

# THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

'Bring forth the fruit of the Spirit'



The Holy Spirit, according to today's Collect, is 'the life and light of the Church'. He pours upon God's people gifts of love, energy and knowledge of Christ. The resulting 'fruit' includes 'love, joy and peace'. Let us pray that we will 'open our hearts' afresh to the wind of the Spirit and become more fruitful in Christ's service.

## The Gathering

### THE GREETING

Grace, mercy and peace to you from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

**And also with you.** (1 Tim. 1:2)

(A HYMN may be sung)

St Paul wrote:

Live by the Spirit, I say,

**and do not gratify the desires of the flesh.**

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace ...

**If we live by the Spirit,  
let us also be guided by the Spirit.**

(Gal. 5:16, 22-23, 25)

### PRAYER

**Almighty God,**

**to whom all hearts are open,**

**all desires known,**

**and from whom no secrets are hidden:**

**cleanse the thoughts of our hearts**

**by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,**

**that we may perfectly love you,**

**and worthily magnify your holy name;**

**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(SONGS may be sung)

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### PENITENCE

In the presence of our holy and merciful

Lord, we measure our Christian lives against the nine-fold fruits listed by St Paul.

(Gal. 5:22-23)

'The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy and peace.'

Forgive us, Lord, when we have pursued our

own interests rather than the things that make for peace.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

'The fruit of the Spirit is patience, kindness and generosity.'

Forgive us, Lord, when we have been intolerant of other people's failings, or uncaring about their needs.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

'The fruit of the spirit is faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.'

Forgive us, Lord, when we have let people down, or failed to place our trust in you.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,

and bring us to everlasting life,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(The GLORIA, the VENITE, a SONG or RESPONSES may be used)

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray ... (silent prayer)

Almighty God,

who sent your Holy Spirit

to be the life and light of your Church:

open our hearts to the riches of your grace,

that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit

in love and joy and peace;

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.**

### THE SCRIPTURE READING(S)

(After the reading)

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM/HYMN or SCRIPTURAL SONG

### THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

(After the reading)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### THE SERMON

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us affirm our faith in God:

### INTERCESSIONS

(Special thanksgivings and prayers ...)

Our Father in heaven, we pray for all people, in the name of your Son Jesus Christ:

We pray for the Church, for bishop N., and for all who lead, teach and minister in Christ's name ... Grant that we may be nourished in our faith and understanding, and bear daily witness to Christ's love.

Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray for the nations of the world and for those who take authority to serve the cause of justice and human well-being ... Strengthen our Queen and the leaders of the nations with gifts of wisdom, courage and integrity, that your will may be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray for those who are afflicted by natural disasters, or caught up in brutal conflicts ...

Fill them with the resurrection hope that good will prevail, and bless all who stand with them in finding solutions to their difficulties.

Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray for the people we are called to serve, in the home, the neighbourhood and

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son who took our human nature, died for us, and rose again?

**We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

**We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

(A HYMN may be sung)

## The Prayers

at work ... Help us to work hard at building good relationships, and to strive for reconciliation when they break down.

Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

We pray for all who suffer from illness, loneliness or weakness ... Raise them from despair to hopefulness and health.

Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

We remember with thanksgiving those who have died ... Strengthen all who mourn, with the sure hope that, in Christ, their loved ones are raised to fullness of life.

Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

**Accept all these prayers for the sake of  
your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

(A HYMN may be sung)

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

If we sow to the Spirit, we will reap eternal life from the Spirit.

**Lord, let us not grow weary in doing what  
is right, for we will reap at harvest time,  
if we do not give up,**

**for Jesus' sake. Amen.** (Gal. 5:8-9)

(THE BLESSING or THE GRACE is said)

## The Liturgy of the Word