

**The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity  
23rd August 2020**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Hymn: 634 Love divine, all loves excelling

Beloved in Christ, we come together to offer to Almighty God our worship and praise and thanksgiving, to confess our sins and to receive God's forgiveness, to hear his holy word proclaimed, to bring before him our needs and the needs of the world, and to pray that in the power of his Spirit we may serve him and know the greatness of his love.

Let us confess our sins to God our Father. Kneel.  
Silence is kept.

**Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault; by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*The Absolution.*

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Proclaiming and Receiving the Word - We Stand

O Lord, open our lips  
**and our mouth will proclaim your praise.**



God, make speed to save us.

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

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.**

Praise the Lord.

**The Lord s name be praised.**

Psalm 124

If the Lord himself had not been on our side,  
now may Israel say;

**If the Lord had not been on our side,  
when enemies rose up against us;**

Then would they have swallowed us alive  
when their anger burned against us;

**Then would the waters have overwhelmed us  
and the torrent gone over our soul;  
over our soul would have swept the raging waters.**

But blessed be the Lord

who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

**Our soul has escaped  
as a bird from the snare of the fowler;  
the snare is broken and we are delivered.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**who has made heaven and earth.**

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.**

The First lesson : Exodus 1: 8 - 2: 10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, 'Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.' Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and

brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, 'When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.' But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, 'Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?' The midwives said to Pharaoh, 'Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.' So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, 'Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.'

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

The Cantic : Venite - Psalm 95 v 1-7

O come, let us sing unto the Lord:

**let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.**

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving

**and shew ourselves glad in him with psalms.**

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

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

The sea is his, and he made it,

**and his hands prepared the dry land.**

O come, let us worship and fall down and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

**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.**

The Second Lesson: Matthew 16: 13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.'

Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon - The Rector - Canon Michael Parker

The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 again  
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.**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us pray - we kneel together

Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**  
Lord, have mercy.

**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.**

Show us your mercy, O Lord,  
**and grant us your salvation.**  
O Lord, save the Queen  
**and grant her government wisdom.**  
Let your ministers be clothed with righteousness  
**and let your servants shout for joy.**  
O Lord, save your people  
**and bless those whom you have chosen.**  
Give peace in our time, O Lord,  
**and let your glory be over all the earth.**  
O God, make clean our hearts within us  
**and renew us by your Holy Spirit.**

*The Collect for the Eleventh Sunday after Trinity*

O God,  
you declare your almighty power  
most chiefly in showing mercy and pity:  
Mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace,  
that we, running the way of your commandments,  
may receive your gracious promises,  
and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life, and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us in all assaults of our enemies, that we, surely trusting in your protection, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray that your Holy Spirit may so guide and govern us that in all the cares and occupations of our daily life, we may never forget your presence but may remember that we are always walking in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn 503 Make me a channel of Your peace

Prayers of Intercession

Christ, Son of the living God  
**Hear us and help us.**

*As we close our prayers we keep silence.*

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

To the King of Ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## Parish Notices

**Bangor Storehouse :** We have begun collecting again for Storehouse. Please try and support our local food banks if you can. They make all the difference.

**Christian Aid:** Beirut is reeling after the explosion there has damaged so much of that city. Christian Aid are appealing for help - [www.christianaid.ie](http://www.christianaid.ie) to give directly. Or you can ring 9064 8133 to make a donation to the Belfast office.

**The Parish Magazine:** I am hoping to put together an edition of the church magazine for distribution in September. Would you have a story you could write for it? Let me know some time this week if you do.  
Michael

Our Youtube and Facebook channels are working well for folks who are isolating at home. Google St Gall's Church to find our parish website. Put St Gall's Church into YouTube and 'Like' and 'Subscribe' to the St Gall's channel.