

Welcome

Preparation

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All: *and also with you*

This is the day that the Lord has made.

All: *Let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

We have come together in the name of Christ
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive God's holy word,
to pray for the needs of the world,
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may give ourselves to the service of God

Hymn

Prayers of Penitence

"Jesus says "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand"
So, let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith."

A short silence is kept and then we say together

All: *Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy upon us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing
and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
And restore us to the joy of your salvation;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse us from our sins,
and restore us in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Blessed is the Lord.

All: for he has heard the voice of our prayer;

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

All: and in our song will we praise our God.

The Venite

**All: O come let us sing unto the Lord
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.**

**2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving:
and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.**

**3 For the Lord is a great God:
and a great King above all gods.**

**4 In his hand are all the corners of the earth:
and the strength of the hills is his also.**

**5 The sea is his and he made it:
and his hands prepared the dry land.**

**6 O come let us worship and fall down:
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

**7 For he is the Lord our God:
and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen**

or

Te Deum Laudamus

All: ***We praise you, O God,
we acclaim you as the Lord;
all creation worships you,
the Father everlasting.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:
Father, of majesty unbounded,
your true and only Son, worthy of all praise,
the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.
You, Christ, are the King of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.
When you took our flesh to set us free
you humbly chose the Virgin's womb.
You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come and be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.***

(The canticle may end here)

***Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance.
Govern and uphold them now and always.
Day by day we bless you.
We praise your name for ever.
Keep us today, Lord, from all sin.
Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.
Lord, show us your love and mercy,
for we have put our trust in you.
In you, Lord, is our hope:
let us never be put to shame.***

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.

All: Amen

The Liturgy of the Word

The appointed psalm is said or sung ending with

**All: *Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and shall be for ever. Amen.***

Readings from the Old and New Testament

The readers may end with:

This is the word of the Lord

All: *Thanks be to God*

A time of silence follows

Responsory

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

All: *Let the whole earth stand in awe of him*

Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is King

All: *O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness*

God's salvation has been openly shown to all people

All: *Let the whole earth stand in awe of him*

Declare his glory among the nations

and his wonders among all peoples

All: *O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness*

Let the whole earth stand in awe of him

Jubilate Deo

**All: *O be joyful in the Lord all you lands:
serve the Lord with gladness***

and come before his presence with a song.

2 *Be you sure that the Lord he is God:*

it is he that has made us and not we ourselves

we are his people,

and the sheep of his pasture.

3 *O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving*

and into his courts with praise:

be thankful unto him

and speak good of his name.

4 *For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting;*

and his truth endures from generation to generation.

**All: *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit:***

as it was in the beginning, is now

and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen.

or

Benedictus

All: *Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,
who has come to his people and set them free.
2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.
3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,
4 To show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant.
5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
6 Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
8 To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
9 In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of
death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.*

All: *Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.*

Gospel Reading

When the Gospel is announced the reader says:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N*

All: *Glory be to you O Lord.*

At the end the Reader says:

This is the word of the Lord

All: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

Sermon

We affirm our faith in the words of the Creed:

**All: *I believe in God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the Communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.***

Hymn

Prayers

Prayers of Intercession are offered.

The Collect of the Day is said, followed by

Gathering our prayers and praises into one.
We pray as our Saviour has taught us

All: ***Our Father who art in heaven
hallowed by thy name
thy kingdom come thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory
For ever and ever. Amen***

Final Hymn (during which a collection is taken)

The Conclusion

The Blessing

*The Lord bless us and preserve us from all evil
and keep us in eternal life.*

All: ***Amen***

Let us bless the Lord.

All: ***Thanks be to God.***

or The Peace of the Lord be always with you
All ***and also with you***

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

COLLECT

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Jonah 3.10 – 4.11

A reading from the book of Jonah

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, 'O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the LORD said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint

and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.' But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the LORD said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

SECOND READING Philippians 1.21–30

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well – since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

GOSPEL Matthew 20.1–16

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent

them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

POST COMMUNION

Keep, O Lord, your Church,
with your perpetual mercy;
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.