

A Short Act of Worship for Sunday 11 July (Trinity 6)

Lord, open our lips and our mouth shall proclaim your praise

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you, now and for ever. Amen

*All my hope on God is founded; he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth, only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone calls my heart to be his own.*

*God's great goodness aye endureth, deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light, and life attend him, beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore from his store new-born worlds rise and adore.*

*Daily doth the almighty giver bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth, pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand at his hand; joy doth wait on his command.*

*Still from earth to God eternal sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call one and all: ye who follow shall not fall.*

Jesus said, 'Before you offer your gift, go and be reconciled.'
As sisters and brothers in God's family, we come together to ask our Father for forgiveness.

A pause for reflection ...

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit. Lord, have mercy.
You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart. Christ, have mercy.
You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided. 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:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

(Ephesians 1: 3-14)

*He that is down needs fear no fall, he that is low, no pride;
he that is humble ever shall have God to be his guide.*

*I am content with what I have, little be it, or much:
and, Lord, contentment still I crave, because thou savest such.*

*Fulness to such a burden is that go on pilgrimage:
here little, and hereafter bliss, is best from age to age.*

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 ...

Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

*Go forth and tell! O church of God, awake! God's saving news to all the nations take;
proclaim Christ Jesus, saviour, Lord, and king, that all the world his worthy praise may sing.*

*Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all; he will in grace respond to all who call:
how shall they call if they have never heard the gracious invitation of his word?*

*Go forth and tell! The doors are open wide: share God's good gifts let no one be denied;
live out your life as Christ your Lord shall choose, your ransomed powers for his sole glory use.*

*Go forth and tell! O church of God, arise! go in the strength which Christ your Lord supplies;
go till all nations his great name adore and serve him, Lord and king for evermore.*

And 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.