

Welcome to a short time of prayer and reflection for the eighth Sunday after Trinity. Let us be still and recognise we are in the presence of God: Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen

The Lord be with you

Our gospel reading is the story of Jesus feeding the five thousand. It begins with a description of Jesus seeing the crowd who have come to look for him, and being filled with compassion. Matthew tells us that he heals those who were sick and the crowds stay until late in the evening when he meets the need for them to be fed too. It is good to remember that all that Jesus did came from a place of compassion; his desire to meet us and satisfy our needs.

Trusting that compassion, let us bring to him now our need for healing, for forgiveness, for his mercy and love. We take a moment to recall our need of God's grace and to confess our sins:

When we have turned away from you and ignored your will for our lives, Lord have mercy.

When we have behaved just as we wished, without thinking of you, Christ have mercy.

When have failed you by what we do and say, Lord have mercy.

May the God of love and power, forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. Amen

Let us pray:

Lord God,

Your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, and when we are needy, save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

We listen to a reading from the Gospel of Matthew 14: 13-21

The Gospel of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon : see additional attachment

Let us pray:

Almighty God, we give you thanks for gathering to yourself a people to be your church throughout the world. Today we pray especially for our brothers and sisters in faith who worship in the all churches of this place. On the weekend that marks the first anniversary of their arrival here in Lynton we ask God's continued blessing on the Sisters of Mary Morning Star, with great gratitude for their ministry among us.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Father of all, we pray for your world, asking for relief from the pandemic and for renewed international efforts to protect the most vulnerable countries who have fewer resources to protect their own people. Help us all find a calm good sense to take care of one another, to support livelihoods, to preserve our environment and to build up all that makes for peace.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Loving Lord, we ask you blessing on those with whom we share our lives. We pray for our families, friends and neighbours, giving thanks for their place in our lives and the gifts they bring us. Bless all who are supporting those who are still isolating, and be the companion of all for whom this time is still upsetting. Help all who need a holiday to find safe ways for recreation and relaxation

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Loving Lord, We bring to you in our hearts all who we know to be suffering at this time: through illness, injury or any kind of distress. Help them to have a sense of your presence with them. Bring them wholeness of body, mind and spirit, and the healing that is according to God's will,

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Eternal God, we commend to your everlasting love all who have died: those we love and see no longer, those who have died recently and those whose anniversary of death falls around now.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We gather all these intercessions in the prayer Jesus gave us:

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. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory. Forever and ever, Amen.

And we pray for God's blessing:

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen