

"SUMMER-TIME" The Trinity Season

We now find ourselves in the season of 'Sundays After Trinity', that long period (of 20+ weeks) where there are few festivals and other focal points. It stretches from the climax of Pentecost, through to the beginnings of Advent, and provides the Church's calendar with a period of reflection. Having celebrated the life of Christ, we – as the followers touched by that life – now have time to learn more, to soak up the richness of scripture, worship and prayer, so that we become more 'grounded' in our faith, and eager to continue in our witness.

During this "Summer-Time", the principal scripture for this year will centre around the Gospel of Matthew. In the attached liturgy, we have given you the climax to that work, the closing words that are known as the 'Great Commission', guiding and encouraging the disciples (which includes us!) to go out into the world, spread the word through witness, and be ambassadors of God. You may like to use Matthew's writings throughout by choosing to read the whole gospel during this time of 'closure' of our Church, taking a short extract each week.

This short liturgy is designed to be used in your own homes – and we hope that it will be of use to you at this time. You can share it as a family around your kitchen-table as it is perfectly shaped to include a cup of coffee and your PJs! You can sit quietly by yourself, and ponder its words. However you use it, pause and remember the rest of our Church community at this time – and look forward to a time of celebration when we will indeed be together again ...

A LITURGY FOR YOUR "SUMMER-TIME" follows ...

A LITURGY FOR THE TRINITY SEASON

*Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory*

Blessed are you, Lord our God, redeemer and king of all;
to you be glory and praise for ever!
From the waters of chaos you drew forth the world,
and in your great love, fashioned us in your image.
May we, the first-fruits of your new creation,
rejoice in this life that you have made;
may Christ your light ever dawn in our hearts
as we offer you our sacrifice of thanks and praise.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

A Song of Joy

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: the Lord himself is God;
he himself has made us and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and call upon his name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting;
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

A Word of Scripture

MATTHEW 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

A Song of David

Blessed are you, God of Israel, for ever and ever,
for yours is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour and the majesty.

Everything in heaven and on earth is yours;
yours is the kingdom, O Lord,
and you are exalted as head over all.

Riches and honour come from you
and you rule over all.

In your hand are power and might;
yours it is to give power and strength to all.

And now we give you thanks, our God,
and praise your glorious name.

For all things come from you,
and of your own have we given you.

A Quiet Moment ...

You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power;
for you have created all things,
and by your will they have their being ...

*... feel free to offer your own thoughts and prayers.
You may wish to focus upon our daily e-Prayer
or use the List version as a sort-of Litany
followed by ...*

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts:
Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength;
ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name.
For the Lord shall give strength to his people;
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory

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

A Prayer for "Summer-Time"

Holy God,
faithful and unchanging;
enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth,
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love,
that we may truly worship you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

The Lord bless you, and preserve you from all evil,
and keep you in eternal life;
and let us bless the Lord!

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