10 am service Lay led with Holy Communion

OPENING SENTENCES [Please rise]

L: The righteous flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

C: They are planted in the house of the Lord.

INVOCATION [Spoken]

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN LHS 429 All creatures of our God and King [Please be seated]

 All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing Alleluia! Alleluia! Thou burning sun with golden beam, Thou silver moon with softer gleam:

> O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia. alleluia. alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day
 Unfoldest blessings on our way,
 O praise Him, Alleluia!
 The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
 Let them His glory also show:

O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

And all ye men of tender heart,
 Forgiving others, take your part,
 O sing ye alleluia!
 Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
 Praise God and on Him cast your care:

O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4. And thou, most kind and gentle death, Waiting to hush our latest breath, O praise Him, alleluia! Thou leadest home the child of God, And Christ our Lord the way hath trod:

O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
 And worship Him in humbleness;
 O praise Him, alleluia!
 Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
 And praise the Spirit, Three in One:

O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

William Henry Draper (1855-1933)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: Dear friends in Christ: Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins, and ask him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: He made heaven and earth.

L: I said, I will confess my sins to the Lord.

C: Then he forgave the guilt of my sin.

L: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we confess to you that by nature we are sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against you by thought, word and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy and plead for your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Most merciful God, you have given your only Son to die for us: Have mercy on us, and for his sake grant us forgiveness of all our sins. By your Holy Spirit increase our knowledge of you and your will, and make us obedient to your Word, so that by your grace we may come to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

L: Almighty God our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given his only Son to die for us, and for his sake forgives † us all our sins. To those who believe in his name he has given the right to become the children of God, and has given them his Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. **Amen.**

PSALM (Psalm 92:1-4,12-15) [Please rise]

1 It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

- 2 to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
 - and your faithfulness by night,
- 3 to the music of the lute and the harp,

to the melody of the lyre.

4 For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

12 The righteous flourish like the palm tree,

and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

13 They are planted in the house of the Lord;

they flourish in the courts of our God.

14 In old age they still produce fruit;

they are always green and full of sap,

15 showing that the Lord is upright;

he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

GLORY TO THE FATHER (GLORIA PATRI) [Spoken]

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

LORD HAVE MERCY (KYRIE) [Spoken]

L: Lord, have mercy C: Lord, have mercy.
L: Christ, have mercy C: Christ, have mercy.
L: Lord, have mercy C: Lord, have mercy.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST (GLORIA) [Sung]

L: Glory to God in the highest.

C: And on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased. We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. O Lord God, heavenly king, God, the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us. For you alone are holy, you alone are Lord, you alone, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

GREETING [Spoken]

L: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (COLLECT) [Together]

Lord God, you protect all who trust in you, and without you nothing is strong and nothing is holy: In your great mercy guide us through the good things of this life, so that in the end we do not lose the things of eternal life. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING - Ezekiel 17:22-24 [Please be seated]

22 Thus says the Lord God:

I myself will take a sprig

from the lofty top of a cedar;

I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one

from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it

on a high and lofty mountain.

23 On the mountain height of Israel

I will plant it,

in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,

and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live:

in the shade of its branches will nest

winged creatures of every kind.

24 All the trees of the field shall know

that I am the Lord.

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I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;
I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.
I the Lord have spoken;
I will accomplish it.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING - 2 Corinthians 5:6-10,14-17

6 So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— 7 for we walk by faith, not by sight. 8 Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. 9 So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. 10 For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

14 For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. 15 And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way.

17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSE [Please rise] [Sung]

C: Halle, halle, hallelujah! (3 times) Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

GOSPEL - Mark 4:26-34 [Announced]

C: Glory be to you, O Lord. [All spoken]

26 He also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, 27 and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. 28 The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. 29 But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

30 He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? 31 It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; 32 yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

33 With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; 34 he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S ADDRESS

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN AT 200 One more step

 One more step along the world I go, One more step along the world I go, From the old things to the new Keep me travelling along with You.

> And it's from the old I travel to the new. Keep me travelling along with You.

 Round the corners of the world I turn, More and more about the world I learn. All the new things that I see, You'll be looking at along with me:

> And it's from the old I travel to the new. Keep me travelling along with You.

3. As I travel through the bad and good, Keep me travelling the way I should. Where I see no way to go, You'll be telling me the way, I know:

And it's from the old I travel to the new. Keep me travelling along with You.

 Give me courage when the world is rough, Keep me loving though the world is tough. Leap and sing in all I do, Keep me travelling along with You:

And it's from the old I travel to the new. Keep me travelling along with You.

5. You are older than the world can be, You are younger than the life in me. Ever old and ever new, Keep me travelling along with You:

And it's from the old I travel to the new. Keep me travelling along with You.

Sydney Carter

SERMON

HYMN LHS 814 For the fruits of his creation [Offering]

- 1. For the fruits of his creation,
 thanks be to God;
 for his gifts to every nation,
 thanks be to God;
 for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
 silent growth while we are sleeping,
 future needs in earth's safe keeping,
 thanks be to God!
- In the just reward of labour,
 God's will is done;
 in the help we give our neighbour,
 God's will is done;
 in our worldwide take of caring
 for the hungry and despairing,
 in the harvests we are sharing,
 God's will is done.

3. For the harvests of his Spirit, thanks be to God; For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God; For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us; most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God!

Fred Pratt Green 1903- (1970)

OFFERTORY [Please rise] [Sung]

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH [Please be seated]

St Paul reminds us that anyone who is joined to Christ is a new being. So let us, in the name of Christ, confidently bring our prayers to God.

Heavenly Father, we pray for your church. We ask that you would make it grow like seeds in the ground and bring a rich harvest. We pray for the pastors and teachers of our church and all others who are called to sow your seed. Give them strength, honesty and diligence in their work. Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray that the church would hear and proclaim Christ's teachings about the kingdom of God. Open people's ears and hearts so that they may hear and believe the truth of God's kingdom. Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Guide the work of farmers everywhere. Watch over this year's crops and send rain and sunshine as required. We pray especially for people in areas where there is drought. Give them comfort and strength as their watch continues. Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Help all Christians to live their lives in faith and confidence, ruled by the love of Christ. Open our eyes to see beyond the surface and to see how you are faithfully at work, even when we least expect it. Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort everyone in need and despair with the love of Christ, who died for all. We pray especially for all those who are sick or recovering in our community, especially (insert names). Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we ask you to give us all these things and whatever else we need on the journey to our heavenly home, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

SEASONAL PREFACE [Please rise] [Spoken]

L: The Lord be with you.C: And also with you.L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.
L: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

C: For that is fitting and right.

It is indeed right and good, Lord God, holy Father, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

On this day he overcame death by his resurrection and opened up for us the way to eternal life with you. And so, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we adore and praise your glorious name singing:

HOLY HOLY (SANCTUS) [Sung]

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. You fill all of heaven and earth; save us, God on high! Let us praise the One who comes in the name of God. Praise! Praise! Praise! Praise! Praise to You on high!

LORD'S PRAYER LHS 894 [To the tune of 'Kum-Ba-Yah' (seated)]

- Father God in heaven,
 Lord most high;
 hear your children's prayer,
 Lord most high;
 hallowed be your name,
 Lord most high —
 O Lord, hear our prayer.
- May your kingdom come here on earth; may your will be done here on earth, as it is in heaven so on earth —
 O Lord, hear our prayer.
- 3. Give us daily bread day by day, and forgive our sins day by day, as we too forgive day by day O Lord, hear our prayer.

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- Lead us in your way,
 make us strong;
 when temptations come
 make us strong;
 save us from all sin,
 keep us strong —
 O Lord, hear our prayer.
- 5. All things come from you, all are yours kingdom, glory, power, all are yours; take our lives and gifts, all are yours O Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

Based on the Lord's Prayer James E. Seddon 1915-

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, and said, Take and eat; this is † my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way he took the cup, after the supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, Drink of it, all of you; this is † my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. As often as you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

The peace of the Lord be with you always. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD (AGNUS DEI) [Sung]

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION [Please be seated]

DISMISSAL

L: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his holy, precious blood, strengthen and protect us in body, mind, and soul to life everlasting. Go in peace † and serve the Lord with joy and thanksgiving. **Amen.**

SONG OF SIMEON (NUNC DIMITTIS) AT 104 [Please rise] [Sung]

- Now, Lord, you let your servant go In peace, according to your word; For I have seen your saving love, Which you have shown to all of us.
- 2. For your salvation now is seen By all the nations of the earth:
 A light to show your way to all, For glory to your chosen race.

3. All praise to God the Father now, All praise to Jesus Christ the Son, And to the Holy Spirit praise, Both now and evermore. Amen.

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GREETING [Spoken]

L: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

THANKSGIVING [Spoken]

L: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, Hallelujah!

C: For his love endures forever, Hallelujah!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION [Together]

Jesus, our Saviour, in this sacrament, you have given yourself for us, and have strengthened us as your people. Live within us, and teach us to follow you without counting the cost. For you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: God be praised for evermore. [Spoken]

BLESSING

L: The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour, and give us † peace. C: Amen. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS [Please be seated]

FINAL HYMN LHS 895 Glory be to God in heaven

1. Glory be to God in heaven, peace to those who love him well; on the earth let all his people speak his grace, his wonders tell. Lord, we praise you for your glory, mighty Father, heaven's king; hear our joyful adoration and accept the thanks we bring.

2. Only Son of God the Father,
Lamb who takes our sin away,
now with him in triumph seated –
for your mercy, Lord, we pray.
Jesus Christ, most high and holy,
Saviour, you are God alone
in the glory of the Father
with the Spirit: Three-in-One.

Michael Perry 1942-

Amen.