

Sunday Worship for 11th July 2021

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Godparents' Sunday

HYMN

Now thank we all our God

Sung by St Martin's Voices

Now thank we all our God,
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore,
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Words: Nun danket alle Gott Martin Rinkart (1586-1649)

translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

Tune: Nun danket alle Gott

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Rev Canon Dr Sandra Millar

GETTING READY PRAYER

Rev Canon Dr Sandra Millar

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

Let us pray.

Loving God,
be with us today in our homes and in our hearts.
May we know your presence,
as we give you thanks and praise,
and hear your word.

All **Amen.**

WE SAY SORRY

God's love is great. God's grace is endless. Let us tell God the things we have done wrong and ask God's forgiveness:

You might like to look down at the floor:

We are sorry God, that we have not followed your ways.
Lord have mercy,
All **Lord have mercy.**

You might like to look at your hands:

We are sorry God that we have not cared for the world.
Christ have mercy,
All **Christ have mercy.**

You might like to place a hand over your heart:

We are sorry God that we have forgotten your love for us.
Lord have mercy,
All **Lord have mercy.**

Minister:

May the God of love bring us back to himself,
Forgive us our sins,
And assure us of his eternal love
In Jesus Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

HYMN

Thank you, O Lord, for the gift of this day
Sung by the Choir of St Barnabas, Dulwich

A new hymn for Godparents' Sunday

Thank you, O Lord, for the gift of this day:
a time to count blessings, to think and to pray,
support us, inspire us, and call us anew,
help us to be faithful in following you.

Bless us in keeping our promise to care,
our loving commitment to always be there,
we'll smile at each moment of joy and success,
and when life is bitter, our love is no less.

Bless us with patience, with care and with time
to listen, to challenge, to open our mind,
exploring life's questions in wonder and awe,
and sharing the wisdom that loves to learn more.

Guide us, O Lord, as we walk on life's way,
Discov'ring together fresh blessings each day,
O Lord of our journey, we ask you to show
the paths we might follow, the ways we may go.

*Words: Ally Barrett
Tune: Slane*

GODPARENT & GODCHILDREN TESTIMONY

Given by Peter, Freya and Eva

GODPARENTS SUNDAY PRAYER

Loving God, thank you for the joy of godparents and godchildren.
Help us to reach out to each other with love.
And to grow in faith every day.

All **Amen.**

GOSPEL READING

John 6: 1-14

Read by Joseph, Gloucester

After this, Jesus went across Lake Galilee, or Lake Tiberias, as it is also called. A large crowd followed him, because they had seen his miracles of healing the sick. Jesus went up a hill and sat down with his disciples. The time for the Passover Festival was near. Jesus looked around and saw what a large crowd was coming to him, so he asked Philip, "Where can we buy enough food to feed all these people?" He said this to test Philip. Actually he already knew what he would do.

Philip answered, "For everyone to have even a little, it would take more than 200 silver coins to buy enough bread." Another one of his disciples, Andrew, who was Simon Peter's brother, said, "There is a boy here who has five loaves of barley bread and two fish. But they will certainly not be enough for all these people." "Make the people sit down," Jesus told them. There was a lot of grass there. So all the people sat down, there were about 5,000. Jesus took the bread, gave thanks to God, and distributed it to the people who were sitting there.

He did the same with the fish, and they all had as much as they wanted. When they were all full, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces left over, let us not waste a bit." So they gathered them all, and filled 12 baskets with the pieces left over from the five barley loaves, which the people had eaten. Seeing this miracle that Jesus had performed, the people there said, "Surely this is the prophet who was to come into the world."

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Ven Hilary Dawson, Archdeacon of Gloucester

GODPARENT & GODCHILDREN TESTIMONY

Given by Florence, Jennifer, Peter and Ruth

RECOMMITMENT

If you are a godparent you might like to join in and recommit to that special relationship:

In baptism your godchildren began their journey of faith. Today we continue to trust God that they will grow in faith and love.

Will you carry on praying for them, caring for them and helping them to take their place in the life and worship of Christ's church?

Godparents **With the help of God, we will.**

When a child is baptised we promise to welcome each child and support them in their new life of faith. Will you continue to pray for those who come to your church, their parents and godparents, encouraging them on their journey of faith?

All **With the help of God, we will.**

DECLARATION OF FAITH

We've thought about being on a journey together, encouraging each other as we follow Jesus. Let's remind ourselves of the things we believe in, as we say:

All We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and 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.

PRAYERS

Led by Sunoo, Elza & Basil, Gloucestershire

As we pray for the world, you might like to light a candle at home. We are given candles at baptism and invited to shine as lights in the world.

As we look at this candle, we think of all those places in the world where being together with family and friends brings strength, and of all those places where families are struggling to find peace.

Loving God, you created us to be in families and communities and we give you thanks for the joy of being together. We pray for families in the world, especially those struggling to find peace, safety and security, and we ask that this day they may know you, your hope and joy.

Lord, in your mercy,
All hear our prayer.

As we look at this candle, we think of our own town, village, suburb, we think of the streets where we live, the places where we work, the schools we go to. We think of all those who come in and out of our communities helping and supporting others, whether in their work or as volunteers, and as we think of them, so we pray:

Loving God, we give you thanks for the places where we live, and pray for all those who show love and care for others: for doctors, nurses, social workers, teachers, police officers, care workers and so many others. Be with them in their daily work, and help them to know and to share the great love of God each day.

Lord, in your mercy,
All hear our prayer.

As we look at this candle, we think of those with whom we share a home or share a story; those who encourage and help us remembering our godparents and godchildren; those we take care of and those who take care of us, and so we pray:

Loving God, we give you thanks for the blessing of friends and family and we pray that you will be close to all whom we take care about this day, especially praying for godparents and godchildren. We remember those who may be struggling this day especially those who are ill and those who are sad and ask that you would draw close with your healing love.

Lord, in your mercy,
All hear our prayer.

As we look at this candle we remember our own journey of faith as we follow Jesus. We remember those who have supported and encouraged since our baptism and welcome into the church, and those we still see and those we see no longer, and so we pray:

Loving God, we thank you for calling us to be your friends and followers and for calling people to help and support us as we discover more of your love.

We give you thanks for those who have encouraged us, but whom we see no longer, and ask that you will help us to keep following you more closely each day, so that one day we will be united in your presence for all eternity.

We offer all these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

All Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Led by Sunoo, Elza & Basil, Gloucestershire

**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.**

GODPARENT & GODCHILDREN TESTIMONY

Given by Kat and Esther, Samuel, Rebekah and Riley

BLESSING

Rev Canon Dr Sandra Millar

May the God who calls us live in his love be close to you;
May the Son who showed us the way to God lead you;
May the Spirit who strengthen us with joy encourage you;
And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be with you, this day and always.

All Amen.

DISMISSAL

Given by Rev Claire Corley, Laura, Elliot, Micah & Ralph, Leeds

Together with joy and laughter,
All we go into the world.

Together to love and to share,
All we go into the world.

Together to explore and to learn
All we go into the world.

In the name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
All we go into the world.

HYMN

Lord, for the years

Sung by St Martin's Voices

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.

Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

*Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (born 1926) © administered by Oxford University Press in Europe
(including UK and Ireland) and Africa, and by Hope Publishing Company
in all other territories (including USA).*

Tune: Lord for the years

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Music Performed by St Martin's Voices, directed by Andrew Earis and the Choir of St Barnabas, Dulwich.

BSL Interpretation by Esther Rose Bevan.

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