUST 2020

Wholeness and Healing

The all-important aim in Christian healing is to allow God's mysterious and silent presence within us to become more and more not only a reality, but the reality in our lives which gives meaning, shape and purpose to everything we do, to everything we are.

Welcome and Introduction

We worship together in the name of God
Who knows each of us by name

We worship together in the name of Christ
Whose touch brought healing for forgotten people

We worship together in the name of the Holy Spirit
Who has promised to stay with us, to sustain and restore us.

Prayers of Penitence:

Jesus said, *'Come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.'*
So come, you who are burdened by regrets and anxieties. You who are broken in body or spirit. You who are torn by relationships and doubt. You who feel deeply the divisions and injustices of the world. Let us accept His invitation as we turn to him in prayer:

You know us, Lord, we do not have to pretend with you.
In the silence of your love, we bring you all the things that trouble us,
that harm us, that make us feel ashamed or afraid.

Silence

Lord, have mercy on us Christ, have mercy on us Lord, have mercy on us.

God of compassion, you know us inside out, yet you love us; you know the worst in us and the best in us. May your deep love drown all our failings, may your tears wash away our sin; may your living water well up in us and renew our spirit. As we are forgiven so may we forgive others and reach out to be reconciled in your love. In the power of your Holy Spirit and in the name of Jesus. Amen

Liturgy of the Word

A Reading from Psalm 86:1-13

Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.
Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you.
You are my God; be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long.
Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you. Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication.
In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you will answer me.

There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours.
All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord,
and shall glorify your name. For you are great and do wondrous things;
you alone are God. Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name. I give thanks to you, O Lord my
God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name for ever.

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

(John L Bell & Graham Moule)

Inspired by love and anger, disturbed by endless pain,
aware of God's own bias, we ask him once again:
'How long must some folk suffer? How long can few folk mind?
How long dare vain self-int'rest turn prayer and pity blind?'

From those forever victims of heartless human greed,
their cruel plight composes a litany of need:
'Where are the fruits of justice? Where are the signs of peace?
When is the day when pris'ners and dreams find their release?'

From those forever shackled to what their wealth can buy,
the fear of lost advantage provokes the bitter cry:
'Don't query our position! Don't criticise our wealth!
Don't mention those exploited by politics and stealth!'

To God, who through the prophets proclaimed a different age,
we offer earth's indifference, its agony and rage:
'When will the wrong be righted? When will the kingdom come?
When will the world be gen'rous to all instead of some?'

God asks: 'Who will go for me? Who will extend my reach?
And who, when few will listen, will prophesy and preach?
And who, when few bid welcome, will offer all they know?
And who, when few dare follow will walk the road I show?'

Amused in someone's kitchen asleep in someone's boat,
attuned to what the ancients exposed, proclaimed and wrote,
a Saviour without safety, a tradesman without tools
has come to tip the balance with fishermen and fools.

(Sally Gardens -Trad. Irish Melody)

A reading from 2 Peter 3 : 8-15

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and

the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Chant

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart.

Prayer:

We pray for peace, where there is no peace, where words are not enough to bind the broken-hearted; to heal the hurt, to erase the memories and bring back the dead.

We pray for peace, where there is no peace, where too few words are spoken to quell anxiety, to demonstrate love, to bring reassurance.

We pray for peace, where there is no peace, where too many words are spoken to scorn and deride, to spread prejudice and hatred, to ridicule and belittle.

We pray for the peace that comes when individuals put down their guns and stones, when neighbours forget that they have enemies and when communities welcome the strangers within their gates.

We pray for the peace of Jerusalem: the peace of the land we call Holy. Amen

The Thanksgiving

For loving the world and knowing our names, thank you, God

For your strength that fills us and your love that heals us, thank you, God

For your presence here with us now and for your hand that leads us into tomorrow, thank you, God

Come bless us, hold us, wrestle with us, warm us in your embrace, for we are your people and you are our justice and joy. Amen

Hymn

1.O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast
and our eternal home.

3.Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

5.Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
will bear us all away;
we fade and vanish as a dream
dies at the opening day.

2.Beneath the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient in thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

4.A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

6.O God our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.

The Blessing

With the love of God may we be warmed and welcomed
With the justice of Jesus may we be challenged and made whole
With the breath of the Spirit may we be filled with courage and life. Amen

Let us go out into the world in the joy and peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.