

## For Reflection

The hymn below is written by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette and is based on our Gospel Reading today.

### "We Played the Flute!" the Children Said

"We played the flute!" the children said —  
"You would not dance or join our game!  
We wailed like those who grieve the dead,  
And yet you would not do the same."

When John would fast for many days,  
The crowds would murmur and condemn;  
Yet they complained at Jesus' ways:  
"He eats and drinks with those who sin!"

Forgive us, Lord, what we expect!  
We want a faith that we control —  
Yet faith is not what we direct,  
For it's your grace that makes us whole.

And when we let our burdens go  
And take your yoke, and learn from you,  
We'll find your rest, and then we'll know  
Your way, not ours, will see us through.



5th Sunday after Trinity

5th July 2026

### GATHERING HYMN:

'Lord Enthroned in Heavenly Splendour' (402)

### COLLECT:

Almighty and everlasting God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church  
is governed and sanctified:

hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,  
that in their vocation and ministry  
they may serve you in holiness and truth  
to the glory of your name;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

### FIRST READING

**Zechariah 9.9–12**

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!  
Lo, your king comes to you;  
triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the warhorse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle-bow shall be cut off,  
and he shall command peace to the nations;  
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,



I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.  
Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;  
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

For the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**SECOND READING**

**Romans 7: 15 – 25a**

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

For the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**GRADUAL HYMN:** 'I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say' (300)

**We sing verse 3 after the Gospel Reading**

**GOSPEL**

**Matthew 11. 16-19 & 25—end**

'But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another,  
"We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not mourn."

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon"; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Look, a

glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!" Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.'

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** 'I Cannot Tell' (288)

**COMMUNION HYMNS:**

'Be Still for the Presence of the Lord' (60)

'Meekness and Majesty' (445)

'We Cannot Measure' (695)

**POST COMMUNION**

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you,  
that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered  
by your governance,  
that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**FINAL HYMN:** 'I Danced in the Morning' (290)



*Come to me,  
all you who are weary  
and burdened,  
and I will give you  
REST  
MATTHEW 11:28*