

Anglican Church of Freiburg
Sunday, 12th June 2022
Trinity Sunday
Eucharist

PRELUDE



*Please take time to
remember where you are,
and why you are here.*

*Give thanks and become
still in the presence of
God.*

GREETING

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
and also with you.

OPENING HYMN

Song: SoF 13 All people that on earth do dwell

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell;
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;
Without our aid He did us make;
We are His flock, He doth us feed,
And for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise;
Approach with joy His courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless His name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why, the Lord our God is good;
His mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

CCLI Song # 82096
Louis Bourgeois | William Kethe
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INVITATION TO CONFESSION

God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit.
Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness,
all slander and malice,
and confess our sins to God our redeemer.

Father, you come to meet us when we return to you:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Jesus, you died on the cross for our sins:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Spirit, you give us life and peace:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR TRINITY

Almighty and everlasting God,
you have given us your servants grace,
by the confession of a true faith,
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity
and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the unity:
keep us steadfast in this faith,
that we may evermore be defended from all adversities;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen

FIRST READING

The reading is from Proverbs, Chapter 8.1-4, 22-31

Let us prepare ourselves for the word of God
Our hearts and our minds are open.

Does not wisdom call out?
Does not understanding raise her voice?
At the highest point along the way,
where the paths meet, she takes her stand;
beside the gate leading into the city,
at the entrance, she cries aloud:
"To you, O people, I call out;
I raise my voice to all mankind.

“The Lord brought me forth as the first of his works,
before his deeds of old;
I was formed long ages ago,
at the very beginning, when the world came to be.
When there were no watery depths, I was given birth,
when there were no springs overflowing with water;
before the mountains were settled in place,
before the hills, I was given birth,
before he made the world or its fields
or any of the dust of the earth.
I was there when he set the heavens in place,
when he marked out the horizon on the face of the deep,
when he established the clouds above
and fixed securely the fountains of the deep,
when he gave the sea its boundary
so the waters would not overstep his command,
and when he marked out the foundations of the earth.
Then I was constantly (*was the artisan; or was a little child*) at his side.
I was filled with delight day after day,
rejoicing always in his presence,
rejoicing in his whole world
and delighting in mankind.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

SoF 183 Holy, holy, holy

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee:
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy, there is none beside Thee
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

CCLI Song # 1156
John Bacchus Dykes | Reginald Heber
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THE GOSPEL READING

The reading is from John 16.12-15

Hear the **Gospel of** our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, Chapter 16

Glory to you, O Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
one God, who was, and who is, and who is to come,
the Almighty.**

Alleluia.

Jesus said to his disciples: "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Praise to you, O Christ

Alleluia, alleluia.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
one God, who was, and who is, and who is to come,
the Almighty.**

Alleluia.

HOMILY

Have you looked at the picture which always begins the service presentation together with the request to gather in stillness before God at the beginning of our worship? Or have you just ignored it, because it is always there?

Look again, and what do you see?

Some buildings, perhaps a church tower in the background. And is that the sea somewhere off to the right?



It is the small town on the north east coast of the Yorkshire in northern England, Whitby. What you see are the hotels of those on holiday there. The church tower is of the Nunnery of the Order of the Holy Paraclete

(Holy Spirit), an Anglican order of nuns. In front of the hotels is the jaw of a whale.

To take this photo Judith will have climbed up 199 steps (!) from the harbour to the parish church, a fishing harbour, in the 19th century a whaling harbour, in the 18th century the birthplace of James Cook, who claimed Australia and New Zealand as colonies of the British crown.

Directly behind Judith when she took the photo are the remains of the Abbey of St. Hild aka Hilda. She founded the monastery in 657 for nuns and monks. Possibly her most famous achievement was to organise a council or synod of the western church (celtic and roman) in 663/4 which decided on the rules for the common date of easter, with the result that the western church has always celebrated Easter on the same day since then. Her other notable achievement was to nurture the thinking and writing of women theologians in this monastery, and elsewhere in Britain. It is sadly the case that through the desire of men to dominate intellectual debate within the church, most of these texts have been lost – but the evidence of their onetime existence is still there for those who look.

Whitby is only small place on this coast, but I have used it to illustrate our ability to see things and at the same time not to see things, my choice of what is important for me and my blending out what I think is irrelevant. This is a necessary function of our brains. We cannot cope with everything we see. But we need occasionally to check what we see with reality and to correct our vision.

Today's reading from Proverbs is the challenge to rethink how we see the world. We are invited to see signs of God in what we see around us. The book of proverbs is part of the wisdom literature in the bible. In today's reading Wisdom speaks to us as a person within God, or as an aspect of God's being.

If somebody speaks to me, then this person must be visible, must be somewhere. We are told at the beginning of the reading that wisdom is at the crossroads, at the gates of the city.

At the crossroads we need to make decisions – which direction do I want to go, which direction do I need to go. We have many crossroads in our life. Are we thinking only of ourselves when we decide in which direction we want to go, or does God's justice, God's wisdom have a role to play?

The gates of a city were important for various reasons. Here was where the elders and wise people would meet to judge on right and wrong. Do our courts lay out human law or do they reflect God's justice? Here at the

gates taxes were paid, my contribution to the costs of society. I must ask myself whether the society which my taxes are financing is truly a reflection of God's justice or not, and what are the political consequences which I am prepared to take.

The gates were a sign of safety and security in troubled times.

This is where God's wisdom is to be seen, in these open places, for all those who are prepared to look and understand. God's wisdom is not something secret and arcane hidden in holy places for holy people. Am I as an individual or are we as a community helping to make God's justice visible?

The book of proverbs is at the same time a collection of wise sayings or as the name suggests proverbs, and also it describes God's wisdom as the basis for humankind to live together in peace and justice. When wisdom speaks to us in the reading today, we learn something very important: God's wisdom, God's understanding of peace and judgement are integral to creation. Wisdom describes herself as being a part of God from before the creation. Wisdom has witnessed the whole of the creation process. This is not a justification for creation aesthetics, those posters of beautiful flowers with a nice bible verse printed over them. Personally I think this form of devotional art both ignorance about creation and ignorance about the bible.

Wisdom tells us that she was there when the creator God:

..... gave the sea its boundary

so the waters would not overstep his command,
and when he marked out the foundations of the earth.

The verbs used here are the verbs used also in the bible for the engraving of stone tablets with the words of the law. God's law is from the beginning of creation about justice. Such as the boundaries between sea and land, so are also the boundaries in the way people react to each other. The boundaries mark justice. When we only think of ourselves and misuse and heat up creation, our environment, so that the ice caps melt, and the boundaries of the sea and land shift, then people lose their homes and livelihoods. Injustice moves boundaries as the population of Ukraine is discovering.

At the end of today's reading wisdom reflects on her relationship to God. She says:

I was constantly at his side.
I was filled with delight day after day,
rejoicing always in his presence,
rejoicing in his whole world
and delighting in mankind.

The translation of this sentence is very difficult. One version is: I was the artisan at God's side. This would mean that wisdom is working as part of the Godhead instilling justice into the process of creation.

The other version is: I was a little child at his side, delighting at the process of creation, delighting in God's justice.

The Jewish teaching is that of God's wisdom working hard in creation, the artisan. There are some Christians who prefer the little child as a prefiguring of Jesus from the beginning of creation. On this Trinity Sunday, I think it is appropriate to leave the interpretation with a degree of ambiguity, the openness both in Jewish as also in Christian thought to see and interpret God in various ways. What combines and joins all our visions and thoughts on God is God's justice, whether as Father, Son, Holy Spirit, Word or as here in Proverbs as a personified Wisdom.

Do we see this Wisdom in what we see in Whitby?

We see the nuns of the Order of the Holy Paraclete praying and being with the spiritually needy, the sick and the dying.

We see a whale hunting industry which destroyed a substantial part of the whale population of the Northern Atlantic.

We see a naval officer claiming a continent for the British Crown. On a later voyage in 1779 he was killed in Hawaii during arguments as to whether he was the God of the Hawaii. His actions lead to imperialism of the worst sort.

And we see an abbess working for peace between churches who were arguing with each other and encouraging in a patriarchal society the rights and possibilities of women.

May this Trinity Sunday teach us to see all around us the justice of God more clearly and follow God's way more nearly in humility and love for Jesus.

Amen

THE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSIONS

THE PEACE

Peace to you from God our heavenly Father.
Peace from his Son Jesus Christ who is our peace.
Peace from the Holy Spirit, the life-giver.
The peace of the triune God be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of **peace**.

Song: ACF 38 For the healing of the nations

For the healing of the nations,

Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom,
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how, through care and goodness,
fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.

You, Creator-God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness,
bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.

CCLI Song # 3200067
Fred Kaan
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THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

And now we give you thanks
because you have revealed the glory of your eternal fellowship
of love with your Son and with the Holy Spirit,

three persons equal in majesty, undivided in splendour,
yet one God,
ever to be worshipped and adored.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit

all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray
Our Father in heaven

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.
Amen.**

Song during distribution of communion: ACF 47 God to enfold you

God to enfold you,
Christ to uphold you,
Spirit to keep you in heaven's sight;

so may God grace you,
heal and embrace you,
lead you through darkness into the light.

CCLI Song # 2576486

Graham Maule | John L. Bell

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty and eternal God,
you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
and live and reign in the perfect unity of love:
hold us firm in this faith,
that we may know you in all your ways
and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory,
who are three persons yet one God,
now and for ever.

Amen

Song: ACF 43 God has spoken to His people

*God has spoken to His people,
Alleluia!
And His words are words of wisdom,
Alleluia!*

He who has ears to hear His message,
He who has ears then let him hear.
He who would learn
the way of wisdom,
Let him hear God's word,
Let him hear God's word.

*God has spoken to His people,
Alleluia!
And His words are words of wisdom,
Alleluia!*

Israel comes to greet the Saviour,
Judah is glad to see His day.
From East and West the peoples travel,

He will show the way,
He will show the way.

*God has spoken to His people,
Alleluia!
And His words are words of wisdom,
Alleluia!*

CCLI Song # 5202393

Norman Leonard Warren | Willard F. Jabusch

© Words: 1966, 1982 Jabusch, Willard F. | Music: 1982 Norman Warren - The Jubilate Group

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THE BLESSING

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love,
defend you on every side,
and guide you in truth and peace;
and the blessing ...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This week at the ACF...


until 28th June **VINOD & FAMILY TIME AWAY**
Contact people during this time:
The churchwardens Judith & Christine

Wed 9 pm **COMPLINE**
on zoom

Sun 11:30 am **MORNING WORSHIP**
led by Daphne Norwood
in person & on zoom

More information & the zoom link at
anglican-church-freiburg.de/worship

Want to go to Basel?



Nacht des Glaubens
this Friday, 6pm - 1am
in Basel

An extensive program of art, culture and faith,
happening throughout the city of Basel,
free of charge

As we leave...



GIVING TO THE ACF
donation basket at the back

Explore giving options at
anglican-church-freiburg.de/donate
Thank you!



STAY IN TOUCH...
All ACF updates every
Wednesday in your email inbox!

Fill in our Connect Card in the
foyer to join the mailing list!

Greet those joining us today on zoom!
Come to the front after the service to say hello.

THE DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE