

2020 08 23 Service of the Word.

IN THE NAME

P: "Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: Who made heaven and earth." (*Ps 124:8*)

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Friends in Christ: Let us confess our sins to God our Father and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: We confess that we are born in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. We have not loved You with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. We deserve Your eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us. Amen.

P: Upon this your confession and prayer I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. On behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ, and by His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you!

C: Amen.

PSALM 124

P: If it had not been the Lord who was on our side—
let Israel now say—

**C: If it had not been the Lord who was on our side
when people rose up against us,**

Then they would have swallowed us up alive,
when their anger was kindled against us;

**Then the flood would have swept us away,
the torrent would have gone over us;**

Then over us would have gone
the raging waters.

**Blessed be the Lord,
who has not given us
as prey to their teeth!**

We have escaped like a bird
from the snare of the fowlers;
the snare is broken,

and we have escaped!
**Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.”**
**C: Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.
**C: Thank You, Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, that You have established
Your church on earth and opened the door to Your Father’s presence. Build us
up as Your church on the sure foundation of faith in You. For You live and reign
with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

P: Our Scripture reading for today comes from Matthew 16:13-20.

**“Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his
disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said,
“Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one
of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon
Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus
answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood
has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell
you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates
of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of
heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and
whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” Then he strictly
charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.”**

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord!
C: Praise be to You, O Christ!

APOSTLES CREED

**C: 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.

SERMON for today is based on **Matthew 16:13-20.**

P: Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Sermon “The question, the answer and the promise.”

P: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray!

C: Gracious Father, we offer with joy and thanks what You have first given us — ourselves, our time, and our possessions — as signs of Your goodness and symbols of our love. Accept them for the sake of Jesus Christ, who offered Himself for us. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Having heard the Word proclaimed, let us pray for ourselves, for all the faithful and for all people as they have need.

Heavenly Father, we pray for all people, that they may have faith in Christ and heed the voice of God calling by His Word; for the Church, that the people of God may pursue righteousness with peace and joy in their hearts; and for all pastors and their ministry of Word and Sacrament and for all vocations to the ministry, that the lives of God’s people may redound to His praise and glory.

Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer!**

For our Prime Minister Scott Morrison, for all civic leaders in their pursuit of peace and unity; for all judges and magistrates in their pursuit of justice with mercy; and for those who protect us from violence and preserve order here and everywhere.

Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer!**

For all noble professions, and for the flourishing of the arts and music; for favourable weather and the fruits of the earth; and for those unemployed, the poor, the homeless, the hungry and all people in need.

Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer!**

For all families and children, single adults and youth; for those who teach and those who learn, that they may advance in wisdom and grace; and for the catechumens and those who teach the faith to them.

Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer!**

For Your generosity and blessings that we so abundantly enjoy here in Barossa. We thank You especially for the much-needed rain and pray that You would continue to provide for all our needs and would prosper the fruits of our labour.

Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer!**

For victims of disaster and for those stricken by illness or infirmity; for the aged and infirm, as well as those in nursing homes and assisted living facilities; for those who grieve the loss of those whom they love; and for those who meet with sudden death, and especially for our fellow saints Margaret Moll, Pat and Bob Taplin, and also for all whom we now silently mention in our hearts... ..

Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer!**

For all who are affected by the current pandemic, for our neighbours in Victoria, and especially for our brothers and sisters in less affluent countries, where the pressures and stresses are much higher, we pray especially for pastor Rabindra Das, for his family and for our fellow saints in Nepal, for pastor James May and his family and for our brothers and sisters in Kenya. Be their rock and don't let them be put to shame.

Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer!**

For the work of God's kingdom in this place; for our faithful support of the Church and the renewal of our parish life through the Means of Grace; for our communion this day upon the life-giving body and blood of Christ; and for our growth in grace, that we may attain to the full stature of Christ.

Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer!**

Be merciful to us, O Lord, and hear our prayers. Grant to us the grace of Your Holy Spirit, that we may be led into all truth and be steadfast in the confession of Christ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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 forever. Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour †, and give you peace.

C: Amen.