

A Short Act of Worship for Sunday 13 June (Trinity 2)

May the grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness;
And all these things shall be added unto you, Allelu, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia, allelu, alleluia.*

*Ask, and it shall be given unto you, seek, and ye shall find.
Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you, Allelu, alleluia!*

*We shall not live by bread alone, but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord, Allelu, alleluia!*

St Paul says 'Be imitators of God; love as Christ loved; do not grieve the Holy Spirit; put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and malice.'
So let us confess our sins to God, who forgives us in Christ.

A pause for reflection ...

Christ came in humility to share our lives: forgive our pride. Lord, have mercy.
Christ came with good news for all people: forgive our silence. Christ, have mercy.
Christ came in love to a world of suffering: forgive our self-centredness. Lord, have mercy.

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins,
and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God's Word:

Jesus also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

(Mark 4: 26-34)

*Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?*

*Will you leave your self behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare,
will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?*

