

St Cuthbert's Service
26th July 2020 10.00am

SING: Great is thy faithfulness

1. CALL TO WORSHIP

As we enter God's holy presence this morning,
are you ready to hear again
about God's kingdom?

Come, open your hearts and minds
to see the kingdom around us and within us.
Come, and worship the living God.

Amen.

2. A GATHERING PRAYER

Lord God, as we gather in your house,
we thank you for your presence, here with us.
Thank you, Lord, that each one of us is unique,
yet we share a common bond in you.

We come together as one body,
but we all learn and experience things
in different ways.

We thank you for your amazing word
that gives us so many pictures of your kingdom.
Something for everyone,
something to feed our hearts and minds.

Be with us, Lord,
and bless us richly as we call upon your name.

Amen.

3. A PRAYER OF APPROACH

O God,
mere words cannot convey what a privilege it is
to be heirs to your kingdom.

As we explore your word today,
help us to learn about new treasures
as well as old.

May we see the amazing things you can do
in our lives.

We are part of your kingdom,
and we come to you in awe and wonder.

Amen.

4. CONFESSION

Lord God, sometimes I feel so set in my ways.
I'm not always ready to give something up
to gain the thing of value that you promise.

Forgive me, Lord, as I open my heart to you.

Forgive me, Lord, as I open my heart to you.

I want to keep my treasures locked up
in a storeroom, safe from prying eyes.

Forgive me, Lord, as I open my heart to you.

Forgive me, Lord, as I open my heart to you.

Sometimes I just expect things on a plate.

I'm not always ready to work for something
that you call me to do.

Forgive me, Lord, as I open my heart to you.

Forgive me, Lord, as I open my heart to you.

I do want to be the yeast in my world;
but I'm not always ready to be pummelled,
or to give up my easy life.

Forgive me, Lord, as I open my heart to you.

Forgive me, Lord, as I open my heart to you.

Sometimes I take my eyes off you
and feel so lost.

Bring me back, please, Lord.

Forgive me, Lord, as I open my heart to you.

Forgive me, Lord, as I open my heart to you.

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')

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

1ST BIBLE READING: Romans 8:26-39

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness;
for we do not know how to pray as we ought,
but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too
deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches the
heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit,
because the Spirit intercedes for the saints
according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for
good for those who love God, who are called
according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he
foreknew he also predestined to be conformed

to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, ³⁹ nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2ND BIBLE READING:
Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

³¹ Jesus put before the crowd another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.' ³³ He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.

⁴⁴ The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net

that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' ⁵² And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

TALK

SING:

O God, you search me and you know me

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: Be Thou my vision

10. A SENDING OUT PRAYER

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.