



## AT HOME SERVICE

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Fourth Sunday after Trinity

*compiled by Michael Winter Local Preacher &  
Anglican Lay Minister*

### **The Psalm appointed for today: Psalm 13**

How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever?

How long will you hide your face from me?

How long must I wrestle with my thoughts  
and day after day have sorrow in my heart?

How long will my enemy triumph over me?

Look on me and answer, Lord my God.

Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death,  
and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him,"  
and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

But I trust in your unfailing love;  
my heart rejoices in your salvation.

I will sing the Lord's praise,  
for he has been good to me.

### **Hymn STF 83**

1] Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
to his feet your tribute bring.

Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
evermore his praises sing.

Praise, Him, Praise Him,  
Praise, Him, Praise Him,  
Praise the everlasting King!

2] Praise him for his grace and favour  
to his people in distress.

Praise him, still the same as ever,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless.

Praise, Him, Praise Him,  
Praise, Him, Praise Him,  
Glorious in his faithfulness!

3] Fatherlike he tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame he knows.

In his hand he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes.

Praise, Him, Praise Him,  
Praise, Him, Praise Him,  
Widely yet his mercy flows!

4] Angels, in the height adore him;  
you behold him face to face.

Sun and moon, bow down before him,  
dwellers all in time and space.

Praise, Him, Praise Him,  
Praise, Him, Praise Him,  
Praise with us the God of grace!

*Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)*

## **Prayers**

Heavenly Father,

You have called me by name and invited me to follow Your Son, Jesus Christ.  
Grant me the grace to walk in His footsteps with faith, humility, and courage.

Lord Jesus,

Teach me to listen to Your voice in the quiet of my heart,  
to love as You love,  
to serve without counting the cost,  
and to forgive as I have been forgiven.

Holy Spirit,

Fill me with wisdom to understand Your Word,  
strength to live it daily,  
and zeal to share the Good News with others.  
Help me to bear witness to the Gospel in my words and actions,  
so that my life may draw others closer to You. Amen

Loving Father,

Open our hearts to hidden realities:

- your love for all people,
- your presence in the community,
- your call to justice and peace.

May worship and prayer stir in us  
that same love for those with whom we meet  
and all members of our human family.

Christ Jesus,

Help us to imitate your example:

- healing the sick,
- welcoming the stranger,
- assisting the poor and vulnerable.

May worship and prayer remind us  
of your love and self-giving,  
which we strive to imitate.

Holy Spirit,

Make visible to our eyes what is invisible:

- your call to your people,
- your summons to live our faith daily  
as witnesses of justice and peace.

May worship and prayer move us  
to engage in love-inspired action  
that transforms us and the world. Amen

## **The Lord's Prayer**

## Reading: Matthew 10: 40-42

“Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

## Hymn STF 455

1] All my hope on God is founded;  
he doth still my trust renew.  
Me through change and chance he guideth,  
only good and only true.  
God unknown,  
he alone  
calls my heart to be his own.

2] Human pride and earthly glory,  
sword and crown betray his trust;  
what with care and toil we fashion,  
tower and temple, fall to dust.  
But God's power,  
hour by hour,  
is my temple and my tower.

3] God's great goodness aye endureth,  
deep his wisdom, passing thought:  
splendour, light, and life attend him,  
beauty springeth out of naught.  
Evermore  
from his store  
new-born worlds rise and adore.

4] Daily doth the almighty giver  
bounteous gifts n us bestow:  
his desire our soul delighteth,  
pleasure leads us where we go.  
Love doth stand  
at his hand;  
joy doth wait on his command.

5] Still from earth to God eternal  
sacrifice of praise be done,  
high above all praises praising  
for the gift of Christ his Son.  
Christ doth call  
one and all:  
ye who follow shall not fall.

*Robert Bridges (1844-1930)*

## Reflection

In this week’s short Gospel reading we come to the end of Matthew’s account of Jesus’s instructions to his disciples on their mission to represent Him to the world after His death and Resurrection. They are to go in pairs to the towns and cities of Galilee in northern Israel to teach and heal in His name. Because they will go out into the world in the name of Jesus and under His specific authority, those who receive the apostles will, in truth, be receiving Him, as well. Because Jesus also acts on earth under the authority of the Father, whoever receives the apostles will also be receiving God the Father.

What does it mean to "receive" an apostle of Jesus? It includes the idea of gracious hospitality, but it's more than that. Those who received the apostles would also believe and accept their teaching that Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God. In that way, they would be coming to faith in Christ through the teaching of His disciples.

If all this seems somewhat distant from our own lives ponder the verse, 'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me'. If we are to be disciples to one another in our everyday interactions, as these words imply, then the significance of how we relate to people really hits home. This is not just a question of being friendly and pleasant to people, important though that is, for this is a powerful reminder that our actions towards one another reflect our attitudes toward God. If we hurt or dismiss or ignore someone seeking help, we are essentially dismissing Jesus Himself. Our interactions with others can either foster connection with Him or distance us from that relationship.

So, we are challenged in today's short Gospel reading to be mindful of how we receive others, how we relate to them, and what we think and say about others, because our relationship with God is at the heart of all our interactions. As we read in John's Gospel, "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

### **The Collect**

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### **Hymn STF 132**

1] O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home.

2] Under the shadow of Thy throne  
Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,  
And our defence is sure.

3] Before the hills in order stood,  
Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God,  
To endless years the same.

4] A thousand ages in Thy sight  
Are like an evening gone;  
Short as the watch that ends the night  
Before the rising sun.

5] Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
Bears all its sons away;  
They fly forgotten, as a dream  
Dies at the opening day.

6] O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while life shall last,  
And our eternal home.

*Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

And now, may the God of peace,  
who brought back again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
equip you with all you need for doing his will.

May he produce in you,  
through the power of Jesus Christ,  
all this is pleasing to him.  
To him be glory forever and ever. Amen