

## Readings, Hymns and Propers for 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020, Trinity 15

### Hymn:

From heaven you came, helpless babe,  
entered our world, your glory veiled;  
not to be served, but to serve,  
And give your life, that we might live

*This is our God, the Servant King,  
he calls us now to follow him,  
to bring our lives as a daily offering of  
worship to the Servant King.*

There is a garden of tears,  
My heavy load he chose to bear;  
His heart with sorrow was torn,  
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.  
*This is our God..*

Come see his hands and his feet.  
the scars that speak of sacrifice, hands that  
flung stars into space  
to cruel nails surrendered  
*This is our God...*

So let us learn how to serve,  
and in our lives enthrone him;  
each others needs to prefer,  
for it is Christ we're serving.  
*This is our God...*

*Graham Kendrick*

### Collect:

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit  
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:  
grant that your people may be fervent  
in the fellowship of the gospel  
that, always abiding in you,  
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;  
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 for ever.

### Reading: A Reading from Philippians

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well – since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

*Philippians 1.21-end*

**Hymn** (instrumental during Communion)

When I look into Your holiness  
When I gaze into Your loveliness  
When all things that surround  
become shadows in the light of You

I worship You, I worship You  
The reason I live is to worship You  
I worship You I worship You  
The reason I live is to worship You

When I've found the joy of reaching Your heart  
When my will becomes enthroned in Your love  
When all things that surround  
become shadows in the light of You

*Kent Henry*

**Gospel:**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

*Matthew 20. 1-16*

**Post Communion Prayer:** Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;  
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,  
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,  
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Hymn:**

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty,  
hold me with thy powerful hand:  
bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee.

*Arglwydd arwain drwy'r anialwch*  
*William Williams (1717-1791), tr Peter Williams*  
*(1727-1796)*