

COMMUNION HYMNS: 'Come, Lord, Be Our Guest'

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| 1. Come, Lord, be our guest,
find your way among us;
you whose word and will
sowed the seed which sprung us.
Earth, your former home,
still is where we meet you;
therefore we greet you,
Christ, our God alone. | 2. Come, Lord, be our guest,
join our conversation;
free our tongues to speak
without reservation.
Where your people meet,
you perfect their pleasure;
therefore we treasure
all you have to share. |
| 3. Come, Lord, be our guest,
gathered round your table,
we confess our faith
more than fact or fable.
You who made, of old,
all that earth was needing,
blessing and feeding
here will make us new. | 4. Come, Lord, be our host,
bread and wine are waiting.
On your words depend
all our celebrating.
Fill us with your love,
healing and forgiving;
then, in us living,
show our love your way. |

Words: © John L. Bell and Graham Maule

'Here is Bread, Here is Wine' – (262)

'Just As I Am' – (368)

POST COMMUNION

God our creator,
you give seed for us to sow and bread for us to eat:
as you have blessed the fruit of our labour in this eucharist,
so we ask you to give all your children their daily bread,
that the world may praise you for your goodness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



FINAL HYMN: 'All Creatures of Our God and King' – (HON 6)

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15th Sunday after Trinity

8th September 2024

GATHERING HYMN: 'Creation Sings!'

Creation sings! and we are in the music,
the movement of God's energy and art,
a liturgy that links our life to angels,
a litany that rises from the heart.

The Spirit sings! Through love and lamentation,
from Pentecost to joy of Easter Day
the universe is resonant with music,
the smallest creature dances to its play.

Creation groans at our discordant clashing:
the Spirit comes with music as our friend
to bring the harmony of peace and beauty,
to teach the textures of the way to blend.

O God, you draw the melody from silence,
you make of us the instruments of song!
We offer thanks in worship and in wonder
that such a gift to human souls belongs.

Words © Shirley Erena Murray

COLLECT:

Lord of creation,
whose glory is around and within us:
open our eyes to your wonders,
that we may serve you with reverence
and know your peace at our lives' end,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 35: 4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
'Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.'



Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

For the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

SECOND READING

James 2: 1-10 & 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

For the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL HYMN— 'She Came to Jesus'

She came to Jesus from outside the fold —
Canaanite woman! Persistent and bold!
Looking to Jesus, she wanted to see
One who would help her and set her child free.



Claiming a blessing, a touch of God's grace,
She knew God's love was not bounded by place.
Jesus, you listened, debated — then healed —
For in her asking, her faith was revealed.

We sing verse 3 after the Gospel Reading

God, you still bless those who seek you in prayer.
You welcome dreamers who faithfully dare.
In Christ, now risen, your mercy extends:
Those on the outside are welcomed as friends.

Words © Carolyn Winfrey Gillette.

GOSPEL

Mark 7: 24-37

Jesus went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE GIFTS: 'God is Here as We His People' – (200)