## 18 August 2024 Trinity 12

## Hymn 372 Through all the changing scenes of life

Through all the changing scenes of life,  
in trouble and in joy,  
the praises of my God shall still  
my heart and tongue employ.

O magnify the Lord with me,  
with me exalt his name;  
when in distress to him I called,  
he to my rescue came.

The hosts of God encamp around  
the dwellings of the just;  
deliverance he affords to all  
who on his succour trust.

O make but trial of his love,  
experience will decide  
how blessed are they, and only they,  
who in his truth confide.

Fear him, ye saints, and you will then  
have nothing else to fear;  
make you his service your delight,  
your wants shall be his care.

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
the God whom we adore,  
be glory, as it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

## The Greeting Hello and Welcome

O Lord, open our lips  
and our mouth will proclaim your praise.  
Let us worship the Lord.  
All praise to his name.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Blessed be God for ever.

## Penitence saying sorry

## Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault; by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name. Amen.

## Forgiveness a reminder of God's gift

## Preparing to hear Ephesians 5:15-20

*The lesson reader says:*  
Let us hear the word of the Lord.  
So may the light of your presence shine into our hearts.

A reading from Ephesians chapter 5 beginning at verse 15

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God

## 3 Questions

## Psalm 95

1 O come let us sing out to the Lord;  
let us shout in triumph to the rock of our salvation.

2 Let us come before his face with thanksgiving  
and cry out to him joyfully in psalms.

3 For the Lord is a great God  
and a great king above all gods.

4 In his hand are the depths of the earth  
and the peaks of the mountains are his also.

5 The sea is his and he made it,  
his hands moulded dry land.

6 Come let us worship and bow down  
and kneel before the Lord our maker.

7 For he is the Lord our God;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

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.

## John 8:12-20

A reading from John chapter 8 beginning at verse 12.

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.’ The Pharisees challenged him, ‘Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid.’ Jesus answered, ‘Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me.’ Then they asked him, ‘Where is your father?’ ‘You do not know me or my Father,’ Jesus replied. ‘If you knew me, you would know my Father also.’ He spoke these words while teaching in the temple courts near the place where the offerings were put. Yet no one seized him, because his hour had not yet come.

This is the word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God

## Hymn 606 As the deer pants for the water

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.

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.

## The Sermon Following the Light

## Collection Hymn 597 Take my life and let it be

Take my life, and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days,  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my hands, and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet, and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee.

3 Take my voice, and let me sing  
always, only, for my King;  
take my intellect, and use  
every power as thou shalt choose.

4 Take my will and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine.  
take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne.

5 Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store;  
take my self, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.

## Declaring Faith

## **We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth** is named.

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## Praying Together

Lord, in your mercy  
hear our prayer  
*and finally*Merciful Father,  
accept these our prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

## Collect of the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

## Daily Collect – for Guidance

Heavenly Father,  
in whom we live and move and have our being:  
We humbly pray that your Holy Spirit  
may so guide and govern us  
that in all the cares and occupations of our daily life,  
we may never forget your presence  
but may remember that we are  
always walking in your sight,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

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.**

## The Blessing

## TP 64 In Christ alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my all in all,  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

2 In Christ alone! - who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This Gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save:  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied -  
For every sin on Him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

3 There in the ground his body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain:  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory,  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine -  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4 No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till he returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

**Stuart Townsend and Keith Getty © 2001 Thankyou Music.**

We go into the world  
to walk in God's light,  
to rejoice in God's love  
and to reflect God's glory.