

Sunday 25th April 2021

Love in Truth and Action

¶ PREPARATION

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

May your love abide in us,
as we love in truth and action.

Your works, O Lord, are great and mighty;
we give you thanks with our whole heart.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
You supply strength to those who serve
and words to those who speak.
You teach us to love our neighbours as ourselves,
to be hospitable to one another
and to serve one another with whatever gift we have received.
Through your wisdom,
we learn the joy of giving -
a pure expression of love and grace;
blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

This opening prayer may be said;

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

Silence is kept.

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

Amen.

¶ THE WORD OF GOD

Psalmody: Psalm 111

**A good understanding have those
who live by the works of the Lord;
his praise endures for ever.**

- 1 Alleluia.
I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the company of the faithful and in the congregation.
- 2 The works of the Lord are great,
sought out by all who delight in them.
- 3 His work is full of majesty and honour
and his righteousness endures for ever.
- 4 He appointed a memorial for his marvellous deeds;
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.
- 5 He gave food to those who feared him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- 6 He showed his people the power of his works
in giving them the heritage of the nations.
- 7 The works of his hands are truth and justice;
all his commandments are sure.
- 8 They stand fast for ever and ever;
they are done in truth and equity.

- 9 He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever;
holy and awesome is his name.
- 10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
a good understanding have those who live by it;
his praise endures for ever.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**A good understanding have those
who live by the works of the Lord;
his praise endures for ever.**

Canticle: A Song of God's Love

**God's love was revealed among us
so that we might live through Jesus.**

- 1 Beloved, let us love one another,
for love is of God;
everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.
- 2 Whoever does not love does not know God,
for God is love.
- 3 In this the love of God was revealed among us,
that God sent his only Son into the world,
so that we might live through him.
- 4 In this is love,
not that we loved God but that he loved us,
and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins.

- 5 Beloved, since God loved us so much,
we ought also to love one another.
- 6 For if we love one another, God abides in us,
and God's love will be perfected in us.

1 John 4.7-11, 12b

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**God's love was revealed among us
so that we might live through Jesus.**

Scripture Reading

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

1 John 3.16-24

Responsory

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity,
which produces thanksgiving to God through us.

The rendering of this ministry of this ministry
overflows with many thanksgivings to God.

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity.

We offer our lives for the sake of one another,

which produces thanksgiving to God through us.

God will bless you, so that you will be a blessing.

**You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity,
which produces thanksgiving to God through us.**

2 Corinthians 9.6-15; Genesis 12.1-5

Gospel Canticle

**Be doers of the word
and not forgetful hearers only.**

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,

- for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68-79

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Be doers of the word
and not forgetful hearers only.**

¶ PRAYERS

Intercessions are offered, and may conclude;

Living God,
you are humble in generosity
and teach us to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.
May our light so shine before others,
in love, in truth, and in action,
that we may glorify your name
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Coming to God with humility of heart,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

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.

¶ THE CONCLUSION

God, who is greater than our hearts,
help us to serve one another,
to reveal our faith through action,
by abiding in your love.
Amen.

God of glory,
whose love was revealed through Christ Jesus,
bless us and keep us.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.