

St Martin's Church, North Nibley - Sunday 5th September 2021

A Service of the Word for Trinity 14

Gathering as the People of God

Welcome in the name of Christ!

God's grace, mercy and peace be with you

News and Notices

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

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

Hymn: Brightest and Best

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Preparing for the Word

We worship with Christians near and far, living and departed, old and young.

God's word is for all of us.

May it be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

You may like to open a Bible and light a candle near it

The Collect

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
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. Amen

Epistle:

James 2:1-10 and 14-17

2 My friends, as believers in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, you must never treat people in different ways according to their outward appearance. **2** Suppose a rich man wearing a gold ring and fine clothes comes to your meeting, and a poor man in ragged clothes also comes. **3** If you show more respect to the well-dressed man and say to him, "Have this best seat here," but say to

the poor man, "Stand over there, or sit here on the floor by my feet," **4** then you are guilty of creating distinctions among yourselves and of making judgments based on evil motives. **5** Listen, my dear friends! God chose the poor people of this world to be rich in faith and to possess the kingdom which he promised to those who love him. **6** But you dishonor the poor! Who are the ones who oppress you and drag you before the judges? The rich! **7** They are the ones who speak evil of that good name which has been given to you. **8** You will be doing the right thing if you obey the law of the Kingdom, which is found in the scripture, "Love your neighbor as you love yourself." **9** But if you treat people according to their outward appearance, you are guilty of sin, and the Law condemns you as a lawbreaker. **10** Whoever breaks one commandment is guilty of breaking them all.

14 My friends, what good is it for one of you to say that you have faith if your actions do not prove it? Can that faith save you? **15** Suppose there are brothers or sisters who need clothes and don't have enough to eat. **16** What good is there in your saying to them, "God bless you! Keep warm and eat well!"—if you don't give them the necessities of life? **17** So it is with faith: if it is alone and includes no actions, then it is dead.

Gospel:

Mark 7:24-37

24 Then Jesus left and went away to the territory near the city of Tyre. He went into a house and did not want anyone to know he was there, but he could not stay hidden. **25** A woman, whose daughter had an evil spirit in her, heard about Jesus and came to him at once and fell at his feet. **26** The woman was a Gentile, born in the region of Phoenicia in Syria. She begged Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter. **27** But Jesus answered, "Let us first feed the children. It isn't right to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." **28** "Sir," she answered, "even the dogs under the table eat the children's leftovers!" **29** So Jesus said to her, "Because of that answer, go back home, where you will find that the demon has gone out of your daughter!" **30** She went home and found her child lying on the bed; the demon had indeed gone out of her.

31 Jesus then left the neighborhood of Tyre and went on through Sidon to Lake Galilee, going by way of the territory of the Ten Towns. **32** Some people brought him a man who was deaf and could hardly speak, and they begged Jesus to place his hands on him. **33** So Jesus took him off alone, away from the crowd, put his fingers in the man's ears, spat, and touched the man's tongue. **34** Then Jesus looked up to heaven, gave a deep groan, and said to the man, "*Ephphatha*," which means, "Open up!" **35** At once the man was able to hear, his speech impediment was removed, and he began to talk without any trouble. **36** Then Jesus ordered the people not to speak of it to anyone; but the more he ordered them not to, the more they told it. **37** And all who heard were completely amazed. "How well he does everything!" they exclaimed. "He even causes the deaf to hear and the dumb to speak!"

Sermon

Hymn: We have a Gospel to proclaim

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The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Praying for Ourselves

Come, let us return to the Lord and say:
Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The priest declares God's forgiveness.

May the God of love and power
forgive *us* and free *us* from *our* sins,
heal and strengthen *us* by his Spirit,
and raise *us* to new life in Christ our Lord. Amen

Praying for Others

The prayers of intercession are followed by:

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All 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.

Hymn: Thine be the Glory

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Going out to serve the Lord

Merciful God,
your Son came to save us
and bore our sins on the cross:
may we trust in your mercy
and know your love,
rejoicing in the righteousness
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Blessing

The blessing is followed by:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

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