

Christ Church, Ipswich

Sunday 15th June 2025

Trinity Sunday Family Worship

Hello. I hope all is well. Let us worship God together:

Call to worship

Holy, holy, holy is our wonderful God!

Creator! Saviour! Sustainer!

Let us worship our God of infinite mystery,
yet who is closer to us than our own breath. **Amen.**

A prayer of approach

Creator, we come to you in awe,
marvelling at the mysteries of the universe,
and delighting in the world you have made.
Christ, we come to you in gratitude,
wondering at God's love
revealed in your face, and in your arms stretched wide on the cross.
Holy Spirit, we come to you in expectation,
opening our lives, hearts and minds to your wind of change.
God, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit,
make us holy, make us strong, draw us into the unity of your love,
creating, redeeming and sustaining us,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

R&S 34 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty,
early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

2 Holy, holy, holy! All saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wast and art and evermore shalt be.

3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the sinful human eye thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty,
all thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Reginald Heber (1783 – 1826)

The Children go to Junior Church with our love and blessing

A prayer of adoration

Lord God, our finite minds can't comprehend
your vastness, your majesty, your awesomeness.
We come to you now in humble adoration.
We praise and bless you because
you gave us the Holy Spirit,
who fills our hearts with your wonderful love
and brings us into relationship with you.
We worship you, mighty Lord. **Amen.**

A prayer of confession

At the beginning of creation your Spirit breathed upon the waters.
You breathed life into being,
worked your wisdom into the warp and weft of the world.

But we thought we knew better than you.
We valued knowledge more than wisdom;
we went our own way, did our own thing,
and twisted the tapestry of life.

We confess before you
our arrogance and ignorance,
our pride and selfishness.

We pray for your forgiveness in the name of Jesus your Son.
We pray that you may grant us the guidance of your wisdom
as we seek to live our lives for you,
and the strength of your Spirit
as we seek to set right what has gone wrong in our lives and in this world.

Be our pattern and our power,
our saviour and sustainer.
Amen.

An assurance of forgiveness

Living God, you choose
to save, not to judge,
to forgive, not to condemn,
to turn towards, not away,
to show us your nature and not to hide.
You allow us to know you,
to love you and to serve you –
and for all these things, and more, we are truly thankful. **Amen.**

A prayer of praise and thanksgiving

God of the Living Word,
we praise you for the gift of Scripture –
for the truths it invites us to embrace;
for the questions that echo our own;
for the conversations that puzzle and enlighten us;
for the encounters that inspire and inform us;
for the certainty, the mystery, the grace.
We praise you, today and always. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

R&S 38 Thou whose almighty word

1 Thou whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light!

2 Thou who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
now to all humankind
let there be light!

3 Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move on the waters' face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light!

4 Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might,
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the world far and wide,
let there be light!

John Marriott (1780-1825)

Old Testament Reading**Psalm 8****(OT page 454)**

Divine Majesty and Human Dignity
To the leader: according to The Gittith.
A Psalm of David.

¹ O Lord, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
² Out of the mouths of babes and infants
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,
to silence the enemy and the avenger.
³ When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;
⁴ what are human beings that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?

⁵ Yet you have made them a little lower than God,
and crowned them with glory and honour.
⁶ You have given them dominion over the works of your
hands;
you have put all things under their feet,
⁷ all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
⁸ the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
⁹ O Lord, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Epistle Reading**Romans 5:1-5****(NT page 143)**

Results of Justification

5 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we¹ have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we² boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Gospel Reading**John 16:12-15****(NT page 102)**

¹² 'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

R&S 294 Come down, O Love Divine

1 Come down, O Love Divine,
 seek thou this soul of mine,
 and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
 O Comforter, draw near,
 within my heart appear,
 and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

2 O let it freely burn,
 till earthly passions turn
 to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
 and let thy glorious light
 shine ever on my sight,
 and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

3 Let holy charity
 mine outward vesture be,
 and lowliness become mine inner clothing;
 true lowliness of heart,
 which takes the humbler part,
 and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

4 And so the yearning strong
 with which the soul will long,
 shall far outpass the power of human telling;
 for none can guess its grace,
 till he become the place
 wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Bianco Da Siena (d. 1434)
 tr. R. F. Littledale (1833-90)

Reflection***A moment for reflection*****R&S 37 We give immortal praise**

1 We give immortal praise
 to God the Father's love,
 for all our comforts here,
 and better hopes above;
 he sent his own eternal Son
 to die for sins that we had done.

2 To God the Son belongs
 immortal glory too,
 who bought us with his blood
 from everlasting woe;
 and now he lives, and now he reigns,
 and sees the fruit of all his pains.

3 To God the Spirit's name,
 immortal worship give,
 whose new-creating power
 makes the dead sinner live;
 his work completes the great design,
 and fills the world with joy divine.

4 Almighty God, to thee
 be endless honours done,
 the undivided Three,
 and the mysterious One;
 where reason fails, with all her powers,
 there faith prevails, and love adores.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748) altd.

Our prayers of intercession

Heavenly Father, on this Trinity Sunday which is also Father's Day, we pray for fathers everywhere, that in you they might find the perfect Father, and that in your son Jesus Christ they might see the perfect pattern of humanity. May the wisdom of your Holy Spirit guide all their ways as parents, so that they will love their children with the same love that comes from you.

We pray also for those who are about to become fathers, and for those who long to be fathers, that you will be with them in their hopes and fears for the future. And we bring before you those who have been bereaved of their fathers, for whom this day is difficult; and we pray also for those who are fathers to children who are now in your embrace rather than their own.

Heavenly Father, please help us to know how to reach out to all these kinds of fathers, and indeed all families, with the love that comes from you. We pray that we, your children here in your Church family, will always have arms open in welcome, to aid with grace and compassion all those who need support.

We pray, too, for the father-figures in our lives; for step-fathers or any who stand in the place of fathers, or those who inspire us in any aspect of our lives, who guide, support and encourage us. Please bless loving fathers whether blood relations or not, Lord, on this day when we remember the family of the Holy Trinity, and the extended family of our Church.

Lord God, we pray for your Church in changing times. For those churches with missing generations, we pray that people of all ages might find their way to the door and discover a welcome there. Please help your Church in each community to reach out and bear witness to you and your welcoming love.

Father, we live in difficult times when community has never been needed more. We pray for the needs of our communities in a world of economic, political and social upheavals, a world which is also struggling with climate change and continuing warfare. In our communities, may we be strengthened to look out for one another, and to reach out where we see need.

We ask healing for all who are sick in body or mind. We ask comfort for those who are grieving. We ask guidance and support for all those who struggle in any way.

Father, in the name of your son, Jesus Christ, and through the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers.
Amen

We welcome back our Junior Church

R&S 344 God of grace and God of glory

1 God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient Church's story;
bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom,
grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour.

2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us,
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom,
grant us courage,
for the living of these days.

3 Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom,
grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom,
grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore.

H. E. Fosdick (1878-1969) altd.

A sending out prayer

We praise you, God the Father,
 life-giver and creator of all.
 We praise you, God the Son,
 Jesus Christ, our Lord.
 We praise you, God the Holy Spirit,
 guide and friend.
 Surround us in your mystery,
 and be with us this coming week. **Amen.**

The Blessing

May the mind of the Father inspire and renew us.
 May the Word of Life invigorate us with new faith and hope.
 May the Spirit breathe fresh vision into expectant hearts.
 And may the blessing of Almighty God,
 Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer,
 be upon us, and those whom we love,
 this day and always. Amen.

The Grace

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 the love of God,
 and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
 be with us all evermore. Amen.**