St Cuthbert's Service 21st June 2020 10.00am

SING: Before the throne of God above

1. CALL TO WORSHIP

The steadfast love of the Lord is good. God's mercy is abundant. Let us draw near to God's presence.

2. A GATHERING PRAYER

Lord, help us to share the challenges of discipleship; help us to support each other; unite us in your steadfast goodness; strengthen and envision us to face the challenges ahead; and may we faithfully play our part in your mission to this world. **Amen.**

3. A PRAYER OF APPROACH

O Lord, we enter into your steadfast love, asking that you will respond to our prayers; we trust in your abundant mercy and ask that you will come to us.

O Lord, make your presence known to us; draw near to us; redeem us, set us free; for we seek to be your faithful disciples. **Amen**.

4. CONFESSION

We are sorry for the times we get our priorities wrong – when we do not put you first; when we fail to see the needs of our neighbours; when we lack the courage and faithfulness of true disciples. Grant us forgiveness; grant us perseverance; grant us vision; that we may serve you as you desire, and play our part in establishing your kingdom.

Amen.

We hear and receive God's forgiveness:

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

5. PRAYER FOR TODAY ('collect')

Faithful Creator, whose mercy never fails: deepen our faithfulness to you and to your living Word, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

1ST BIBLE READING: Jeremiah 20:7-13

⁷O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughing-stock all day long; everyone mocks me. ⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, 'Violence and destruction!' For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. ⁹ If I say, 'I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name', then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. ¹⁰ For I hear many whispering: 'Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!' All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. 'Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him.' ¹¹But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonour will never be forgotten. ¹² O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. ¹³ Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

2ND BIBLE READING: Psalm 86: 1-10, 16-17

¹ Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.

² Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God;

³ be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long.

⁴Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

⁵ For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.

⁶ Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication.

- ⁷ In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you will answer me.
- ⁸ There is none like you among the gods, O Lord,
 - nor are there any works like yours.
- ⁹ All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.
- ¹⁰ For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.
- ¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant; save the child of your serving-maid.
- ¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favour, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame, because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

SING: You are good and forgiving (based on Psalm 86)

3RD BIBLE READING: Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus summoned the twelve and sent them out with the following instruction: ²⁴ 'A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶ So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known.

²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-inlaw; ³⁶ and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;
³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.'

TALK

SING: Lord, I come before Your throne of grace (What a faithful God have I)

6. AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us affirm our faith together:

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world? **I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church. This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

7. PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

8. LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name **Your will be done**

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven **Your will be done**

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who sin against us **Your will be done** Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. **Your will be done**

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

9. BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

SING: I have decided to follow Jesus

10. A SENDING OUT PRAYER

May you have discernment to see whom to serve. May you have wisdom to know how to serve. May you have strength to serve as a faithful disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**.

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