

The Order of Service for Home Worship

THE FOURTH SUNDAY after TRINITY



Hymn: Eternal Father, Strong to Save.

1. Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm doth bind the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.
2. O Saviour, whose almighty word
The winds and waves submissive heard,
Who walkedst on the foaming deep,
And calm, amid its rage, didst sleep:
O hear us, when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.
3. O sacred Spirit, who didst brood
Upon the waters dark and rude,
And bid their angry tumult cease,
And give for wild confusion, peace:
O hear us, when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.
4. O Trinity of love and power,
Our bretheren shield in danger's hour.
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them whereso'er they go,
And ever let there rise to thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
Grace and peace be with you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Father of glory, holy and eternal, look upon us now in power and mercy. May your strength overcome our weakness, your radiance transform our blindness, and your Spirit draw us to that love shown and offered to us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

As we come into the presence of our heavenly Father let us seek his forgiveness of our sins that we may know his peace is our hearts.

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the Father. **Lord, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you have given us knowledge of your truth. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd leading us to life. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, glory be to God on high;
Alleluia, to the Saviour who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia, Alleluia, to the Triune Majesty.**

Collect of the Day: O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we finally lose not the things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of Job

38. 1-11

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: 'Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. 'Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? 'Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb?— when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, and said, "Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped?"

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 107. 23-32

Response: Give thanks to the Lord, give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

Some went down to the sea in ships,
doing business on the mighty waters;
they saw the deeds of the Lord,
his wondrous works in the deep.
For he commanded and raised the stormy wind,
which lifted up the waves of the sea. (R)

They mounted up to heaven, they went down to the depths;
their courage melted away in their calamity;
they reeled and staggered like drunkards,
and were at their wits end.

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he brought them out from their distress: (R)

he made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed.

Then they were glad because they had quiet,
and he brought them to their desired haven.

Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,
For his wonderful works to humankind.

Let them extol him in the congregation of his people,
and praise him in the assembly of the elders. (R)

A reading from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians 6. 1-13

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, 'At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.' See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything. We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. There is no restriction in our

affections, but only in yours. In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

**The Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

They cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he brought them out from their distress.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Mark 4. 35-41
Glory to you, O Lord.**

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Meditation:

Having crossed the Irish Sea on a ferry during a force eleven gale I have every sympathy with the disciples in today's Gospel reading. A crossing from Swansea to Cork, which should have taken around nine or ten hours actually took around fifteen hours and for a time we had to lay anchor off the Irish coast to ride out the storm. I spent many of those hours lying in a cabin groaning and holding my stomach. So I can empathise with the disciples. I understand the fear they felt when they were caught at sea in a storm, their little boat battered by the waves. It must have been terrifying. Yet, until they awoke him, Jesus slept through the storm. When they pleaded with him Jesus calmed the storm and then asked his friends, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" The disciples had already witnessed many of Jesus miracles, they had listened to his teaching but when they found themselves in trouble their faith in him wavered. How true that can be of many of us. It is when we face an unexpected challenge, when we or someone we love faces a life-changing event, perhaps illness, bereavement, redundancy or eviction that our faith is challenged. We ask ourselves, "Why us?" People say, "if there was a God he would not let this happen." But as the experience of Job tells us and as Paul reminds us in our second

reading today, there will be times when we all have to endure afflictions, hardships and calamities. Paul himself suffered imprisonment, riots, sleepless nights and hunger. Paul tells us how by persevering in the faith these trials brought him closer to God. By placing his faith in God he felt the power of God's love lifting him, strengthening him, helping him to face all that threatened him. Jesus did not promise us a pain free life, indeed he tells us to take up our crosses and follow him through the agony of the cross to the promised land of heaven where pain and tears are no more. As we reflect on the experience of the disciples in that little boat and as we face our own particular trials let us like the disciples commend ourselves and all who are in need to the care and protection of our heavenly Father. Let us place our faith and trust in God whose power is such that even the sea and the waves obey him. Amen.

Intercessions:

In the power of the Holy Spirit and in union with Christ let us bring our prayers for the Church and for the world to our heavenly Father.

We pray for the Church throughout the world, for the leaders of the Church among them Mary our Bishop. We pray for the clergy and people of our diocese and for our own ministry area; may your Church be a beacon of light and hope to the world.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the people of the world, for the victims of violence and oppression among them the people of the Ukraine, Israel and Gaza, for all suffering the effects of natural disaster and for those suffering from famine or drought; May there be peace where there is conflict and reconciliation where there is division.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our own community, for our families, friends and neighbours. We give thanks for all who serve the needs of the vulnerable; may we live as faithful disciples bringing hope to those in need around us.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are in need, for those who are sick, for those who are bereaved, for the lonely and isolated and for all in any kind of need. We hold in our hearts before God those known to us who are in need at this time and all whose names are recorded in our intercession books; relieve them according to their need, strengthen them with your Holy Spirit and console them with the love of Christ.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died. We remember before God our own departed loved ones and we pray for the recently departed and those whose anniversary of death

falls at this time; welcome them and all the departed into the eternal joy and peace of your heavenly kingdom.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We bring all our prayers to our heavenly Father as we pray together:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy Kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who 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 Peace:

Jesus said, Peace I bequeath to you; my own peace I give you; a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.

The peace of the Lord be with you and with all those whom you love.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

God of our pilgrimage, you have willed that the gate of mercy should stand open for those who trust in you: look upon us with your favour that we who follow the path of your will may never wander from the way of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing:

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts 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.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Hymn: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

1. Alleluia! Sing to Jesus, his the sceptre, his the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph, his the victory alone:
Hark the songs of peaceful Sion thunder like a mighty flood:
Jesus, out of every nation, hath redeemed us by his blood.
2. Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us, faith believes, nor questions how;
Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise, "I am with you evermore"?
3. Alleluia! Bread of angels, thou on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to thee from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, plead for me.
Where the songs of all sinless sweep across the crystal sea.
4. Alleluia! King eternal, Thee the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluia! Born of Mary, earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne;
Thou within the veil hast entered, robed in flesh, our great High Priest.
Thou on earth both priest and victim in the Eucharistic Feast.