



*Chaplaincy of All Saints' Marseille
with Aix-en-Provence
and the Luberon*

*3rd September 2023
13th Sunday after Trinity*

Welcome to our online service. Below you will find readings, prayers and links to music for this Sunday. There is also a reflection by Canon David Pickering, published separately on the website, the text of which is included in the service.

The Gathering

The minister says

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

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

All **and also with you.**

Hymn:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bMDwBuL15Vw>

In the Cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o’ertake me,
Hopes deceive and fears annoy,
Never shall the Cross forsake me:
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the Cross the radiance streaming
Adds more lustre to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
By the Cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.

Words: John Bowring (1792-1872)

Tune: Wychbold – Walter G Whinfield (1865-1919)

Prayer of Preparation

All **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.**

Prayers of Penitence

The minister says

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

All **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.**

The minister says

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

The Gloria

All say:

**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.**

The Collect

The minister says

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Almighty God,
who called your Church to bear witness
that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself:
help us to proclaim the good news of your love,
that all who hear it may be drawn to you;
through him who was lifted up on the cross,
and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 15.15-21

O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 26.1-8

1 Give judgement for me, O Lord, for I have walked with integrity; *
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

2 Test me, O Lord, and try me; *
examine my heart and my mind.

3 For your love is before my eyes; *
I have walked in your truth.

4 I have not joined the company of the false, *
nor consorted with the deceitful.

5 I hate the gathering of evildoers *
and I will not sit down with the wicked.

6 I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord, *
that I may go about your altar,

7 To make heard the voice of thanksgiving *
and tell of all your wonderful deeds.

8 Lord, I love the house of your habitation *
and the place where your glory abides.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

New Testament Reading

Romans 12.9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OS3q4uTEAik>

Take up thy cross, the Saviour said,
If thou wouldst my disciple be;
Deny thyself, the world forsake,
And humbly follow after me.

Take up thy cross; let not its weight
Fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
His strength shall bear thy spirit up,
And brace thy heart and nerve thy arm.

Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,
Nor let thy foolish pride rebel;
The Lord for thee the Cross endured,
To save thy soul from death and hell.

Take up thy cross then in his strength,
And calmly every danger brave;
'Twill guide thee to a better home,
And lead to victory o'er the grave.

Take up thy cross, and follow Christ,
Nor think till death to lay it down;
For only he who bears the cross
May hope to wear the glorious crown.

To thee, great Lord, the One in Three,
All praise for evermore ascend;
O grant us in our home to see
The heavenly life that knows no end.

Words: Charles W Everest (1814-1877)
Tune: Breslau – Lochamer Gesangbuch (c 1450)

Gospel Reading

Matthew 16.21-28

The minister says

Alleluia, alleluia.
I am the light of the world, says the Lord.
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness
but will have the light of life.

cf John 8.12

All **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

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

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection

Some of the central words from this morning's Gospel, ***Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.'*** (Matthew 16.24)

What a challenge! I'm sure we all sincerely wish to be followers of Jesus. That's probably why we've taken the trouble to join this morning's service. Turning up for worship can often be a challenge. This morning I've had a forty minute drive to be here at the home of Jane and Garry for our Zoom service, but even getting online can sometimes itself be a technical challenge! But what about the challenge, the triple challenge we have in our text? We are taking part in this worship this morning because we are followers of Jesus. So to be true to ourselves we need to have some idea what we mean by self-denial, taking up our cross, and how we might follow Jesus, probably into the unknown!

Denial of self can so easily be misunderstood. For Lent, it's traditional to give up certain luxuries of life as acts of self-denial. But that is all they are, simple individual acts. What Jesus is calling for here is a whole life attitude. Again this is not a call to some kind of ascetic life of self-chosen or self-inflicted sufferings. Rather self-denial is the denial of the selfish self and in its place, putting the needs of others first. We see this in today's passage from Paul's Letter to the Romans. It begins, ***Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good.*** These words set the tone for the rest of the text. It concerns our relationships with others, no matter who they are, and I recommend a reflective read through the whole passage.

To follow Jesus Christ is to be always aware and open to the needs of others, and consideration of what we may be able to do for them. And even if that is beyond our means, abilities or influence, we can always pray for them. We are sisters and brothers in Christ with every other human being on this planet, we have a duty of wellbeing to their wholeness of life. In our troubled and confusing world this takes a real effort, and cannot be achieved without the grace of God.

Yet there are times and situations where we can do something. However, it may be costly, difficult or troublesome. This is where we have to take up our cross in following Jesus Christ. The whole of the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah is about the cross he had to bear to proclaim God's message. We hear the desperation of this in today's Old Testament reading. To quote just two verses, ***In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult ... Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable refusing to be healed?*** Again I recommend a re-reading of the whole passage, or in fact, any part of Jeremiah. But today's passage ends on a positive note, ***And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord.*** Here, in the midst of Jeremiah's cross, he finds his resurrection.

We may have many crosses to bear every day of our lives, but for the Christian the hope of the resurrection always accompanies the cross. Some years ago, in my last parish in England, I was talking with our local American Methodist Minister as we came out of the village Roman Catholic Church. We had just completed the round the village Holy Week Stations of the Cross, which had ended at Saint Michael and All Angels. His rather cynical comment was, ***The trouble with Roman Catholics, they forget to take Jesus down from the Cross. The crucifixion ended in the resurrection.*** I understood his point, even though it might have been rather uncharitably expressed. A crucifix with the figure of Christ may be a symbol of his death on the cross, and needs our attention and devotion, but a plain cross is a symbol of his resurrection. Without the resurrection, Jesus Christ's death on the cross is just another capital execution. Despite all the crosses we may have to face day by day there must always be the confident hope of the resurrection, even if that victory is not realised in our experience or time.

This morning's Gospel passage began with one of Jesus's predictions of his coming passion, death ***and*** resurrection. To follow Jesus is to have a resurrection faith, despite the crosses of our daily lives and the world around us. To be a resurrection person. In the challenge to follow Jesus, he now asks for an attachment to himself as a person, and not just the acceptance of his message. Through our baptism we are incorporated into the body of Christ, the Church, and this is renewed in our prayers and in our communal worship.

In our communion at this Zoom Eucharist, whether it be sacramental or spiritual, we renew our attachment or incorporation into following and being Jesus Christ in our daily lives during the coming week. There will be crosses to bear, especially of self-denial. But we go forward with a resurrection faith.

Amen.

Canon David Pickering

The Nicene Creed

**All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,**

begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Prayers

Lord, as you love us, help us to love one another. Give to your church a burning zeal and keep us ardent in our spirits. May we ever rejoice in the hope that you have set before us; through Christ our living Lord.

All **Amen.**

Lord, we pray for peace and unity in your church. Increase our fellowship with one another and our openness to others. Give us the courage to proclaim the saving power of the Cross. May your church help to bring reconciliation and peace in your world.

Lord of glory

All **Grant us your peace.**

We pray for peace in our hearts, for peace in our communities, for peace in your world, that as far as possible we may live at peace with all people. We pray for peace-keeping forces, for the United Nations, for President Macron, King Charles and all politicians and leaders, that they may work together for peace. We pray for police and probation services. We give thanks for all mediators and peacemakers. We pray for all who offer your peace to this world.

Lord of glory

All **Grant us your peace.**

May our homes be places of peace and love, homes of holiness and hospitality, homes of harmony and unity. May we learn acceptance, and forgiveness, through our loved ones. Let us not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Lord of glory

All **Grant us your peace.**

We pray for all who are not at peace, for people of broken homes and broken relationships. We pray for the broken hearted and the broken in spirit, for places where there is a breakdown of peace or well-being, for all who are being destroyed through hatred or revenge, remembering all who have suffered from the violence of others. We pray for the peoples of all places where there is war or conflict, that it may end and allow broken lives to be rebuilt.

Lord of glory

All **Grant us your peace.**

We pray for all who are ill, in mind, body or spirit. From our chaplaincy community we pray for Malcolm, Peter, Gabrielle, Eddie, Margaret and Charles, and in a few moments of silence we name before you those whom we carry on our hearts.

Lord of glory

All **Grant us your peace.**

Lord, when you come into your glory, make us to be one with you and the saints who are now at peace. We remember all who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries fall at this time. Bless and comfort those who mourn, that they may know your presence with them.

Lord of glory

All **Grant us your peace.**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, we commend ourselves, all for whom we pray and the whole creation to your unfailing love, as we pray together:

Merciful Father,

All **Accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

The minister says

We are the body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.
The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45t_3WuX1cU

We sing the praise of Him who died,
Of Him who died upon the Cross;
The sinner's hope let men deride,
For this we count the world but loss.

Inscribed upon the Cross we see
In shining letters, God is love!
He bears our sins upon the tree,
He brings us mercy from above.

The Cross: it takes our guilt away;
It holds the fainting spirit up;
It cheers with hope the gloomy day,
And sweetens every bitter cup.

It makes the coward spirit brave,
And nerves the feeble arm for fight;

It takes its terror from the grave,
And gilds the bed of death with light.

The balm of life, the cure of woe,
The measure and the pledge of love,
The sinner's refuge here below,
The angels' theme in heav'n above.

Words: Thomas Kelly (1769-1855)

Tune: Bow Brickhill – Sydney Nicholson (1875-1947)

Preparation of the Table

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together
from the corners of the earth
into your kingdom.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
For he is your living Word;
through him you have created all things from the beginning,
and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;
you raised him from the dead
and exalted him to your right hand on high.
Through him you have sent upon us
your holy and life-giving Spirit,
and made us a people for your own possession.
Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

All **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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
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.

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;

we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,**

**the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Notre Père, qui es aux cieux,
que ton nom soit sanctifié,
que ton règne vienne,
que ta volonté soit faite,
sur la terre comme au ciel.
Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain de ce jour.
Pardonne-nous nos offenses,
comme nous pardonnons aussi à ceux qui nous ont offensés;
et ne nous laisse pas entrer en tentation,
mais délivre-nous du mal.
Car c'est à toi qu'appartiennent le règne, la puissance et la gloire,
pour les siècles des siècles. Amen.**

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

All **Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

The celebrant says

Jesus is the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

An Act of Spiritual Communion

As circumstances are such that we cannot share in the Eucharist in person, we make an Act of Spiritual Communion, in which we express our faith in Christ and in his presence in the Eucharist, and we ask him to unite himself with us.

Heavenly Father, in union with Christian people throughout the world and across the centuries gathered to make Eucharist, hearing your holy Word and receiving the precious Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, we offer you praise and thanksgiving. Even though we cannot at this time receive Communion, we pray that you will unite us with all the baptised and with your Son who gave his life for us.

Come, Lord Jesus, into our hearts, dwell in us in the fullness of your strength, and send your Holy Spirit that we may be filled with your presence. Amen.

Music A prayer from South Africa

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=inT3iPvMYDA>

Words: Alan Paton (1903-1988)

Music: James Whitbourn (b. 1963)

Lord, help me to give myself when I am giving.

Teach me to give without thought of receiving, and to receive without thought of giving.

Teach me not to withhold or to withdraw myself.

Teach me to hoard nothing – love, money, time, possessions.

Make me ready to give even my life if it is required of me; and while I have it, use it as an instrument of your peace. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

God our creator, you feed your children with the true manna, the living bread from heaven: let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HMart4wXsI0>

My song is love unknown,
 my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown,
 that they might lovely be.
O who am I,
 that for my sake
 my Lord should take
frail flesh, and die?

He came from his blest throne,
 salvation to bestow;
but men made strange, and none
 the longed-for Christ would know.
But O, my Friend,
 my Friend indeed,
 who at my need
his life did spend!

Sometimes they strew his way,
 and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day
 hosannas to their King.
Then 'Crucify!'
 is all their breath,
 and for his death
they thirst and cry.

They rise and needs will have
 my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
 the Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful he
 to suffering goes,
 that he his foes
from thence might free.

Here might I stay and sing:
 no story so divine;
never was love, dear King,
 never was grief like thine!
This is my Friend,
 in whose sweet praise

I all my days
could gladly spend.

Words: Samuel Crossman (1624-1683)
Tune: Love Unknown – John Ireland (1879-1962)

Blessing

The celebrant says

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

The minister says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Offertory

The Diocese in Europe has a new JustGiving page, making it possible for donations to be made to individual chaplaincies in a simple way. For those not already donating by standing order, we would be most grateful for any one-off donations at the following link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/diocese-ineurope>

Please include the words 'This is for the Marseille chaplaincy'. (Occasionally this box does not appear on the JustGiving page – if this happens, please let us know and we will ensure that your gift is allocated to the chaplaincy.)

Thank you for your support.

Picture: A Camargue Cross, with its interlocking symbols of a cross for faith, an anchor for hope and a heart for love. (Photo: Chaplaincy)