



St Edmund's Taverham with St Peter's Ringland

Welcome to our
worship today.

Sunday 15th November 2020

Some words for us to reflect on as we gather together.

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, for ever;
With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.
I declare that your steadfast love is established for ever;
Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

Psalm 89:1-2

Our gathering song (Prayer of St Patrick)

Christ be with me and within me

Christ behind me and before
Christ beside me and to win me
Christ to comfort and restore
Christ beneath me and above me
Christ in quiet and in danger
Christ in hearts of all that love me
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger

Christ in every heart that's broken
Christ in every joy and pain
Christ in every word that's spoken
Christ in sun and moon and rain
Christ in resting and in rising
Christ the Lord of all my life
Christ to guide me and to shield me
Christ protecting me in strife

Call to Worship during a Pandemic

From the comfort of our homes we gather to worship.
Whether through printed word, or through the gift of technology
we are a community.

Here we seek connection to the Divine.

Come, let us worship God,
shown to us through the risen Christ.

~ submitted by Ann Harbridge, DLM, Minister at Trinity Centennial United Church in
Rosemont, Ontario.

Song (You are my all in all – written by Dennis Jernigan)

You are my strength when I am weak

You are the treasure that I seek
You are my all in all
Seeking you as a precious jewel
Lord to give up, I'd be a fool
You are my all in all

*Jesus, Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name*

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame
Rising again, I bless Your name
You are my all in all
When I fall down, You pick me up
When I am dry, You fill my cup
You are my all in all

Song (written by Gary Sadler)

We are a moment, You are forever

Lord of the ages, God before time
We are a vapour, You are eternal
Love everlasting, reigning on high

*Holy holy Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Highest praises honour and glory
Be unto Your name, be unto Your name*

We are the broken, You are the healer
Jesus Redeemer, mighty to save
You are the love song we'll sing forever
Bowing before You, blessing Your name

We are the loved ones, You are our saviour
Jesus protect us, the strength of Your Name
We'll follow always, be Yours forever
Lord of all this world and Heaven the same

Let's spend some time reflecting on this week. Are there things that have brought you joy - conversations you have had, something of beauty that you have seen or heard. Where have you experienced the presence of God this week? Bring your thanks to God.

What has happened this week that has caused you to be concerned or anxious? Bring these things to God in prayer.

Our scripture reading this week is written in the gospel of **Matthew chapter 25:14-30**

The Parable of the Talents

14 'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; **15** to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. **16** The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. **17** In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. **18** But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. **20** Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." **21** His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." **23** His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." **24** Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; **25** so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours."

26 But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? **27** Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. **28** So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents.

29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. **30** As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

As you read these words spend some time reflecting on what it might be that God wants you to know.

You might like to read this week's thoughts in the St Ed's newsheet or on the St Peter's webpage

Let us pray.

Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world's salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The prayer Jesus taught us - the prayer of God's Kingdom.

Song (written by D J Mansell)

Jesus is Lord, creation's voice proclaims it
For by His power each tree and flower was planned and made
Jesus is Lord, the universe declares it
Sun moon and stars in heaven cry Jesus is Lord

*Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord
Praise Him with hallelujahs for Jesus is Lord*

Jesus is Lord, yet from His throne eternal
In flesh He came to die in pain on Calv'ry's tree
Jesus is Lord, from Him all life proceeding
Yet gave His life a ransom thus setting us free

Jesus is Lord, o'er sin the mighty conqueror
From death He rose and all His foes shall own His Name
Jesus is Lord, God sent His Holy Spirit
To show by works of power that Jesus is Lord

Our prayer of blessing

There are blessings meant for you to hold onto
clutched like a lifeline
carried like a candle for a dark way
tucked into a pocket like a smooth stone
reminding you that you do not go alone.
This blessing is not those.

This blessing will find its form only as you give it away
only as you release it into the keeping of another
only as you let it leave you
bearing the shape the imprint
the grace it will take
only for having passed through your two particular hands.

~ written by Jan L. Richardson, and posted on **The Painted Prayerbook**. <http://paintedprayerbook.com/>

May the blessing of God who is Eternal Love, Incarnate Word and Abiding Spirit who blesses us to make us a blessing to others, fill us with joy and equip us to follow with all that we are and all that we have, now and forever more. Amen.

Song (My prayer for you written by Alisa Turner)

For anyone who's prayed a thousand prayers

And still can't find the answer anywhere
Fighting off the lie that no one cares

For anyone who's out there losing hope
Feeling you're forsaken and alone
Clinging to the last strands of your rope

*May God give you eyes to see He's still greater
Courage to rise and believe He's able
May God be your peace in the fire you're walking through
This is our prayer now
This is our prayer for you*

For all of those with tired and weary souls
But still have faith to ask for miracles
Choosing to believe He's in control

May your eyes be ever on the Lord, your helper
May you find your refuge in the Lord, your shelter
May you find Him closer than a brother all your days
All of your days!