

INTROIT HYMN – Light's abode, celestial Salem (390)

During the first hymn the young people place Ruth's stole on the altar.

CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYER

**Lord Jesus,
open our ears to hear you,
open our mouths to praise you,
open our hearts to love you,
more and more. Amen.**

COLLECT

Risen Christ,
by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples:
help your Church to obey your command
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 16.9-15

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

PSALM 67

8.00am only

God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
That your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.

*Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.*

O let the nations rejoice and be glad,
for you will judge the peoples righteously
and govern the nations upon earth.

*Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.*

Then shall the earth bring forth her increase,
and God, our own God, will bless us.
God will bless us,
and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

SECOND READING

Revelation 21.10,22 - 22.5

A reading from the Revelation to St. John of Patmos

And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any

more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

GRADUAL HYMN – Peace, perfect peace (540)

GOSPEL

John 14.23-29

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Jesus answered him, ‘Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

‘I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, “I am going away, and I am coming to you.” If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

GRADUAL HYMN (Reprise) – Peace, perfect peace (540)

OFFERTORY HYMN – Love is His way (429)

COMMUNION HYMNS – Put peace into each other’s hands (559)
There is a redeemer (644)

POST COMMUNION

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:
may we thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen.

RITE FOR THE BLESSING OF A STOLE

Priest: In the name of the +Father, and of the +Son and of the +Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Priest: This stole that is to be blessed has its origins deep in the history of both Christianity and Judaism and has echoes of garlands worn at festivals, humble towels and signs of office in the Roman Empire. It is a vestment common to the Western and Eastern Churches and, whilst its origins are obscure, it has come to symbolise the role of the Deacon as servant within the Church. It is, thus, a reminder to Priests that they, too, remain servants of Christ.

As we set this stole aside for the service of God and God's people, let us also remember those who will wear it and, in particular, Ruth.

Our help is in the name of the Lord

All: **Who made heaven and earth.**

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray for God's blessing on this stole.

Almighty and everlasting God, who ordained of old through your servant Moses, that sacred vestments should be worn to dignify and glorify worship and taught that whoever would be a follower of your Son must also be a servant of all: + bless, + sanctify + and consecrate this stole that it may be made fitting for your service. Let your sacred ministers who wear it be guarded and defended from all assaults and temptations of evil and help them to celebrate your holy mysteries reverently and well and finally gain the reward of everlasting life. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord.

Amen

The stole is sprinkled with holy water and handed to Ruth.

RECESSIONAL HYMN – O Jesus I have promised (493 t 528)

Please come and meet one another and enjoy a cup of fairtrade tea or coffee in the hall after the service.

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