

A Short Act of Worship for Sunday 27 June (Trinity 4)

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

*We cannot measure how you heal or answer every sufferer's prayer,
yet we believe your grace responds where faith and doubt unite to care.
Your hands, though bloodied on the cross, survive to hold and heal and warn,
to carry all through death to life and cradle children yet unborn.*

*The pain that will not go away, the guilt that clings from things long past,
the fear of what the future holds, are present as if meant to last.
But present too is love which tends the hurt we never hoped to find,
the private agonies inside, the memories that haunt the mind.*

*So some have come who need your help and some have come to make amends,
as hands which shaped and saved the world are present in the touch of friends.
Lord, let your Spirit meet us here to mend the body, mind and soul,
to disentangle peace from pain, and make your broken people whole.*

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness.
He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his mercy upon those who fear him.

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:

When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered round him; and he was by the lake. Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet and begged him repeatedly, 'My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.' So he went with him. And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. Now there was a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years. She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, for she said, 'If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well.' Immediately her haemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' And his disciples said to him, 'You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, "Who touched me?"' He looked all round to see who had done it. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. He said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.' While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, 'Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?' But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, 'Do not fear, only believe.' He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. When he had entered, he said to them, 'Why do you make a

commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.' And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, 'Talitha cum', which means, 'Little girl, get up!' And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

(Mark 5: 21-end)

*Heal us, Immanuel, hear our prayer; we wait to feel your touch;
deep-wounded souls to thee repair, and Saviour, we are such.*

*Our faith is feeble, we confess we faintly trust thy word;
but wilt thou pity us the less? Be that far from thee, Lord!*

*Remember him who once applied with trembling for relief;
'Lord, I believe,' with tears he cried; 'O help my unbelief!'*

*She, too, who touched you in the press and healing virtue stole,
was answered, 'Daughter, go in peace: your faith has made you whole.'*

*Like her, with hopes and fears we come to touch you if we may;
O send us not despairing home; send none unhealed away.*

Our prayers:

Lord God, through your grace we are your people: through your Son you have redeemed us;
in your Spirit you have made us as your own.

We pray for ... the Church. Make our hearts respond to your love.

We pray for ... the world, society, our local community.

Make our lives bear witness to your glory in the world.

We pray for ... people in need. Make our wills eager to obey, and our hands ready to heal.

We give thanks for ...

Make our voices one with all your people in heaven and on earth.

Lord of life, hear our prayer, and make us one in heart and mind to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.

A pause for silence prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name ...

(or)

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name ...

Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen

May the Lord bless us and watch over us, the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us, the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. Amen.

*God to enfold you, Christ to uphold you, Spirit to keep you in heaven's sight;
So may God grace you, heal and embrace you, lead you through darkness into the light.*

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