

The Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway Stavanger Congregation

Stavanger Anglicans' website:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8466/>

Stavanger Anglicans on Facebook:

<https://m.facebook.com/stavangeranglicans/>

Martinchirume@gmail.com (90754432)



6 September 2026

14 th Sunday after Trinity

Menighetshus Rektor Steens gata 7: 10:30

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 12.1-14

Romans 13.8-end

Matthew 18.15-20

Reflection

“Love Thy Neighbour... Even the One Who Tests Thy Patience!”

Today, Jesus gives us some very practical advice in Matthew 18:15–20 about what to do when a neighbour or anyone, for that matter, gets on our nerves.

And let us be honest: neighbours are wonderful... until they are not!

A good neighbour is someone who smiles at you, borrows a cup of sugar, returns your lawnmower, keeps the music down at midnight, and never parks in front of your driveway. But then there is the other kind.

The neighbour who starts drilling at 7 a.m. on a Saturday. The neighbour whose dog believes your garden is its personal toilet. The neighbour who mysteriously “borrows” your ladder and then develops amnesia.

And, of course, the neighbour who sees your rubbish bin outside and decides it is the perfect place to have a conversation.

Jesus knows that relationships can become messy. So He says: “If your brother sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone.”

Notice something important: Jesus does not say, “Tell everybody else first!”

That would be our natural instinct, wouldn't it?

“Did you hear what she did?”



“Do you know what he said?”

“I'm not gossiping. I'm just sharing a prayer request!”

Jesus invites us to do something much harder: talk to the person directly, privately and lovingly.

Good neighbourliness means refusing to turn small disagreements into international incidents. It means giving people the benefit of the doubt. It means learning to say, “I'm sorry,” and also learning to say, “I forgive you.”

Sometimes, being a good neighbour means speaking the truth. Sometimes it means keeping quiet. And sometimes it means discovering that the fence between us is not nearly as important as the friendship on the other side of it.

Then Jesus gives us that beautiful promise: “Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” Imagine that! Jesus is present when we gather, not only in church, but wherever people come together seeking reconciliation, understanding and peace. without the pruning, and the title without the work!

So, dear friends, let us be the kind of neighbours who make the world a little lighter: quick to listen, slow to quarrel,



“WHERE TWO OR THREE
ARE GATHERED IN MY NAME,
I AM THERE AMONG THEM.”

— MATTHEW 18:20

generous with forgiveness,
and perhaps just a little less
enthusiastic about gossip!
Because holiness is not only
about loving God on
Sundays. It is also about
loving the person next door
on Monday morning.
And if your neighbour is
difficult?
Pray for them.
And perhaps, after praying,
check where you parked your
car.
Amen.

Contacts and Connections



For pastoral needs,
Baptisms
Blessing of Civil
Marriages
Funerals
Please contact the
Assistant Chaplain

Father Martin

martinchirume@gmail.com

90754432



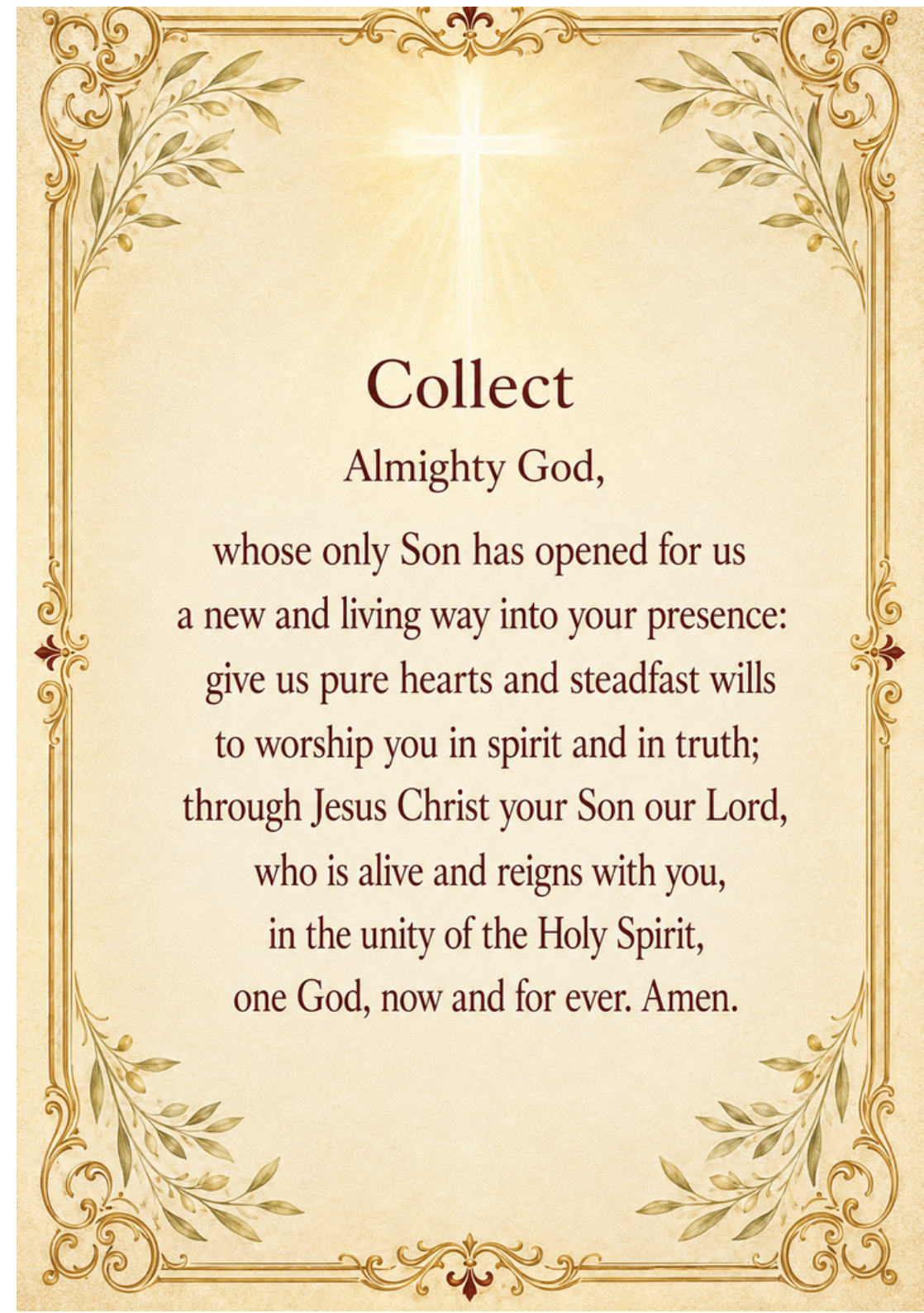
Safeguarding concerns, workshops,
or Safe Church enquiries: Please
contact Jane, who will be happy to
assist.

Acts of Mercy - fundraising,
donations, or finances: contact Rumi

+4796837193

Email: talk2rumi@yahoo.com

For website enquiries, please contact Sarah +4798543363



Collect

Almighty God,

whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

How to support Stavanger Congregation financially



- Register as a member. Membership forms are available at Church.



- Donate in the Sunday collection basket. Vipps #667359 Stavanger Anglicans.



- Give tax efficiently by donating directly to the main chaplaincy account:
Account number: 7029 05 14973
If you complete your personnummer on the form and donate annually 500–25,000 NOK, you will receive a tax rebate.



- Give directly through your bank to Stavanger Congregation:
Account number: 3201 08 90631



- Donate your time and skills.