



20th June | 4th Sunday after

Living as faithful ministers of the Gospel.

Welcome and Opening Greeting

Our greeting is inspired by today's Psalm, number 9

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

Let us give you thanks, O Lord **we will tell of the wonders you have done.**

Let us rejoice and be glad in our God **with our hearts we will praise you.**

The Apostle Paul modelled an authentic Christian life,

In everything we do, we show that we are true ministers of God. We patiently endure troubles and hardships and calamities of every kind. We serve God whether people honour us or despise us, whether they slander us or praise us. (2 Corinthians 6:4, 8)

Opening Song: This is the Day

This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made,
that the Lord has made.

We will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it,
and be glad in it.

This is the day
that the Lord has made,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord hath made.

This is the day, this is the day
when He rose again,
when He rose again.

We will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it,
and be glad in it.

This is the day
when He rose again,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day
when He rose again.

This is the day, this is the day
when the Spirit came,
when the Spirit came.

We will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it,
and be glad in it.

This is the day
when the Spirit came,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day
when the Spirit came.

Prayer of Approach

Let us prepare our hearts for worship,

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, though Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Gloria

Let us join with the heavenly hosts singing,

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

O God our defender, storms rage about us and cause us to be afraid: rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us all from unbelief; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Ministry of the Word

Heavenly Father, as we listen to your truth, give us hearts to receive all that your Spirit desires to teach us. Amen.

The first reading is a summarised reading from 1 Samuel, chapter 17

The Philistines arose and assembled their armies against the nation of Israel. Within the Philistine army was a champion, formidable in height and strength, his armour being heavier than what most men could carry. Goliath stood and taunted the armies of Israel, boasting of his ability to conquer any soldier who dared fight him. The Israelite soldiers were terrified of him.

When David, who was just a shepherd boy, heard Goliath's thunderous threats, he recognised it as defiance against God. He advised King Saul of his willingness to fight Goliath, saying,

³⁶Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. **³⁷** The LORD who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine."

Without armour or spear, and armed with only a sling shot with five pebbles, David ran toward Goliath shouting,

⁴⁵ ... "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. **⁴⁶** This day the LORD will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. ... and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. **⁴⁷** All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

The Lord granted David success over the giant. So, King Saul appointed David as commander over the Israelites troops and David grew in popularity amongst the people.

Hear the word of the Lord **thanks be to God**

A portion of the Psalm of the day, number 9

⁷ But the LORD reigns forever, executing judgment from his throne.

⁸ He will judge the world with justice and rule the nations with fairness.

⁹ The LORD is a shelter for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.

**¹⁰ Those who know your name trust in you,
for you, O LORD, do not abandon those who search for you.**

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

as in the beginning, so now and forever. Amen.

The second reading is from 2 Corinthians chapter 6 verses 1-18

Paul instructs the believers at Corinth to be faithful ministers of the Gospel, because of the marvellous gift of God's kindness towards us. Even when people ridicule or despise us, we are to remain faithful.

As God's partners, we beg you not to accept this marvellous gift of God's kindness and then ignore it. ² For God says,

"At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you."

Indeed, the "right time" is now. Today is the day of salvation.

³ We live in such a way that no one will stumble because of us, and no one will find fault with our ministry. ⁴ In everything we do, we show that we are true ministers of God. We patiently endure troubles and hardships and calamities of every kind. ⁵ We have been beaten, been put in prison, faced angry mobs, worked to exhaustion, endured sleepless nights, and gone without food. ⁶ We prove ourselves by our purity, our understanding, our patience, our kindness, by the Holy Spirit within us, and by our sincere love. ⁷ We faithfully preach the truth. God's power is working in us. We use the weapons of righteousness in the right hand for attack and the left hand for defence. ⁸ We serve God whether people honour us or despise us, whether they slander us or praise us. We are honest, but they call us impostors. ⁹ We are ignored, even though we are well known. We live close to death, but we are still alive. We have been beaten, but we have not been killed. ¹⁰ Our hearts ache, but we always have joy. We are poor, but we give spiritual riches to others. We own nothing, and yet we have everything.

¹¹ Oh, dear Corinthian friends! We have spoken honestly with you, and our hearts are open to you. ¹² There is no lack of love on our part, but you have withheld your love from us. ¹³ I am asking you to respond as if you were my own children. Open your hearts to us!

¹⁴ Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness? ¹⁵ What harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? How can a believer be a partner with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ And what union can there be between God's temple and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God said:

"I will live in them and walk among them.

I will be their God, and they will be my people.

¹⁷ Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them, says the LORD.

Don't touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you.

¹⁸ And I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters," says the LORD Almighty."

Hear the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Song: Jesus God's righteousness revealed

Jesus, God's righteousness revealed,
the Son of Man, the Son of God, his kingdom comes.
Jesus, redemption's sacrifice,
now glorified, now justified, His kingdom comes.

Jesus, the expression of God's love,
the grace of God, the word of God, revealed to us;
Jesus, God's holiness displayed,
now glorified, now justified, His kingdom comes.

*And His kingdom will know no end,
and its glory shall know no bounds,
for the majesty and power
of this kingdom's King has come,
and this kingdom's reign,
and this kingdom's rule,
and this kingdom's power and authority,
Jesus, God's righteousness revealed.*

The Gospel of our Lord

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, chapter 4 commencing at verse 35 to 41. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

³⁵ That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side." ³⁶ Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. ³⁷ A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. ³⁸ Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" ³⁹ He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. ⁴⁰ He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" ⁴¹ They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

This is the Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon: Br Bill Nicolle will deliver a creative and invitational message

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayer of the Week

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray and give more than either we desire or deserve. Pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience convict us, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, through the compassion and mercy of our Saviour Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers for God's mission and upcoming ministries

For those who do not attend services, the following prayers may be read.

For the gathered community, we will be led in prayer.

Heavenly Father in today's portion of the Apostle Paul's letter he urged us to be faithful ministers of the Gospel, equipped and ready for worship and service. He reminded us that we are to be faithful despite the likeliness of ridicule and rejection from people. We pray specifically today for those whom you have called to serve in the upcoming ministries blossoming in our community here at Southlakes.

We pray for the team who are both organising and leading the upcoming Cursillo weekends in August. Give courage to those who know how powerfully your Spirit moves in the lives of your children during a Cursillo weekend so they are moved to invite others to attend.

We pray also for the team who will participate and lead our upcoming Alpha course starting mid-July. We ask for your protection over their lives as they prepare to walk the journey with those whom you have called to attend.

We are aware that just last week the Apostle Paul taught us our responsibility as ambassadors of Christ, to take God's message of reconciliation to our community. Give us courage to pray and share how your Spirit has transformed our lives with those who you send across our path. Spirit of God, move in the hearts of those in our community who do not know you, remove the blindness from their eyes, and soften their hearts to receive your Word.

In place of Prayer Circles,

Listening to the Spirit of God

We will hold three Alpha invitation cards in our hands and ask the Holy Spirit to speak to us about who we may invite.

The person rostered to lead our prayers will conclude our prayer time saying,

Heavenly Father, you are already at work in our community. Your Spirit has been sent into the world to convict the world of sin, of righteousness and judgement. Reveal to each of us those who are ready to take the next step in hearing the Good News of the Gospel. May we not discount or disregard the person your Spirit prompts to our hearts. Give to each of us courage to not allow fear to prevent us from extending an invitation to those whom the Spirit reveals.

Finally, Heavenly Father, you are a God of comfort. We give you thanks for the comfort you offer to the sorrowful and the hope you provide to those in distress: Give us insight to see the lonely and those whose loved ones are far away, so we may reach out and comfort them; Alert us to see those in pain or anguish of mind, that we may pray for them; Speak to us of those who we know who are caring for the dying, elderly or frail, that we may reach out to them and uphold them in prayer. *We specifically name those on our prayer list.* Help us to do your will, by not just praying for others, but being willing to participate in the answering of our prayers to those we know.

Join with me in praying together,

Thank you, Father for your promise to not only hear our prayers, but to grant what we have asked through faith we receive in the name of your Son Jesus. Amen.



We conclude by praying as our Saviour taught us:

**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.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Confession

The Spirit of truth comes to convict of sin, of righteousness, and of judgement.

Let us then open our hearts and confess our sins in repentance and faith.

God of mercy, we humbly admit that we need your help.

We have wandered from your way. We have sinned in thought, word and deed, and failed to do what is right. You alone can save us.

Have mercy on us, wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others.

Bring forth in us the fruit of your Spirit

that we may live the new life to your glory.

This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

Promise of Forgiveness

Almighty God, through the death of your Son Jesus Christ there no longer remains condemnation of sin. Because we belong to him the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed us from the power of sin that leads to death. Receive, therefore the forgiveness that Christ has obtained for you. Now you are washed, you are sanctified, you are justified; in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God. **Amen.**

Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Share the Lord's peace with another either in person or via telephone.

Thanksgiving and Communion

The Lord be with you **And also with you.**

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

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

It is right to praise you, faithful God, always and everywhere,

for with your only begotten Son and life-giving Spirit,

you are the one true God from everlasting to everlasting.

At the dawn of time, you wrought from nothing a universe of beauty and splendour, bringing light from darkness and order from chaos.

You formed us, male and female, in your image, and endowed us with creative power.

We turned away from you, but you did not abandon us.

You called us by name and searched us out, making a covenant of mercy,

giving the law, and teaching justice by the prophets.

And so we praise you, joining with your faithful people of every time and place, singing the eternal song:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

When the fullness of time was come, you sent your Son to be born of Mary.
 Bright image of your glory, he learnt obedience to you in all things,
 even to death on a cross, breaking the power of evil, freeing us from sin,
 and putting death to flight.
 You raised him from death, and exalted him to glory, and a new day dawned.
 On the night he was betrayed your Son Jesus Christ shared food with his friends, his companions
 on the way.
 While at the table he took bread, blessed, and broke it, and giving it to them, said:
 'Take and eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'
 He took a cup of wine, and giving thanks, he gave it to them, and said,
 'This is my blood of the covenant which is poured out for many.
 Do this in remembrance of me.'

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, living God, as we obey his command,
 we remember his life of obedience to you, his suffering and death,
 his resurrection and exaltation, and his promise to be with us for ever.
 With this bread and this cup we celebrate his saving death until he comes.
 Accept, we pray, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and
 our celebration that all who eat and drink at this table may be strengthened by Christ's body
 and blood to serve you in the world.
 As one body and one holy people, may we proclaim the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ our
 Lord, through whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours,
 eternal God, now and for ever.

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread and the Communion

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
 We who are many are one body: **for we all share in the one bread.**
 Almighty and eternal God, may we who have received this sacrament of your Son's body and
 blood worship you in all we do, proclaim your word to our community, and live in the power of
 your Spirit.

Communion Song: Hallelujah! Sing to Jesus

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| <p>1. Hallelujah! sing to Jesus, his the sceptre, his the throne; hallelujah! his the triumph, his the victory alone. Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood: 'Jesus out of every nation hath redeemed us by his blood.'</p> | <p>3. Hallelujah! bread of heaven, thou on earth our food, our stay. Hallelujah! Here the sinful flee to thee from day to day. Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, plead for me, where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.</p> |
| <p>2. Hallelujah! not as orphans, are we left in sorrow now. hallelujah! He is near us, faith believes, nor questions how; Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er, shall our hearts forget his promise, 'I am with you evermore?'</p> | <p>4. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Glory be to God on high; to the Father, and the Saviour, who has gained the victory; glory to the Holy Spirit, fount of love and sanctity. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! to the triune Majesty.</p> |

2nd Communion Song: Father I thank You

Father, I thank you
for all that you've done.
You gave your son freely for me.
And I praise you for calling me,
drawing me near,
out of blindness you
caused me to see.

Spirit of life,
you are God's holy fire.
You've kindled my heart
with your blaze.
And I know you're refining me,
changing my life,
and by faith you're
revealing your ways.

Jesus, I need you
as Lord of my life.
I give all I have unto you.
Lord, I want to come
under your heavenly hand,
and to praise you
in all that I do.

3rd Communion Song: Amazing Grace

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

As grace first taught my heart to fear
so grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come:
God's grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

Announcements: Please refer to the church newsletter for notices.

Alpha "Who will you invite?" video Let's pray – who could you invite?

Commitment to live out our worship of the Lord

Giver of life and love, we thank you that in this heavenly banquet you invigorate and renew us.
Living in unity in the Spirit, may we boldly use your gifts to continue your work in the world.

**Keep us in this hope that we have grasped; so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name. Amen.**

The Benediction and Blessing

God stir up within you the gift of the Spirit that you may confess Jesus Christ as Lord and proclaim
the joy of the everlasting gospel wherever you may be;
and the blessing of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, be with you always and
remain with you ever more. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: In the presence of Your people

In the presence of your people
I will praise your name,
for alone you are holy, enthroned
on the praises of Israel.

Let us celebrate your goodness
and your steadfast love;
may your name be exalted
here on earth and in heaven above.