

PRAYER IN THE HOME

TRINITY 5: SUNDAY 12 JULY

GATHERING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us light a candle to remember that God is with us.

All creation praises you, Lord,
and your faithful servants bless you.
**They declare the glory of your kingdom
and tell of your mighty power.**

The Lord is with us.

Let us praise his name together.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COLLECT for the Fifth Sunday after Trinity

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.

PSALM 119.105-112

¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

¹⁰⁶I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to observe your righteous ordinances.

¹⁰⁷I am severely afflicted;
give me life, O LORD, according to your word.

¹⁰⁸**Accept my offerings of praise, O LORD,
and teach me your ordinances.**

¹⁰⁹I hold my life in my hand continually,
but I do not forget your law.

¹¹⁰**The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but I do not stray from your precepts.**

¹¹¹Your decrees are my heritage forever;
they are the joy of my heart.

¹¹²**I incline my heart to perform your statutes
forever, to the end.**

BIBLE READING Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23

¹Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears

the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

SERMON Rev Ann Brodie: <https://stbcc.co.uk/sermons>

1. Do you generally find it helpful when Jesus speaks in parables?
2. Considering the Parable of the Sower, what are your own ‘thorns’, the things that prevent you from spiritual growth? Do you have a strategy for dealing with them?
3. Have you struggled in your faith or found things easier during this time of pandemic? Can you say why?

INTERCESSIONS & CLOSING PRAYER

Everlasting God, we bring our prayers to you, asking that your blessing of love and peace may be known to people everywhere. Help us to bear abundant fruit from the seeds of potential that you have planted within us.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Creator God, we are your chosen stewards of this beautiful world but sometimes we abuse the privilege. We look to you for forgiveness for the damage humankind has done to the earth and pray that you would show us ways of healing the wounds that we have inflicted on the land, ourselves and on each other.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Father God, we pray that in our communities all will be welcome and accepted regardless of nationality, colour, gender or status and that we will seek always to serve you in serving one another.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Gracious God, we pray for all those who seek healing of body, mind or spirit asking that they will feel your presence alongside them, for each and every step of their journey to health and wholeness.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Loving God, we remember before you those who have died and pray for those who mourn their loss.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Faithful God, we offer you these prayers and ask you to use them, and us, so that your will may be done on earth and more of your kingdom revealed to those who seek you.

Merciful Father:

**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

Trusting in the compassion of God,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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 Spirit of truth lead you into all truth,
give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God.

THIS WEEK'S ZOOM MEETING IS AT 7PM ON SUNDAY 12 JULY.
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