

Morning Prayer for the 15th Sunday after Trinity

The Greeting

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made

All **We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Lord, direct our thoughts and teach us to pray, lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' God our Father; we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

For turning away from you, and ignoring your will for our lives

Father forgive us:

All **Save us and help us.**

For behaving just as we wish, without thinking of you

Father forgive us:

All **Save us and help us.**

For failing you by what we do and think and say

Father forgive us:

All **Save us and help us.**

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you by temptations in the world around us

Father forgive us:

All **Save us and help us.**

For living as if we were ashamed to belong to your Son

Father forgive us:

All **Save us and help us.**

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. **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 Psalm for the Week Psalm: 103:8-13

The Lord is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He will not always accuse,

nor will he keep his anger for ever.

**He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him;
**as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.**

As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

**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.**

1st Reading: Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.'

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Jubilate

O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth;
serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

**2 Know that the Lord is God;
it is he that has made us and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and bless his name.

**4 For the Lord is gracious; his steadfast love is everlasting,
and his faithfulness endures from generation to generation.**

2nd Reading: Matthew 18:21-35:

21 Then Peter came and said to Jesus, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' ²²Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

23 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." ²⁹Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)

1 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.

**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 Peace: The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

The Intercessions

In the power of the Spirit let us pray to the Father through Christ the saviour of the world.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus and his Cross,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For grace and peace to seek to forgive those who have hurt us in body, mind or spirit,
and through prayer and the comfort of your Holy Spirit to love them.

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the Church Family throughout the World, that through the suffering of disunity and the
willingness to forgive past hurts and misunderstandings there may grow a rich union in Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in authority who make laws, interpret them and administer them, that our common life
may be ordered in justice and mercy,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who resort to violence and oppression to dominate those weaker than themselves
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who have the courage and honesty to work openly for justice and peace, remembering
especially the people of the Ukraine and Russia

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in the darkness and agony of loneliness, that they may find support and encouragement
from the Christian family that is the Church,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who, weighed down with hardship, failure, or sorrow, who need forgiveness and feel that
God is far from them,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we, with those who have died in faith knowing the forgiving love of Christ,
may find mercy with him when we cross from this life into his paradise,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

God of mercy, **you know us and love us and hear our prayer:**

keep us in the eternal fellowship of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Rejoicing in the communion of the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to God.

**For yours is the majesty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us.

**Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us
this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that 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**

The Collect for 15th Sunday after Trinity:

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.

All **Amen.**

The Collect for Peace: O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is perfect freedom. Defend us your servants from all assaults of our enemies; that we may trust in your defense, and fear the power of any adversaries through Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

The Conclusion

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.**