

March 7th 2021 Lent 3

'Simplicity' (Ruthless Elimination of Hurry)

Gathering

Words from JT

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all

All: Amen

HYMN: All creatures of our God and king (532)
William H. Draper (1855-1933) based on St Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam:
O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in Heaven along,
O praise Him, Alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!
O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest us both warmth and light.
O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise Him, Alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them His glory also show:

*O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

All ye that are of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye, Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God, and on Him cast your care:
*O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!
*O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

If we were in church, we would at this point in the service lay another symbol from the story of Easter at the foot of the cross. Today we (in our imaginations) bring the whip to the cross; a reminder to us that Christ experienced and shared in the injustice and suffering of the world.

Lord Jesus, you were flogged; many innocent people suffer injustice. We pray for all who suffer injustice and are deprived of freedom and of life in its fulness. We pray especially for those being persecuted, even killed, for their faith; be with them, grant them your strength, and peace at the last.

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for all the benefits you have won for us: for all the insults and pains you have borne for us. Most merciful Redeemer, friend and brother may we know you more clearly; love you more dearly, day by day. Amen. (St Richard of Chichester)

Prayers of Penitence

St Paul says, 'Be imitators of God;
love as Christ loved;
do not grieve the Holy Spirit;
put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and malice.'
So, let us confess our sins to God, who forgives us in Christ.

God our Father, we are sorry
for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly,
and acted ungratefully.
Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest,

but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.
Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied,
but ignore the cry of the hungry.
Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless,
and do not care enough for the world you have made.
Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone,
as if there were no God and no heaven.
Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

The president declares God's forgiveness.

The Lord enrich *you* with his grace,
and nourish *you* with his blessing;
the Lord defend *you* in trouble and keep *you* from all evil;
the Lord accept *your* prayers,
and absolve *you* from *your* offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.
Amen.

The Collect:

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

Readings – read by members of the Boundy family

Genesis 17 vs 1-7,15-16

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Matthew 6 vs25-34

This is the Gospel of Christ

All: Praise be to you O Christ

Sermon – Rev Ian Brown

HYMN: As the deer pants for the water (592) Martin J Nystrom (b. 1956)

As the deer pants for the water,
So my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship you.

*You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship you.*

I want You more than gold or silver,
Only You can satisfy
You alone are the real joy-giver
And the apple of my eye.

You alone are my strength, my shield....

You're my friend and you are my brother
Even though You are a King.
I love You more than any other,
So much more than anything.

You alone are my strength, my shield....

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

All Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself
and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.
Therefore, God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God, the Father.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession Led by Peter and Marion Miles

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Family News –

Interview – Ian catches up with Stephen Mayhew
New magazine ready – thanks to Kevin

The Peace

Jesus says to his disciples, 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.
Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled or afraid.'

The peace of the Lord be always with you:
All and also with you.

Do wish people 'peace' in person by 'phone after this service

Spiritual communion

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Mat. 11:28-30

Music: In the Lord I'll be ever thankful (334)

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, In the Lord I'll rejoice.
Look to God, do not be afraid,
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near;
Lift up your voices the Lord is near.

God of compassion, you came into the world to share our life. In the person of Jesus Christ, you walked with us and gave your life for our salvation. May we, who have made spiritual communion with you, know our wounds to be healed, our souls strengthened, and our lives transformed by your Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN: All my hope on God is founded (584) RS Bridges (1844-1930) based on Joachim Neander (1650-1680)

All my hope on God is founded;
He doth still my trust renew;
Me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true:
God unknown, he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
What with care and toil he buildeth,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom passing thought.
Splendour, light and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore, from his store
New-born worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth th'almighty mighty giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go:
love doth stand at his hand;
joy doth wait on his command.

Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done;
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son:
Christ doth call, one and all:
we who follow shall not fall.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and watch over you,
the Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you,
the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace;
and the blessing ...

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

All In the name of Christ, Amen.

Music to go out by:

With thanks to Peter Heaps our sound engineer and Sylvia our web site manager.

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