

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you healed the sick:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you forgave sinners:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you give yourself to heal us and bring us strength:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us **Amen.**

THE GLORIA

Glorify God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

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

OPENING PRAYER

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption, look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters, that those who believe in Christ may receive true freedom and an everlasting inheritance. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....



LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Wisdom 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom

'What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens? As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 89:3-6, 12-14,17

R. O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

1. You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night.



2. You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. **[R]**

3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. **[R]**

4. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. **[R]**

SECOND READING Philemon 9-10,12-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to Philemon

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him - I could say - a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother, especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 14:25-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

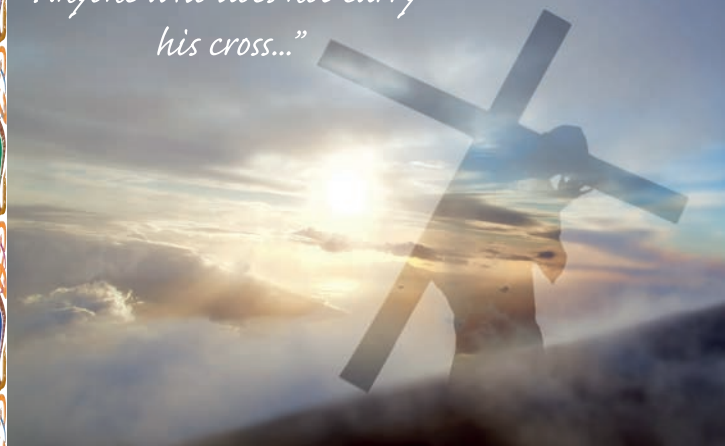
Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. 'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



The christian's life is centred on God and not on possessions or wealth: these are to be used in the service of God.

"Anyone who does not carry his cross..."



NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

All bow for following three lines: and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day 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.

I 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 adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, who give us the gift of true prayer and of peace, graciously grant that, through this offering, we may do fitting homage to your divine majesty, and, by partaking of the sacred mystery, we may be faithfully united in mind and heart. Through Christ our Lord.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith. Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant that your faithful, O Lord, whom you nourish and endow with life through the food of your Word and heavenly Sacrament, may so benefit from your beloved Son's great gifts that we may merit an eternal share in his life. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.



Today's gospel is troubling. Does Jesus really expect us to hate our families, friends and even ourselves in order to be his followers? The call to 'hate' our family is not to be taken literally. It is a call for us to break free from any habit or relationship that is holding us back. Reflect on a time when you gained a significant new insight or began a new phase of life. You may find that it involved letting go of something you were attached to. Attachments can cause all sorts of suffering in our lives and moving on from what we find comfortable can be painful, but that is how we grow.

In Laudato Si' – On Care for Our Common Home, Pope Francis calls each of us to become 'painfully aware' of what is happening to our world. We know now that the past 200 years of 'development' have caused widespread destruction of our planet, altering the very fabric of our ecosystems. Levels of consumption by humans are out of control. We have not considered the full cost of building the 'tower' Jesus talks about in today's gospel.

The Season of Creation, which began on September 1st and runs to October 4th, is a time to reconnect with the beauty of God's creation so that we can set out on more sustainable paths. This involves breaking away from systems which harm our environment and the most vulnerable and embracing a gentler way of walking on this earth. It requires a change of heart so that we can set out on new paths. Pope Francis tells us that "Truly, much can be done!" This Season of Creation pledge to do one small thing in your own life to help care more deeply for our common home.

Jane Mellett, co-author of

The Deep End – A Journey through the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Luke, Messenger, 2021.