

27th June 2021



Living with Injustice

10.30am Holy Communion

4th Sunday after Trinity

Ecclesiastes 8:2-17

Philip Robertson

Please speak aloud words in **bold text**.
Singing – in our hearts, but not aloud.

CALL TO WORSHIP GOD

Lord God in heaven, how great is the goodness you have stored up for those who fear you. You lavish it on those who come to you for protection, blessing them before the watching world. You hide them in the shelter of your presence, safe from those who conspire against them. You shelter them in your presence, far from accusing tongues. Praise the Lord, for he has shown me the wonders of his unfailing love. *Psalm 31:19-21*

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
and also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

1ST SONG – GOD IMMORTAL INVISIBLE

*Lou & Nathan Fellingham – inspired by the hymn
'Immortal, Invisible' by W Chalmers Smith*

God immortal, invisible,
Clothed in light inaccessible,
God most Holy, God only wise,
God most blessed, most glorious,
God almighty, victorious,
Present with us yet veiled from sight.

Holy is the Lord, is the Lord.
Holy.

*And our praise will rise
To the Lord of life.
Come and worship Him
In His majesty.
Awesome God, most high.*

Giving life to both great and small
He's the source and the life of all
Needing nothing to make Him whole.
Man does flourish then fade to nought,
Like a breath that is quickly gone,
But our God's the eternal one.
Holy is the Lord, is the Lord.
Holy.

See His glory shine
Over all mankind.
Come and worship Him
In His majesty,
Awesome God, most high.

Holy is the Lord, is the Lord.
Holy.

God of splendour we see in part,
But through Christ He has come to us,
Wondrous glory has won our hearts.

CONFESSION

An expert in religious law, asked Jesus
"Teacher, which is the most important
commandment in the law of Moses?"
Jesus replied, "You must love the Lord

your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.” *Based on Mt.22:37-40*

God commands everyone everywhere to repent of their sins and turn to him. For he has set a day for judging the world with justice by the man he has appointed, and he proved to everyone who this is by raising him from the dead. *Based on Acts 17:30-31*

So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Lord God,
I have sinned against you;
I have done evil in your sight.
I am sorry and repent.
Have mercy on me according to your love.
Wash away my wrongdoing and cleanse me from my sin.
Renew a right spirit within me and restore me to the joy of my salvation,
through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive us our sins, open our eyes to God’s truth, strengthen us to do God’s will and give us the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT

**Gracious Father,
by the obedience of Jesus
you brought salvation to our
wayward world:
draw us into harmony with your
will,
that we may find all things restored
in him,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

2ND SONG – GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

T O Chisholm

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not,
As Thou hast been Thou for ever wilt be.

*Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided,
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter, spring-time and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,

Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

BIBLE READING *Read by Brian Tilton*

Ecclesiastes 8:2-17

² Obey the king's command, I say, because you took an oath before God.

³ Do not be in a hurry to leave the king's presence. Do not stand up for a bad cause, for he will do whatever he pleases. ⁴ Since a king's word is supreme, who can say to him, 'What are you doing?'

⁵ Whoever obeys his command will come to no harm, and the wise heart will know the proper time and procedure.

⁶ For there is a proper time and procedure for every matter, though a person may be weighed down by misery.

⁷ Since no one knows the future, who can tell someone else what is to come?

⁸ As no one has power over the wind to contain it, so no one has power over the time of their death.

As no one is discharged in time of war, so wickedness will not release those who practise it.

⁹ All this I saw, as I applied my mind to everything done under the sun. There is a time when a man lords it over others to his own hurt. ¹⁰ Then too, I saw the wicked buried – those who used to come and go from the holy place and receive praise in the city where they did this. This too is meaningless.

¹¹ When the sentence for a crime is not quickly carried out, people's hearts are

filled with schemes to do wrong.

¹² Although a wicked person who commits a hundred crimes may live a long time, I know that it will go better with those who fear God, who are reverent before him. ¹³ Yet because the wicked do not fear God, it will not go well with them, and their days will not lengthen like a shadow.

¹⁴ There is something else meaningless that occurs on earth: the righteous who get what the wicked deserve, and the wicked who get what the righteous deserve. This too, I say, is meaningless.

¹⁵ So I commend the enjoyment of life, because there is nothing better for a person under the sun than to eat and drink and be glad. Then joy will accompany them in their toil all the days of the life God has given them under the sun.

¹⁶ When I applied my mind to know wisdom and to observe the labour that is done on earth – people getting no sleep day or night – ¹⁷ then I saw all that God has done. No one can comprehend what goes on under the sun. Despite all their efforts to search it out, no one can discover its meaning. Even if the wise claim they know, they cannot really comprehend it.

LIVING WITH INJUSTICE *Philip Robertson*

3RD SONG – COMPASSION HYMN

Getty & Townend

There is an everlasting kindness
You lavished on us,
When the Radiance of heaven Came to
rescue the lost;
You called the sheep without a
shepherd
To leave their distress.

For your streams of forgiveness
And the shade of Your rest.

And with compassion for the hurting,
You reached out Your hand
As the lame ran to meet You
And the dead breathed again;
You saw behind the eyes of sorrow
And shared in our tears,
Heard the sigh of the weary,
Let the children draw near.

*What boundless love,
What fathomless grace
You have shown us, O God of
compassion!
Each day we live
An offering of praise
As we show to the world Your
compassion.*

We stood beneath the cross of Calvary
And gazed on Your face
At the thorns of oppression
And the wounds of disgrace,
For surely You have borne our suffering
And carried our grief
As You pardoned the scoffer
And showed grace to the thief.

How beautiful the feet that carry
This gospel of peace
To the fields of injustice
And the valleys of need—
To be a voice of hope and healing,
To answer the cries
Of the hungry and helpless
With the mercy of Christ.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Philippians 2:6-11*

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ
the Son of God.

**Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.**

**Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself
and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every
name:
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus
Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

PRAYERS *Led by Amita Sudra*

4TH SONG - THE KING IN ALL HIS BEAUTY

Matt Boswell & Matt Papa

O lift your eyes to heaven, see
The Holy One eternal.
Behold the Lord of majesty
Exalted in His temple
As symphonies of angels praise
Now strain to sound His glory.
Come worship, fall before His grace
The King in all His beauty.

*How worthy, how worthy, how worthy
The King in all His beauty.*

Now see the King who wears a crown
One made of shame and splinters.
The sacrifice for ruined man
The substitute for sinners.
As earth is stained with royal blood
And quakes with love and fury
He breathes His last and bows His head
The King in all His beauty.

Now see the Saviour lifted up
The Lamb who reigns in splendour.
The hope of every tribe and tongue
His kingdom is forever!
Bring praise and honour to His courts.

Bring wisdom, power, blessing.
For endless ages we'll adore
The King in all His beauty.

THE PEACE

Let us clothe ourselves with love,
which binds us together in perfect
harmony. And let the peace that
comes from Christ rule in our hearts.
For as members of one body we are
called to live in peace.

Based on Colossians 3:14-15

The peace of the Lord be always
with you
and also with you.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER *Common Worship Prayer F*

The Lord is here
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
**It is right to give him thanks and
praise.**

You are worthy of our thanks and
praise,
Lord God of truth,
for by the breath of your mouth
you have spoken your word,
and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image
and placed us in the garden of your
delight.

Though we chose the path of rebellion
you would not abandon your own.

Again and again you drew us into
your covenant of grace.
You gave your people the law and
taught us by your prophets
to look for your reign of justice,
mercy and peace.

As we watch for the signs of your
kingdom on earth,
we echo the song of the angels in
heaven,
evermore praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus
Christ
you reveal the power of your love
made perfect in our human weakness.
Amen. Lord, we believe.

Embracing our humanity,
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
loving us to the end,
he gave himself to death for us;
dying for his own,
he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with
him in glory.
Amen. Lord, we believe.

On the night he gave up himself for
us all
he took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples,
saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is
given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
Amen. Lord, we believe.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood
of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in
remembrance of me.
Amen. Lord, we believe.

Therefore we proclaim the death
that he suffered on the cross,
we celebrate his resurrection, his
bursting from the tomb,
we rejoice that he reigns at your
right hand on high
and we long for his coming in glory.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

As we recall the one, perfect
sacrifice of our redemption,
Father, by your Holy Spirit upon us
let these gifts of your creation
be to us the body and blood of our
Lord Jesus Christ;
form us into the likeness of Christ
and make us a perfect offering in
your sight.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Look with favour on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry of
our hearts.
Bless the earth,
heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free
and fill your Church with power
from on high.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Gather your people from the ends of
the earth
to feast with all your saints
at the table in your kingdom,
where the new creation is brought
to perfection
in Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in
whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours,
almighty Father,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

As Jesus, our Saviour, taught,
let us 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.**

We break this bread to share in the
body of Christ
**Though we are many, we are one
body
because we all share in one bread.**

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus
Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink
in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our
whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours
as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

ADMINISTRATION

POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

Eternal God,
comfort of the afflicted and healer
of the broken,
you have fed us at the table of life
and hope:
teach us the ways of gentleness and
peace,
that all the world may acknowledge
the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ
our Lord.

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son
Jesus Christ.**

**Through him we offer you our souls
and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.**

**Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

*We will move outside to sing our final
song. Please stand six feet from
people not in your 'bubble.*

5TH SONG – CROWN HIM WITH MANY

CROWNS *Matthew Bridges*

Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife

for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified;
no angels in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends their burning eye
at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

BLESSING

May God the Father keep you safe in
his love,
May Christ the king reign in your heart,
May the Holy Spirit inspire all you say
and do.

And the blessing of God, Father Son
and Holy Spirit be among you and
with you always. Amen.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the
Lord our God.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Prayer Topics & News for the week

If you would like the vicar to pray with you on the phone, call him on 01902 827214; or alternatively you can place a prayer request on our 'Prayer Chain' by phoning Brian on 01902 788017. He will have several people pray, in confidence, for your request.

**The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did
for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'**

Matthew 25:40

For the World and our Nation and our City

- **Praying for refugees worldwide** - Nearly 80 million people have been forced from their homes. The coronavirus pandemic halted many things but has not stopped conflict, natural disasters or persecution.
- **Praying for the UK** – refugees are daily risking their lives & the lives of their loved ones to cross the English Channel from France to reach our country, hopefully, to find safe refuge.
*Father, we pray for all refugees around the world.
May they be welcomed with open arms. May their needs be met.
May their wounds be healed. May the world hear their plight.
May the world have compassion. May the world take action on their behalf.
In Jesus' name we pray, amen. (Tearfund prayer)*

For St Jude's Church

- Ecclesiastes 8:2-17. God was Israel's king, but Israel complained to Samuel. Despite his warnings of what would happen if they were ruled by a human king, the people were adamant they wanted a king like neighbouring nations (1 Sam.8:1-22). Now the wise Teacher reflects on life under the rule of a king who can do whatever he pleases, good or bad. As you read today's passage on royal authority and life's injustices, what parallels do you see today? What advice does the Teacher offer, and what hope does he point towards? What teaching does it remind you of from the New Testament?
- Pray for church family, and those known to you, suffering in body or soul.
- Pray for James and Pradip, our church wardens, as they are sworn in for duty at the 'Archdeacon's Visitation' on Monday evening at St John's in the Square.
- Continue to pray for our Deanery Synod 'Shaping for Mission' working party. Pray that their analysis so far will accurately reflect all that takes place in Deanery Parishes before they move to the next stage.
- Pray the good progress with our electrical works will continue. Give thanks to the Lord for all the care and consideration being shown to us by everyone working on the project.

For our Mission Partners – current urgent appeals

- **Tearfund** – Pray for the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, a country ravaged by decades of conflict. Over the last 12 months, the violence has intensified significantly. Please urgently pray for peace and protection for the Congolese people who have had to flee to escape the violence they have witnessed and who now risk infection from disease, including coronavirus, in the camps.
- **The Leprosy Mission** – pray for **Nepal**, the Anandaban Hospital, near Kathmandu, is in desperate need of vaccinations so its frontline workers can protect people affected by leprosy from coronavirus. Hospitals are in crisis and the Nepalese Prime Minister has issued a desperate plea to the UK government asking for more support.

CONTACTING ST JUDE'S

Vicar day off - Saturday	Rev Philip Robertson	827214	philipsrobertson@virginmedia.com
Church Wardens	James Sturgeon	269743	jmmsturgeon@gmail.com
	Pradip Sudra	334257	pradipsudra@gmail.com
Occasional Minister	Rev Ivor Saunders	751162	ivor.john@outlook.com
Children	Nicky Robertson	827214	nicky_is@hotmail.com
Parish Office	CLOSED		

Our building is open for Worship (recordings online with YouTube / Facebook Group / Website)

St Jude's Church, c/o The Vicarage 21A St Jude's Road, Wolverhampton, WV6 0EB

YouTube Channel: St Jude's Church Wolverhampton Facebook.com/ St Judes Church Community

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/wolverhampton-st-judes