

**Thursday Morning
8th August 2019**

1 This is the message we have heard from Christ:
**that God is light, in whom there is
no darkness at all.**

1 John 1.5

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.

2 *The Opening Canticle, A Song of God's Herald*

Go up to a high mountain
herald of good tidings to Zion:
 lift up your voice with strength,
 herald of good tidings to Jerusalem.
Lift up your voice, fear not:
 say to the cities of Judah, 'Behold your God!'
See the Lord God, coming with power:
 coming to rule with his mighty arm.
He brings his reward for the people of God:
 the recompense for those who are saved.
God will feed his flock like a shepherd:
 and gather the lambs in his arms;
He will hold them to his breast:
 and gently lead those that are with young.

Isaiah 40.9–11

3 *The Opening Prayer*

The night has passed and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence may be kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us in your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share our human nature, so we may be partakers in his divine glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

John 11:55- 12:11

⁵⁵ the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went up from the country to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves. ⁵⁶They were looking for Jesus and were asking one another as they stood in the temple, 'What do you think? Surely he will not come to the festival, will he?' ⁵⁷Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that anyone who knew where Jesus was should let them know, so that they might arrest him.

12. Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

⁹When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well, ¹¹since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and were believing in Jesus.

May your word live in us
and bear much fruit to your glory.

The Canticle - A Song of Christ the Servant

Christ suffered for us, leaving us an example:
that we should follow in his steps.
He committed no sin, no guile was found on his lips:
when he was reviled, he did not revile in turn.
When he suffered, he did not threaten:
but he trusted in God who judges justly.
Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree:
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.
By his wounds, we have been healed
for we were straying like sheep:
but have now returned
to the Shepherd and Guardian of our souls.

1 Peter 2.21–25

Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

**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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Almighty God, whose beloved Son for our sake willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross: give us courage and patience to take up our cross daily and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Lord and heavenly Father,
you have brought us safely to this new day:
keep us by your mighty power, protect us from sin,
guard us from every kind of danger,
and in all we do this day
direct us in the fulfilling of your purpose,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May the God of peace equip us with everything good so that we may do his will; and may he work in us that which is pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever. **Amen.**

see Hebrews 13.20–21

The Servant Song - TiS 650

1. Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

4. I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey through.

5. When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

6. Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

Richard Gillard 1953 -