

Trinity 2 August 2020 – Rev Robert Soanes - Christ gives us food to eat.

Introduction

The Lord freely gives us our spiritual food and drink. He gives us his own Son so that nothing can come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ. Christ takes pity on us; he knows our needs, which he will always satisfy if only we turn to him.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn St F18 Be still and know that I am God.

Sung by Jeanette all join in at home

1 Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am God.

2 I am the Lord who saves and heals.

I am the Lord who saves and heals.

I am the Lord who saves and heals.

3 In you, O Lord, I put my trust.

In you, O Lord, I put my trust.

In you, O Lord, I put my trust.

Anonymous Based on Psalm 46:10-11, Reproduced
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Collect

Draw near to us, O Lord, and answer our prayers with your kindness. May we keep safe what you have graciously created. Through our Lord Jesus Christ who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Amen

Invitation to confession

God provides for us, but we often forget and try to provide for ourselves. We can soon become preoccupied with ourselves.

When we believe that we cannot rely on God for our needs.

Lord have mercy

When we have forgotten to include others in our walk with God.

Christ have mercy

When worry about material needs prevents us from hearing God's saving word

Lord have mercy

Jesus said to those who came to him for forgiveness, Your sins are forgiven go and sin no more.

Thanks be to God

Reading Isaiah 55 vs 1-3

55Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³ Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

Psalm 144

The Lord is kind and full of compassion slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.

Response - You open wide your hand grant the desires of all who live

The eyes of all creatures look to you and you give them their food in due time. You open wide your hand, grant the desires of all who live.

Hymn S t F 544 As the Deer pants---Sung by Jeanette--Please join in at home

1 As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.

*You alone are my strength, my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.*

2 I want you more than gold or silver,
only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver
and the apple of my eye.

*You alone are my strength, my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.*

Gospel Reading Matthew 14 vs 13-21

Feeding the Five Thousand

Response - You open wide your hand grant the desires of all who live

The lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, call on him from their hearts.

Response - You open wide your hand grant the desires of all who live

3 You're my friend and you are my brother,
even though you are a king.
I love you more than any other,
so much more than anything.

*You alone are my strength, my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.*

Martin J. Nystrom (b. 1956)

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¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷ They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Reflection

Most people will have experienced the desire to enjoy some time on their own, to enjoy a time of solitude particularly when the pressures of life become intolerable.

In today's gospel reading we read how Jesus tries to make his getaway to a secure hiding place.

John the Baptist and played an important role in Jesus's life and the brutal Herod had cruelly put John to death. John's death upset Jesus terribly and he understandably felt the need to go away to a lonely place just to be on his own for a while. However the crowds followed Jesus. They had come with their families and friends many of whom were afflicted and troubled hoping that Jesus would do something to help them. Jesus does take pity on them and he was filled with compassion for these people.

The problem as Jesus saw it was that all these people would need to eat. The disciples would

Prayers of intercession

We bring the need of the Church and the world before our loving God. We give thanks for the many blessings both material and spiritual that God gives us daily.

Lord in your mercy.....

have told them to go into the nearest village to buy food for themselves, but Jesus tells the disciples to take the little food that they had for themselves and give it to the crowds.

Jesus takes the little they had, He raised his eyes to heaven, blessed it, and gave it to the crowd.

Although the disciples and Jesus are tired and have been deprived of peace and rest-----with the blessing of God-----they have sufficient resources to meet the needs of the people.

We can sympathise with Jesus's need to get away on his own for a while. We need our time of quiet, our getaways. We can easily become burned out or burned up. We can only give as much as we can of our time talents and energy. God will take what we offer to him, he will bless it. The disciples gave all of the little they had and all were satisfied

We pray for those who do not wish to follow the way of Christ, believing that they need nothing from him.

Lord in your mercy...

We pray for those who walk alone, missing out on the life giving joy that comes from sharing Gods blessings with others.

Lord in your mercy...

Father there are so many of your people who are in very great need at this time. We ask your

blessing upon them and upon those who seek to help them.

We give thanks for all our dear departed friends who have walked in the way of Jesus and who have continually helped us in our lives.

Lords Prayer.

Hymn S t F 295 Alleluia Alleluia give thanks to the Risen Lord---Jeanette will sing-- please join in at home.

Alleluia, alleluia,
give thanks to the risen Lord,
alleluia, alleluia,
give praise to his name.

1 Jesus is Lord of all the earth;
he is the King of creation:

Alleluia, alleluia,
give thanks to the risen Lord,
alleluia, alleluia,
give praise to his name.

2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen:

Alleluia, alleluia,
give thanks to the risen Lord,
alleluia, alleluia,
give praise to his name.

3 We have been crucified with Christ;
now we shall live for ever:

Alleluia, alleluia,
give thanks to the risen Lord,

alleluia, alleluia,
give praise to his name.

4 God has proclaimed the just reward:
new life for all! Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia,
give thanks to the risen Lord,
alleluia, alleluia,
give praise to his name.

5 Come, let us praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Saviour:

Alleluia, alleluia,
give thanks to the risen Lord,
alleluia, alleluia,
give praise to his name.

Donald Fishel (*b.* 1950)

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Blessing

May God give you grace to follow Christ to the other side of the lake, trusting him to provide all you need. And the blessing of God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you all and your Loved ones wherever they may be. **Amen**