

## **SERVICE OF MORNING PRAYER – Sunday 7th June 2026**

### **Welcome**

O Lord, open our lips

**(All) and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy:

**(All) slow to anger and of great goodness.**

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
to you be praise and glory for ever.

You made the heavens and the earth and all that is in them,  
and declared it good.

You called Abraham and made him the father of many nations,  
giving him faith to trust your promise  
even when all hope seemed gone.

You sent your Son Jesus Christ among us,  
who came not to call the righteous but sinners,  
who desired mercy, not sacrifice,  
and who heals, restores, and makes new.

May we, who live by faith and not by our own merit,  
walk this day in your law of love,

and find true life in Jesus Christ your Son.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**(All) Blessed be God for ever.**

### **OPENING HYMN: #564 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

### **INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

Jesus said: "I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

He comes to us not because of what we have achieved,  
but in mercy and grace.

He desires our love and knowledge of him  
more than any outward form of religion.

Trusting in his mercy rather than our own merit,  
let us confess our sins to God our Father.

### **CONFESSION**

**(All) Merciful God,**

**we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have pursued our own ways rather than yours,**

**and offered you outward forms while our hearts were far from you.**

**We have been slow to show mercy to others**

**and too quick to rely on our own goodness.**

**Forgive us, restore us,**

**and help us to walk in your ways of love and wisdom,**

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

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Know that, in Christ, you are forgiven. Accept God's grace and forgiveness this day and extend it to others for Jesus' sake. Amen.

### **OPENING PRAYER**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

#### ***Silence is kept.***

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.

**(All) Amen.**

### **PSALM 50:7-15 (NIVUK)**

<sup>7</sup> **(All) Listen, my people, and I will speak;**

**I will testify against you, Israel:**

**I am God, your God.**

<sup>8</sup> **I bring no charges against you concerning your sacrifices  
or concerning your burnt offerings,  
which are ever before me.**

<sup>9</sup> **I have no need of a bull from your stall  
or of goats from your pens,**

<sup>10</sup> **for every animal of the forest is mine,  
and the cattle on a thousand hills.**

<sup>11</sup> **I know every bird in the mountains,  
and the insects in the fields are mine.**

<sup>12</sup> **If I were hungry I would not tell you,  
for the world is mine, and all that is in it.**

<sup>13</sup> **Do I eat the flesh of bulls  
or drink the blood of goats?**

<sup>14</sup> **'Sacrifice thank-offerings to God,  
fulfil your vows to the Most High,**

<sup>15</sup> **and call on me in the day of trouble;  
I will deliver you, and you will honour me.'**

**(All) 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.**

### **HOSEA 5:15 – 6:6 (NIVUK)**

<sup>5:15</sup> 'Then I will return to my lair until they have borne their guilt and seek my face — in their misery they will earnestly seek me.'

<sup>6:1</sup> 'Come, let us return to the Lord. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds.<sup>2</sup> After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will restore us, that we may live in his presence.<sup>3</sup> Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that waters the earth.'<sup>4</sup> 'What can I do with you, Ephraim? What can I do with you, Judah? Your love is like the

morning mist, like the early dew that disappears.<sup>5</sup> Therefore I cut you in pieces with my prophets, I killed you with the words of my mouth — then my judgments go forth like the sun.<sup>6</sup> For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings.’

This is the Word of the Lord  
**(All) Thanks be to God**

### **ROMANS 4:13–25 (NIVUK)**

<sup>13</sup> It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith.<sup>14</sup> For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless,<sup>15</sup> because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.<sup>16</sup> Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring — not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all.

<sup>17</sup> As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed — the God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.<sup>18</sup> Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”<sup>19</sup> Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead — since he was about a hundred years old — and that Sarah’s womb was also dead.<sup>20</sup> Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God,<sup>21</sup> being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.<sup>22</sup> This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.”<sup>23</sup> The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone,<sup>24</sup> but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness — for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.<sup>25</sup> He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

This is the Word of the Lord  
**(All) Thanks be to God**

### **MATTHEW 9:9–13, 18–26 (NIVUK)**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew  
**(All) Glory to you, O Lord.**

#### **The calling of Matthew**

<sup>9</sup> As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector’s booth. “Follow me,” he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.<sup>10</sup> While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew’s house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples.<sup>11</sup> When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”<sup>12</sup> On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but those who are ill.”<sup>13</sup> But go and learn what this means: “I desire mercy, not sacrifice.” For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

#### **Jesus raises a dead girl and heals a sick woman**

<sup>18</sup> While he was saying this, a synagogue leader came and knelt before him and said, “My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live.”<sup>19</sup> Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples.<sup>20</sup> Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak.<sup>21</sup> She said to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed.”<sup>22</sup> Jesus turned and saw her. “Take heart, daughter,” he said, “your faith has healed you.” And

the woman was healed at that moment.<sup>23</sup> When Jesus entered the synagogue leader's house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes,<sup>24</sup> he said, "Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him.<sup>25</sup> After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up.<sup>26</sup> News of this spread through all that region.

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**(All) Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **GOSPEL CANTICLE**

### **The Song of Zechariah (Benedictus)**

**(All) Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,  
who has come to his people and set them free.**

<sup>1</sup>Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,  
who has come to his people and set them free.

<sup>2</sup>He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,  
born of the house of his servant David.

<sup>3</sup>Through his holy prophets God promised of old  
to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all that hate us,

<sup>4</sup>To show mercy to our ancestors,  
and to remember his holy covenant.

<sup>5</sup>This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

<sup>6</sup>Free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

<sup>7</sup>And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

<sup>8</sup>To give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

<sup>9</sup>In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

<sup>10</sup>To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. (Luke 1.68–79)

**(All) 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.**

**(All) Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,  
who has come to his people and set them free.**

## **HYMN: #33 And Can It Be**

## **THE HOMILY – Paul Devos**

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**(All) 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;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and 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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

### **THE COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

God of truth,  
help us to keep your law of love  
and to walk in ways of wisdom,  
that we may find true life  
in Jesus Christ your Son.  
**(All) Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**(All) 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.**

### **DISMISSAL**

We have heard God's word and received his mercy.

Like Matthew, we have been called — unlikely as we are.  
Like Abraham, we are invited to trust God's promises, not our own goodness.  
Like the woman and the child in today's Gospel,  
our faith can make us well.

Go in peace to walk in God's law of love.  
Show the mercy you have received.  
And find true life in Jesus Christ, now and always.

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

## **NOTICES**

**CLOSING HYMN: #449 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

## **THE COLLECTION OF OUR OFFERING**

All that we have  
and all that we are  
originate in God's generosity.  
All things come from you, O Lord,  
**(All) and of your own do we give you. Amen.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**(All) In the name of Christ. Amen.**