**Holy Communion ONE | Trinity 9 | 6 August 2023 8:30 am**

**Introduction**

*The priest stands at the Communion Table*  
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. **Amen**.

**The Collect for Purity**

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts be open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid;  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love thee,  
and worthily magnify thy holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

**The Commandments**

*Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:*  
Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great Commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two Commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.  
**Lord, have mercy upon us, and write these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

**The Collect of the Day**

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity  
Almighty God,  
who sent your Holy Spirit  
to be the life and light of your Church:  
Open our hearts to the riches of his grace,  
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit  
in love and joy and peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Epistle**

The Epistle is written in the ninth chapter of the Letter of Paul to the Romans beginning at the 1st verse.

**Romans 9:1–5 (NIV 11)**

**1** I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it through the Holy Spirit—**2** I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. **3** For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race, **4** the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption to sonship; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. **5** Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

Here endeth the Epistle.

**The Gospel**

The Holy Gospel is written in the 14th chapter of the Gospel according to Matthew beginning at the 13th verse.  
**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**  
**Matthew 14:13–21 (NIV 11)**

**13** When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. **14** When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.  
**15** As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.”  
**16** Jesus replied, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”  
**17** “We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,” they answered.  
**18** “Bring them here to me,” he said. **19** And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. **20** They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. **21** The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

**Thanks be to thee, O Lord.**

**The Nicene Creed**

**I believe in one God the Father Almighty,**  
**Maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible:**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,**  
**the only-begotten Son of God,  
Begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
Very God of very God,**

**Begotten, not made,**  
**Being of one substance with the Father;  
By whom all things were made**:

**Who for us men, and for our salvation,**  
**came down from heaven,  
And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,  
And was made man,  
And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried,**  
**And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
And ascended into heaven,  
And sitteth on the right hand of the Father.  
And he shall come again with glory  
to judge both the quick and the dead:  
Whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,**  
**The Lord, and Giver of life,  
Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,  
Who with the Father and the Son together  
is worshipped and glorified,  
Who spake by the Prophets.**

**And I believe one Catholic and Apostolic Church.**  
**I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins.  
And I look for the Resurrection of the dead,  
And the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Sermon**

Sermon:  
“You give them something to eat”

There is something strangely uncomfortable about Jesus’ words to his disciples in the face of a crisis:

They say to Jesus “Send the crowds away so they can buy themselves some food”

In today’s environment, the cry goes up in the midst of any community problem:  
- Get the schools to deal with it.  
- Get the government to deal with it.  
- Get the police to deal with it.

It may be *our problem*, but we want **someone else** to deal with it.

As spiritual people we probably try to follow a more pious plan: let’s **ask God to do something** about it.

Yet here, Jesus tells his disciples that they must act first. I’m sure that lazy faith can leave you and me standing back and just hoping that God will do something, but the voice of Jesus said “You give them something”.

Don’t misunderstand me: prayer is the first reaction in any situation, but God want that prayer to be quickly accompanied by our own best efforts to respond.

The children’s schools do not have enough money to pay extra staff to host clubs and after-school activities, or to provide books for the library, or to equip classrooms with new equipment.

Why don’t we help? Pray for wisdom fro the teachers the department of education whoever, but also think hard how we can facilitate their needs.

The local hospitals didn’t have money to provide personal care packs for people rushed into hospital, so rather than just praying about it, MU in the diocese collected wash bags and toiletries to offer to wards for their sudden arrivals. Prayer leading to action.

The disciples prayed for Jesus to help the hungry, but then were re-directed to offer help themselves which Christ in turn would then multiply.

The results?  
Memorable actions by the disciples which we read about 2000 years later.  
Full stomachs from a huge crowd of needy people.  
God’s miraculous touch transformed the crowd and the disciples alike.

If we see a need today, especially if we see it as a result of looking at it in the life of the Christian community, should we simply pray, or should we pray for wisdom and be willing to act to remedy?

The larder: just such a case.  
“You give them something to eat”  
*and when we did the supermarkets joined in* and gave stuff away, Now **that** (!) is a miracle too!

**Offertory.**

Lay not up for yourselves treasure upon the earth; where the rust and moth doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven; where neither rust nor moth doth cor- rupt, and where thieves do not break through and steal.  
Matthew 6: 19,20

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the vic- tory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all. Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious

**Church Militant**

*Let us pray for the whole state of Christ’s Church militant here in earth.*

Almighty and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks, for all men; We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept our alms and oblations, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity and concord: And grant, that all they that do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

We beseech thee also to save and defend all Christian Kings, Princes, and Governors; and especially thy servant CHARLES our King; that under him we may be godly and quietly governed: And grant unto his whole Council, and to all that are put in authority under him, that they may truly and impartially minister justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops and Curates, that they may both by their life and doctrine set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments: And to all thy People give thy heavenly grace; and especially to this Congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all them, who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom: Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ’s sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

**Introduction to Penitence**

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

**Confession**

**Almighty God,**  
**Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Maker of all things,  
Judge of all men;  
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,  
Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed,  
By thought, word, and deed,  
Against thy Divine Majesty,  
Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.  
We do earnestly repent,  
And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;  
The remembrance of them is grievous unto us;  
The burden of them is intolerable.  
Have mercy upon us,  
Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ’s sake,  
Forgive us all that is past;  
And grant that we may ever hereafter  
Serve and please thee  
In newness of life,  
To the honour and glory of thy Name;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**.

**Absolution**

*Almighty God, our heavenly Father,*  
*who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins  
to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him;  
Have mercy upon you;  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins;  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness;  
and bring you to everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*.

**Comfortable Words**

*Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him.*

Come unto me all that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

*Hear also what Saint Paul saith.*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

*Hear also what Saint John saith.*

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the propitiation for our sins.

**Sanctus**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up unto the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.  
**It is meet and right so to do.**  
It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty Everlasting God:

Therefore with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,  
**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory:  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Amen.**

**Prayer of Humble Access**

**We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord,**  
**trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in thy manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table.  
But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy:  
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen**.

**Great Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death, until his coming again:

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ’s holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood: Who, in the same night that he was betrayed, **took Bread**; and, when he had given thanks, **he brake 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.

Likewise after supper **he took the Cup**; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this: for **this is my Blood** of the New Testament which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me. **Amen.**

**Receiving Communion**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**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**.

**Prayer 2**

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of the most precious death and passion of thy dear Son.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

**Gloria in Excelsis *standing***

**Glory be to God on high,**  
**and in earth peace, good will towards men.  
We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesu Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.  
For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Blessing**

O Almighty Lord, and everlasting God, vouchsafe, we beseech thee, to direct, sanctify, and govern both our hearts and bodies, in the ways of thy laws, and in the works of thy commandments; that through thy most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**